



ABCD Pathfinder Open Grant Call

Webinar FAQs

Below is a summary of frequently asked questions regarding the ABCD pathfinder open grant call. For further information, please contact the team at ABCD@leeds.gov.uk

Q. Can organisations submit partnership applications for the grant?

A. Yes, applications can be submitted in partnership with other organisations.

Q. Is the £25,000 budget comprised of £2,000 for small sparks funding and the other £23,000 for the recruitment of the Community Builder?

A. Of the £25,000, £23,000 includes the recruitment of the Community Builder as well as a percentage towards organisational overheads in delivering the grant. You can outline this within your budget breakdown in the application. £2,000 is reserved for Small Sparks.

Q. Can you give some guidance on expectations around the number of days the Community Builder would work, and would you expect organisation to pay in line with the Real Living Wage?

A. It is your decision as an organisation how you would deliver the Community Builder role and if you would seek to pay the Real Living Wage. Each organisation is different in terms of how the pathfinders have decided to use this. We are interested in seeing in your application the breakdown of how the Community Builder role will be structured within the budget section and a breakdown of overheads. Each community is different and so each role will be different. Some of our existing pathfinders match fund the role to expand capacity, some recruit more than one Community Builder in the role. Once we have received your application, if the ABCD team have further questions on your budget and delivery breakdown we will contact you to clarify.



Q. Is there an advantage in having a local person as the community builder?

A. There are some advantages in the Community Builder being local as they already have knowledge of the skills and assets that exist within the community. However, Community Builders who live where they work do then need to balance their role as a Builder and as a community member. Having a Builder committed to the role is the most important thing, whether they live in the area or not.

Q. What are your expectations on the content of the project plan?

A. We are interested in seeing through your application your vision as an organisation for implementing the grant and embedding ABCD within your organisation and community. What your community, Builders and Connectors tell you can shape your project plan and help it evolve.

Q. What progress reporting is expected?

A. The monitoring is intentionally light touch as we are most interested in hearing about the stories of communities, the impact of the work. We meet every 6 months to discuss monitoring. We ask that the Community Builder shares a “story so far” every 3 months. We don’t ask for things such as postcode or equalities data on the communities you work with. We do ask that you tell us how many Community Connectors you have identified and how many self-reliant groups have been established.

Q. What are the assessment criteria and scoring and who will undertake this?

A. The ABCD team and a Community Builder will be reviewing and score applications based on the answers to the questions provided in the application form. What we are interested in seeing is your thinking as an organisation on how you will approach this work, you can be creative with this. We want to hear about your skills and experience and how you will embed ABCD within your organisation.

Q. Can we know what areas you are funding for and can this be regional work?

A. ABCD is placed based and starts small within neighbourhoods. The ward area locations for Leeds are set out in the guidance document. The grant is not for funding work at a regional level.



Q. What would be the expectations of a Community Connector? What would make them an active member?

A. Community Connectors are people who live in the local area who want to help and/or join in to nurture community. The Connectors a Community Builder identifies may change and people may cease being Connectors. You can find the “what is a Community Connector” factsheet on our web page. There are no prescribed expectations on a Connector.

Q. Does the community that we serve have to be based on locality area?

A. There have been 5 areas chosen to apply to come forward for the grants outlined in the guidance pack. The decision to open grant applications to these areas have been informed by conversations with partners. We wouldn't expect a pathfinder to cover the whole area. You can outline how you would approach working in the area in your application. ABCD starts with a focus at a small neighbourhood level, almost street by street, then growing organically through building on the connections, strengths, skills and assets of the local community.

Q . Can community connectors be remunerated?

A. This is a decision for your organisation to make.

Q. In the application does the organisation have to have identified a Community Builder and can they be seconded from their substantive role in the organisation?

A. Applicants may already have someone in mind for the Community Builder role already working within the organisation, however our preference would be for organisations to hold an open application process as we have asked this of all our pathfinder grants. We can give guidance on this and support with the recruitment process, but it is for you as an organisation to decide how to recruit.

