



ABCD Community Pathfinder Grant 2021

Application Guidance



Purpose of the guide

Thank you for your interest in the Leeds ABCD community pathfinder grant scheme. This document will provide you with information about the ABCD community pathfinder scheme and guide you through the application form.

The grant pack includes the following documents which we hope you find useful.

- Grant Application Form
- What is ABCD Factsheet
- What is a Community Builder Factsheet
- What is a Community Connector Factsheet

What Leeds City Council is looking to fund

We currently fund ten ABCD community pathfinder schemes. Recent research undertaken by Leeds Beckett University has demonstrated that the pathfinders are improving health and well-being, reducing loneliness and social isolation. Citizens have formed friendships, come together to change the things they care about and have reported feeling better connected to their community.

Leeds City Council is looking to build on the pathfinder model and fund five new ABCD community pathfinder schemes:

- One scheme will be funded in the Holbeck area. This will be for 1 year.
- One scheme will be funded with a specific focus to work with Roma communities in Leeds with the aim of improving health and well-being outcomes. Applications will need to identify the area they intend to work in if applying to work with the Roma Community. This ABCD community pathfinder scheme will work alongside the Leeds City Council Gypsy, Roma Traveller (GRT) Inclusion Team and the Community Builder will ideally have Romanian speaking skills. This will be for 2 years.
- Three more schemes will be from any of the following areas: Woodhouse, Little London, Armley, Meanwood (specifically around the Beck Hill), Moor Allerton (specifically Lingfield/Cranmer bank area) and Halton Moor. These will be for 18 months initially with an option to extend another year following that.

Project Delivery

ABCD Pathfinders will continue to have 2 key elements:

- A paid Community Builder post
- A Small Sparks fund of £2000

The Community Builder will:

- Develop Community Connectors within the area
- Host conversations to discover local assets and what people care about
- Engage local community groups and associations

- Create places where people come together and support each other
- Build connections through social interaction, activities, and, shareable community opportunities
- Work with communities to develop a vision and a plan, asking: what can the community do, what does the community need outside help with and what is best delivered by the other agencies? Support citizens and communities to implement change they want to see
- Foster celebration of people's gifts and skills throughout the process.

The expected deliverables of the grant are:

- To have a paid Community Builder post in place.
- To develop 10 new community connectors (citizens living in the community who are unpaid) will be active citizens, identifying and bringing about the changes they care about and want to see.
- To develop a minimum of 10 new citizen led groups/activities established or events held in the neighbourhood and/or through social media platforms.
- To evidence how the Small Sparks money is used in the community to fund citizen's ideas.
- To embed asset-based working across the host organisation.

Completing the Form

Here are some helpful tips to help you with completing the form.

Your organisation must be a not-for-profit organisation to be able to apply. These include but are not limited to:

- Charitable incorporated organisations.
- Community interest companies (CIC) limited by guarantee.
- Companies limited by guarantee with a clause in their governing document preventing
- Distribution of profit (including social enterprises).
- Housing associations.
- Industrial and provident community benefit societies.
- Registered charities.

Your application should demonstrate throughout:

- Evidence of working successfully with local communities.
- An understanding of the ABCD model and asset-based approaches.
- Experience and evidence of implementing and embedding change with communities.
- Evidence of working in partnership with communities, other third sector organisations and public sector bodies.

Please keep your answers clear and concise and answer all questions on the application form, inserting your project plan, and keeping to the word count. Please sign your application form with a wet signature.

Please send a digital copy of the application form to be submitted by 12 noon on the 4th October 2021 to: ABCD@leeds.gov.uk

Applications submitted after this date and time will not be considered.

Section 1: Applicant Details

Use the legal name of your organisation. Your legal name will be on your governing documents and your bank account.

Use your organisation address as registered on your governing documents.

Section 2: Experience

2.1 Please provide specific examples of community development work your organisation has undertaken and specifically any asset-based community development activity. Give examples of how you work with communities to develop opportunities for positive change.

2.2 Please tell us your experience and knowledge of the area you are proposing to work in. If you have not worked in this area before, please tell us why you would like to work here now and the opportunities you can bring.

2.3 Please tell us what challenges your organisation has faced with supporting citizen led action. These can be examples from previous experience and examples from any area in Leeds.

Section 3: Partnership Working

We are keen to hear your organisation's experience of working in partnership but specifically how you plan to work in partnership to deliver this project. What opportunities will partnership working offer? What challenges do you foresee and how do you plan to mitigate these?

We are keen to work with successful organisations to support the wider roll out of asset-based working across the City – how could you work with us to achieve that?

Section 4: Project Plan

4.1 Please provide a project plan for the life of the grant, we would suggest a quarterly format. Please provide milestones for the life of the grant.

4.2 We would like you to tell us how your organisation intends to deliver work to support communities with COVID 19 recovery. You can also tell us about any previous experiences in this area to date that could inform how you would approach this for this grant.

Section 5: Sustainability

Our aim is to embed ABCD in communities. We are looking to fund organisations that will plan for ABCD activity to continue after the grant has ended. We are also keen to support partners to develop asset-based working in their organisations. You might participate in training and develop asset-based working across other projects.

Section 6: Budget

6.1 Please provide a detailed breakdown completing all boxes of how you propose to spend the £25,000 per annum grant (which includes the £2,000 per annum Small Sparks Fund) during the funding period.

A proportion of the funding can be used to contribute to overheads. Please include full cost recovery in your budget breakdown.

Support with your application

Please look at the ABCD in Leeds website for more information about our ABCD programme (www.abcdinleeds.com/about)

We will be holding a ABCD community pathfinder grant webinar with Q&A session on the 8th of September 10am to 11:30am.

If you would like to book a place for the webinar, and/or if you have any questions on the application form or the process please email us at: ABCD@leeds.gov.uk