

Tameside Community Wellbeing Investment Programme 2018-2020

1. Introduction and background

The ‘Community Wellbeing Programme’ across Tameside and Glossop¹ is creating and making the most of a shift in thinking in the health and care system (NHS and Social Care).

People often access the NHS, to get help that isn’t medical in nature, e.g. the underlying reason for a GP visit may be loneliness, or part of the reason a person is suffering from depression and anxiety might be because they can’t pay their bills. These non-medical needs can’t always be met by NHS services.

By tackling the underlying issues, the ‘causes of the causes,’ we can help improve people’s wellbeing and make sure that when people access the NHS or social care, it’s for the right reasons and so they are able to offer a solution.

The part of this picture that Action Together is delivering, is to develop the ‘non-medical offer’ for people. This is through; social prescribing and asset-based approaches, supported by investment. We are calling all of this, our Community Wellbeing Programme.

2. Tameside Community Wellbeing Investment Programme 2018-2020

We aim to develop an offer of non-medical support in Tameside that; meets the priorities of local people in improving their wellbeing and identifies and works to fill gaps in provision. To do this we must effectively support the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector (VCFSE) to respond to need, and support the development of new community-based activity.

This is the premise of this investment programme. The investment monies available will be just over £1million over the next two years.

2.1. Our community wellbeing investment principles

Our community wellbeing investments will:

- Recognise the power of local people to improve wellbeing, by setting their own priorities, and working together and with others to create solutions.
- Support the local VCFSE to deliver activities and services that support wellbeing and increase their own sustainability.
- Buy provision that supports social prescribing and does not create pressure on existing services that VCFSE groups are unable to meet.

¹ *Please note Glossop has a similar scheme being run by our counterparts, The Bureau, please contact them for more information on what is available for Glossop groups and residents. 01457 865722 info@the-bureau.org.uk *

- Support groups to contribute to the outcomes of the programme, in terms of their organisational development, quality standards, training, peer support, developing networks within the sector and with other sectors.
- Work collaboratively with VCFSE groups, local people, and partners to identify gaps in provision and support them to work together to deliver solutions.

2.2. Our community wellbeing investment priorities - what can we apply for?

This investment will be open to **all** local VCFSE groups that are members of Action Together (becoming a member is simple, free and support is available to help you). We will support good ideas that meet the following **community wellbeing investment priorities**:

- Improve wellbeing, and health of people with long term health conditions.
- Reduce social isolation (lack of contact with people and society).
- Reduce loneliness (emotional response to a lack of connection or communication with people).
- Create mutually beneficial networks of support and resilience (including carers).
- Support people with low mood, low self-esteem / loss of confidence.
- Support place-based working that improves lives in local communities.

We have intentionally left these broad and will re-visit them in-line with the findings of the wider programme so that we can focus on priorities as they arise. Throughout our investment documentation we talk about the principles of co-production, working in partnership, peer-support, and asset-based approaches.

We will support a varied level of investment that responds to our findings from this programme, and does not duplicate other sources of local funding, or support for groups.

2.3. What cannot be funded?

Groups/organisations that:

- Are trading for profit, are statutory services or are intending to redistribute grant awards.
- Are aimed at increasing the membership of a particular political party.
- Are aimed at the promotion of one religious belief.

You cannot apply for:

- Activities or travel abroad.
- Seed funding for business start-ups.
- Retrospective costs (i.e. money that's already been spent or project already taken place)
- Sponsorship/fundraising events or contributions to larger/major appeals
- Any activity that does not contribute to the grant themes (identified in the guidance), unlawfully discriminates against people, or is illegal.
- Presents/gifts.
- Major capital requests i.e. building and construction work. The funding can be used to pay for 'small capital projects' i.e. improving outside space, improving inside

space, buying equipment, but you must demonstrate how it links to the wider project and it should not cost more than 50% of the grant you are requesting.

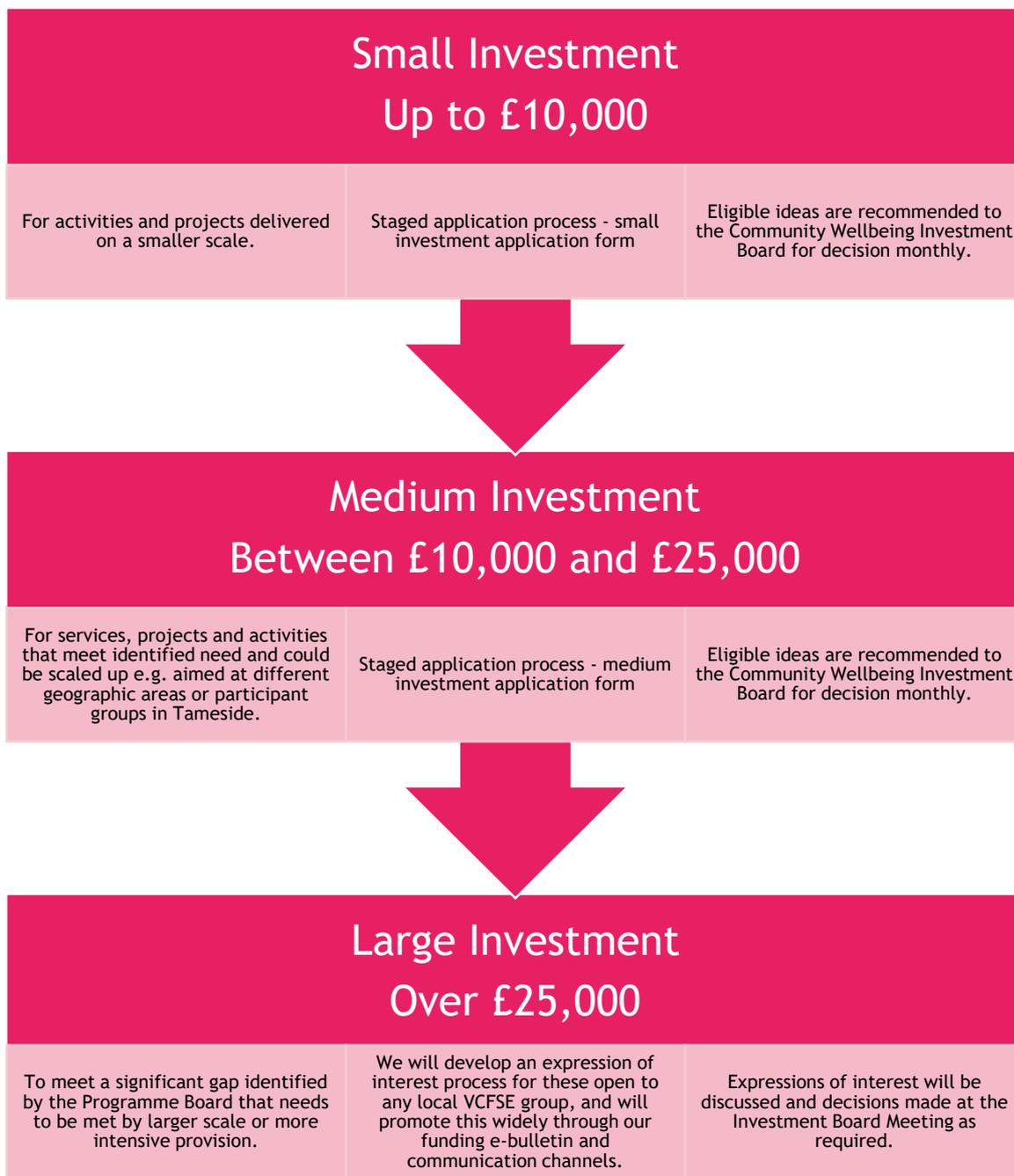
- Attendance at conferences and mandatory training which groups are required by law to provide.
- Academic or medical research and equipment.

2.4. Our position on 'Core Funding'

- 'Core funding' is usually a grant that groups receive over a sustained period of time, probably from the Local Authority/CCG to enable them to deliver a 'core activity', they use it to pay for capacity, overheads and delivery, which then enables them to attract additional funding from other sources so that they can 'bolt on' additional activities.
- At Action Together, we continue to lobby to ensure local Voluntary Organisations receive 'core funding' from The Council/NHS and aim are also trying to keep groups abreast of the developments with things like 'neighbourhood wellbeing hub models' that could be a route to do this.
- The Community Wellbeing Investment will **not** replace 'core funding' that any groups receive from funders to run their core activity e.g. Service Level Agreements with the Council or CCG, like for like replacement of large grant funding for services they already run. We are not looking to replace the funding relationships that exist between the Voluntary Sector and Public-Sector funders, particularly as the Community Wellbeing Investment programme is relatively short term.
- If groups want to develop/extend to deliver something that reflects the aims of programme, that needs staffing/staff time, a contribution to core costs (e.g. management time, overheads etc) we will certainly look to support those costs, the 'real costs' of delivering a project.

2.5. Investment Tiers - How much can we apply for?

Investment will be split in to the following elements. We expect the majority of spend to be at the small and medium tiers.



Participatory Budgeting

In addition to the investment outlined above we intend to ring-fence a proportion of the monies to support participatory budgeting events in localities across Tameside. The process for this will be defined later in the year but will follow the participatory budgeting ethos of ideas being showcased, and local people deciding on the outcome.

2.6. Support for VCFSE Groups

Groups involved in the delivery of this programme will receive support from our Commissioning and Development Officers as part of their grant award. This will include:

- Shared training identified by you.
- A bespoke monitoring and evaluation plan for your projects (developed with you).

- 1:1 support and Peer support opportunities.
- Groups that receive funding through this programme will also work towards a quality accreditation, our Quality in Action Award.
- Membership of the Community Wellbeing Alliance (an opportunity to shape the future of Community Wellbeing and tell your members what it's all about).
- Membership to our Valued Partners Scheme (so that we can alert you to additional funding opportunities).

3. My group has an idea - how do we apply?

This isn't a traditional grant scheme, we want VCFSE groups to come to us with good ideas, and work with us to develop projects that maximise benefit.

We know that groups can struggle to work out what to do with their ideas, and what support is available to help, we also know that it can be difficult to find a grant that will pay for it, and often we end up changing our original idea to fit a funders requirement.

With this in mind, we have tried to create a process that makes it as easy as possible for groups.

If you have a good idea give us a call and discuss it. You can talk to Suzanne Vincent or Roma Hashim by ringing 0161 830 6833.

3.1. Application Process

Groups can apply for funding at any time through a Stage 1 Application. The type of information we will ask for depends on the amount of money groups need for their idea e.g. a small, volunteer-led peer support group will more likely be interested in delivering smaller activities, with a smaller price tag, than a larger charity already delivering public contracts, and so the information we will ask for will reflect this proportionally. Because of this there are two types of Second Stage Application Forms. The process below is the same for each.

Once you have an idea firmed up, you will be asked to follow the process below.

Please note, if you need support to fill in the forms, it is available - just give us a call on 0161 830 6833 and ask to speak to Suzanne Vincent or Roma Hashim.

Stage 1 Application

<p>Fill in the Stage 1 Application Form</p>	<p>This form outlines your project idea, and checks that you are eligible to apply. Please note you will be asked if you are a member of Action Together, if you are not you will have to fill in the membership form first.</p>	<p>Our Officers will check which grant best fits your idea from all of the grants we administer, not just Community Wellbeing.</p>	<p>You will be sent the most appropriate application form and guidance for your idea.</p>
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Stage 2 Application

<p>Fill in your second stage application and email it to investments@actiontogether.org.uk</p>	<p>Our Officers will check applications and ask for more information if needed.</p>	<p>Our Officers will recommend eligible projects to the Investment Board for decision monthly.</p>
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Decision and Follow up

<p>The Community Wellbeing Investment Board will make investment decisions.</p>	<p>All groups will receive a decision and feedback on their application within 6 weeks.</p>	<p>Successful groups will: have their information checked, sign a jointly agreed grant agreement outlining monitoring and evaluation, develop payment schedule and support for the group and provide payment information.</p>
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Please note successful groups will be expected to:

- Provide jointly agreed monitoring information on time.
- Attend two networking opportunities during the lifetime of their grant.
- Fill in a training needs plan and attend two training events during the lifetime of their grant.
- Work towards Action Together's quality mark; Quality in Action.
- Receive support on monitoring their project and regular progress reviews with their Investment Officer to make sure things are on track.

- Become a member of the Community Wellbeing Alliance and be invited to events that are part of the wider Community Wellbeing Programme.

4. Additional information

4.1. How do we decide on our priorities?

We aim to move away from telling you what we want to see funded, to a truly outcomes-based model that puts co-production at its heart and recognise the intelligence gathered day by day throughout the VCFSE - you are the experts, tell us what's needed!

In addition:

- We are constantly identifying support needs through our **Social Prescribing Service** and are keeping a register of groups and services that we are referring to and gaps that exist, so that we can measure the volume of 'new' work we are asking existing groups to undertake and ask for ideas from groups for new activities. This will help us to identify groups that will require resources to meet demand.
- We are **listening to our partners** working in communities to identify what they are seeing as gaps in provision, ideas that will make a difference and quality of provision.
- We have developed a **register of project ideas** that groups (VCFSE and informal groups) think will help to meet our priorities. These have been derived from our Asset Based Community Development Workers meeting with new and established groups through the borough. We want to use this to encourage 'good ideas' from groups (formal and informal) to encourage groups to recognise gaps and develop creative ways of delivering solutions to these.
- Groups that receive Community Wellbeing Investment will be monitored and information collated to review what is happening, and where the gaps may still be.

This information combined is reviewed by the Investment Board regularly to inform priority setting.

4.2. Who makes Community Wellbeing Investment decisions?

The investments we make will be overseen by our Investment Board. The board will agree spend on larger scale programmes and will have oversight of what has been funded throughout the programme. Smaller scale investments will be agreed by members of the Board monthly.

We will also bring to the Board investments made by other local grant schemes we operate, e.g. Tameside 4 Good, Ambition for Ageing, so that we can ensure that investment is prioritised where it is needed, and that groups access the most appropriate investment for their idea.

The Board will meet quarterly to review investment, identify additional investment, monitor progress and outcomes of investment and share learning.

The Board is made up of a range of stakeholders, our Community Wellbeing Programme delivery partners (Active Tameside and Jigsaw), VCFSE representatives from Tameside's Voluntary Sector Influencing Group (VSIG), Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care Foundation Trust (ICFT - the commissioners of the whole programme), Tameside Council, and Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission.

In addition to the Investment Board, some investment will be allocated by local people directly through a series of participatory budgeting processes in localities.

4.3. What do we do if we don't agree with an investment decision?

If your group has not been awarded funding and wish to appeal the decision you can follow the **Appeals Process** outlined below:

- Email/write to the Chair of the Investment Board (details below) outlining the nature of your appeal and the details of your group so that we can find your application and feedback.
- The Chair will acknowledge receipt of your appeal within 5 working days, and will notify you of the following steps, and key dates.
- The Chair will present your appeal to members of the Investment Board at the next available Investment Board meeting where a decision will be made.
- You will receive a written decision made by the Investment Board on your appeal, via the Chair, within 5 working days after the Board has met.

The decision of the Investment Board regarding an appeal is final.

Community Wellbeing Investment Board Chair:

Liz Windsor-Welsh, Action Together CEO.

0161-339-2345 | liz.WW@actiontogether.org.uk |

12 Manchester Chambers, Oldham, OL1 1LF.