**Rochdale Community Response Fund – Equalities Focus**

**Guidance Notes**

We recognise community action is taking place across the Borough and we want to encourage and support this action. We are refocusing theCommunity Response Fund and introducing new priorities with an ‘Equalities Focus’ -available for Rochdale Borough groups.

You can apply for a grant for either up to £200 or up to £1,000.

We want to connect local community action and help to co-ordinate efforts in response to the needs of residents. We want to fund good neighbour, mutual aid and social action projects delivered by our community, voluntary, faith and social enterprise sector of Rochdale borough, to directly support people affected by COVID19.

We are particularly interested in funding work that helps, connects or supports groups of people who are experiencing inequalities caused or worsened by the pandemic.

Early emerging evidence has shown that some groups are more affected than others and we will prioritise applications that support one or more of these groups.

* Older people
* Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups
* People who live in low-income areas or vulnerable settings
* The impact of other ‘co-morbidities’ (other underlying diseases)

**These reports give more information about these groups.**

**Disparities in the risk and outcomes from Covid-19**

https://[assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/892085/disparities\_review.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892085/disparities_review.pdf)

**Beyond the data: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups**

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892376/COVID_stakeholder_engagement_synthesis_beyond_the_data.pdf>

We can only support projects that are working to government safety guidance, please see [***how to help safely government guidance***](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely)

Unfortunately, this Community Response Fund cannot be used to support organisations longer term financial sustainability, but please be assured we are working with local and national partners to try to secure this.

Only one application for funding to the Community Response Fund -Equalities Focus will be accepted per group or organisation.

HOWEVER if you have already received a Community Response Fund AND your project meets the above criteria, you may also apply for a Community Response Fund -Equalities Focus.

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| **Amount of application** | **Decision timeframe** |
| Applications for up to £200 aimed at neighbourhood groups, volunteers and other community action | We aim to make a decision in one working day on receipt to Action Together |
| Applications up to £1000 aimed at community, voluntary, faith and social enterprise organisations who are providing something new to help local people | We aim to make a decision within 3 working days of the application. |

**Completing the application form**

* Please ensure that ALL boxes on the application form are completed.
* Submit your application online to [hayley.tomlinson@actiontogether.org.uk](mailto:hayley.tomlinson@actiontogether.org.uk)
* If you have any queries about the application form or application process, please contact Hayley Tomlinson on 0161 339 2345.