**Communities Recovery Fund Phase 2**

**Overview**

Following the success of the original Communities Recovery Fund, additional funding of £6.5m has been secured for a further phase of CRF in 2021-22, for which Ministers have approved taking a targeted approach to ensure that the remaining funds prioritise areas of greatest need. To support this Scottish Government has reviewed the position of the recovery funding disbursed to date and the available data/evidence of COVID-19 vulnerability by local authority area, where our most vulnerable and disadvantaged citizens have often been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. This has identified 10 local authority areas as a first set of priority areas to target (Round 1).

The purpose of CRF2 funding is to support community organisations/ groups, charities, social enterprises and voluntary organisations in these target areas, to support the delivery of services in communities that were suspended or reduced because of COVID-19, or the creation of new services that tackle new challenges presented. CRF2 promotes a place-based approach to activity planning and delivery in order to identify gaps, minimise duplication, and maximise the funding available. Where local capacity allows, it will encourage local delivery partnerships in order to best meet community needs and maximise the limited funds available.

CRF Intermediary Partners are leading an initial discussion with local authorities, Third Sector Interfaces, and Community Anchor Organisations (CAO) in each Round 1 target area. Initial CAOs are identified as those receiving Supporting Communities Fund grants in 2020, but through this discussion there is potential for other third sector organisations, which meet geographic/ service gaps, to be identified and supported. The discussion will consider the needs of the overall area and specific communities, how best to meet them, and the opportunities for partnership working in doing so. Expressions of Interest will then be invited from individual organisations, partnerships, or a single submission for the local authority area. This will depend on the needs of the community and the nature of provision within each local authority area. CRF Intermediary Partners will then work with organisations to discuss EOIs and develop a full application where appropriate.

It is envisaged that funding awards will be made up to December 2021 for activity from 1st June 2021, with all monies to be expended and funded activity delivered by 31/03/22. There is no flexibility to extend the delivery/ expenditure period and any underspend at that point will be returned to Scottish Government.

**Next Steps**

Community organisations are invited to submit the Expression of Interest form on the next page, either for their own organisation or on behalf of a partnership of local community organisations. One of the CRF Intermediary Partners will then contact you to discuss your EOI further.

The deadline for submitting EOIs is 2 weeks from the date of the discussion session

**CRF2: Expression of Interest**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Organisation Name:* |  |
| *Company Number (if applicable)* |  |
| *Charity Number (if applicable)* |  |
| *Contact Name:* |  |
| *Contact Email Address:* |  |
| *Contact Phone Number:* |  |

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| *How do you currently coordinate your activities with other community organisations and statutory bodies in your area?*  |
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| *If submitting on behalf of a potential partnership please list the other potential partner organisations.*  |
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| *Tell us what you are looking for funding from the Communities Recovery Fund to do and how it will have a positive impact for the people and communities you work with.* |
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| *Tell us which communities this activity/ resource will target and who are the main beneficiaries* |
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| *Please give an indication of the amount of funding needed for this activity/ resource. If submitting on behalf of a partnership please list the estimated amount for each organisation.* |
|  |
| **Data Sharing**In submitting this EOI you agree to this data being available to and shared with Scottish Government departments, your Local Authority and a range of community sector intermediaries and national organisations for the purposes of the fund. The information provided as part of the EOI process will be held securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Data may be used for statistical purposes and by the Scottish Government and/or partnership members for performance monitoring and reporting. |

**Please email your completed EOI to** kevin.smith@ceis.org.uk