

1. Innovation Fund

Southwark adult social care has created an Innovation Fund of at least £100,000 to assist new or existing support organisations to develop new business models to facilitate the introduction of self directed support to people with learning disabilities living in Southwark. We want to enable all people with learning disabilities to have more choice and control over how they live their lives and to be able to contribute to their local community.

Bids are invited to this fund from voluntary, community sector and private organisations.

What criteria will bids be measured against?

The fund will be awarded to organisations that can propose new and innovate ways to support people with learning disabilities in the borough.

Bids for the grant or grants will be considered against the following criteria:

1. How the initiative will engage with the personalisation agenda in the context of Southwark's vision for adult social care
2. How the initiative promotes access to the network of mainstream services available across the borough (universal services available to everyone; e.g. libraries)
3. Development of innovative services that support people to further develop their independence
4. Supporting and enhancing opportunities for people to build and maintain relationships of their choice;
5. Promoting community & social inclusion for all people with learning disabilities, including those with profound and complex needs
6. Promoting employment, health and wellbeing for all people with learning disabilities, including those with profound and complex needs
7. Bids from Co-operatives

The bid does not have to meet all the above criteria but it will be evaluated against all of them.

This fund will not be used to replace lost statutory funding or to continue provision of existing services. It can only be used for activities that help organisations adjust to the future funding environment and provide innovative means for people have increase choice and control over their support arrangements so that they can live their lives in ways they choose.

This fund is for “one off” payments and organisations are expected to show in their bid how the service will continue beyond the period funded by the grant.

Grant amounts

The size of grants awarded will be dependent on the number of grant applications received that demonstrate innovation measured against the criteria.

Your grant request needs to be proportionate to the plans that you detail in your application. There is no rigid cap on the value of a single bid, however we do not anticipate awarding grants in excess of £40,000. Actual grants made will be dependent on the range and quality of bids received.

You may be awarded a smaller grant than you have requested.

Your organisation can submit an application of your own and/or be part of collaborative, consortia or partnership bids. Your organisation can make multiple applications.

2. Are you eligible to bid for funding?

You can only apply for an Innovation Fund grant if your organisation meets **both** of the following criteria:

- You are one of the following third sector or private sector organisations: a properly constituted voluntary and community unincorporated charitable association; registered charity; registered as an industrial and provident society; community interest company; a social enterprise or private organisation whose sole focus is providing services for people with learning disabilities.
- You have a demonstrable knowledge of the needs of adults of working age with learning disabilities.

3. Decision making process

Assessment and recommendation of bids will be carried out by an advisory panel consisting of senior council officers from Southwark adult social care and community engagement with an external, impartial learning disability sector representative. The final decisions will be taken by the Lead Cabinet Member for Health & Community Services in accordance with Southwark Council's Key Decision Making process.

In making the decision, as well as being measured against the grant criteria, the panel will take a holistic view of the bids and services available. Factors such as geographic spread of services; supporting different sections of the community; and ensuring a spread of award across the criteria will be considered when the decision is made.

Scores will be allocated to your bid according to whether the panel judges it 'meets' or 'exceeds' the criteria and whether the application is value for money.

The highest scoring bidders may be invited to discuss their application/s with the panel to clarify points and give scope for dialogue in developing the proposal.

THE CONTEXT FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE'S INNOVATION FUND

4. Vision for adult social care in Southwark

Earlier this year, the Council released a vision for the future of adult social care, outlining the key priorities for the department and how it plans to achieve them. Below is an extract from the vision. The full vision can be found on the Council website - search for "adult social care vision" or go to this hyperlink:

http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/100010/health_and_social_care/2086/vision_for_adult_social_care_in_southwark

We want to support people to live independent and fulfilling lives, based on choices that are important to them. Services need to be personalised with a focus on individuals and not institutions, including the continued development of personal budgets as a means for people to exercise choice and control in the support services they decide to access.

To achieve this, we need a fundamental change in the offer to people in Southwark that minimises administrative costs and encourages residents to do more for themselves. We want to find innovative ways of providing support that reduce reliance on formal council services and create financially self sustaining business models. We need to shift the balance of care away from institutional settings

such as residential homes or day centres and towards more personalised services in community settings.

5. Day opportunities for adults with learning disabilities

With this in mind, we are looking to re-shape how we provide community support, particularly with regards to day opportunities, to people with learning disabilities.

The Council, currently funds a number of day services for adults with learning disabilities, often through long standing block contracted arrangements. Additionally, there are a number of smaller, spot contracted services in Southwark that provide support and activities from various locations across the borough.

The present services need to change to meet new and changing demands, to support innovation and to make better use of resources so that resources currently tied up in traditional contracted services can shift to personal budgets that are under the control of people with learning disabilities and their circles of support.

In line with the vision for adult social care, we want to create a system where adults with learning disabilities are seen as people who can contribute their community and exercise control over their own lives, improving their own health and well-being by accessing employment, education and leisure opportunities.

6. Development of a personalised model

Southwark Council is not being prescriptive in determining the options available as the personalised model develops. We will require providers to develop flexible service offerings that people can purchase with their individual budgets. This will range from supporting an individual to attend a particular activity through to groups of people pooling budgets to be supported collectively.

It is envisaged as peoples expectations increase they will exercise their power as consumers of their own budget to spend, that there will be a demand for services to develop to meet needs outside of a Monday to Friday 9-5 day.

7. Guidance notes: completing the application form

These **guidance notes** will help you to provide all the information we require.

If after reading the **eligibility criteria** (section 4) and these **guidance notes** (section 9) you are unclear about whether your organisation meets the eligibility, or you require any clarification please contact Gary Wood on 020 7525 3567 or send an email to: gary.wood@southwark.gov.uk

The criteria for this fund are set above.

It is important that you read the criteria before you complete your application. Your application should indicate clearly which of the criteria you believe are being met, and how.

You do not need to meet all of the criteria, but your application will be measured against the criteria.

9.1 The application process

The deadline for submission of your completed application is **5pm on Friday 3rd February 2012.** Please note that late applications will not be considered.

You can complete the application form by hand or you can complete an electronic version. If answering a question by hand and you run out of space, continue your answer on a separate sheet of A4. Make sure extra sheets are marked clearly with the name of the organisation and give the page number. ***Please keep your answers succinct and to the point. Writing lengthy responses to the questions will not improve the likelihood of your application being successful.***

Your application will be photocopied so please ensure that you write or type clearly, preferably in black ink and in Arial font size 11 (or larger).

9.2 Completing the application form

1. Give the name of your organisation

Give the name of your organisation as it appears in your legal constitution document. This may be your constitution or Memorandum & Articles of Association. Do not use letters or abbreviations. Give the registered address. If the application is from a consortium or partnership one organisation should take the lead for the purposes of the bid. The form should then indicate which organisations are working together (section 1a).

2. Name and details of contact person

Provide the name, telephone number and email address of a contact who is easily available during the assessment period (6 February 2012 to 13 February). Please provide details of a secondary contact if the main contact is likely to be unavailable for any period of time.

3. Please provide details of all the funding you are receiving from Southwark Council in 2011/12 (this financial year)

Give full details of all the funding you currently get from the council, including on-going funding and any one-off funding, such as the Transition Fund.

If you do not receive funding from Southwark Council please state 'none'.

4. Please provide details of all the funding you expect to receive from Southwark Council in 2012/13

Give full details of any contracted or grant funded services that you will be paid for by Southwark Council in the next financial year (2012/13). Where the service or final amount has not been confirmed, please indicate this.

5. Please provide an outline of your proposal and indicate which criteria are met.

Please provide an outline of your proposal and indicate which of the criteria listed on page one are met.

The panel that considers the application needs to have enough clear information on which to base their recommendations.

6. How much funding are you applying for?

The Innovation Fund is at least £100,000. There is no rigid cap on the value of a single bid, however we do not anticipate awarding grants in excess of £40,000. Actual grants made will be dependent on the range and quality of bids received.

You may be awarded a smaller grant than you have requested.

The amount that you are requesting needs to be proportionate to your proposal and the criteria that it meets.

7. Please explain how this proposal will help your organisation become more sustainable. How will you evidence this?

It's important that your proposal recognises that the Innovation Fund is a 'one-off' payment. Your bid must demonstrate how your proposal will improve outcomes for people with learning disabilities in the longer term.

8. Please give a breakdown on how you will spend the grant (expand the rows as necessary)

Please provide a breakdown of the costs for your project. Please provide specific details as to how the calculations have been made.

9. Please provide your bank account details, including account number and sort code. Any successful bid will have its grant paid into this account.

10. Please provide details of alternative sources of funding that you have applied for in the last 12 months

Please provide details of other funding bids applied for in the last 12 months. If no other funding has been sought please state the reasons why. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Your answer should include national and local funding applications including the National Transition Fund and state whether the bid was successful. If your bid was successful, state how much you were awarded.

The information gathered here is intended to support the council to understand the efforts of your organisation/s to become financially self-sustaining.

We would not expect to fund an initiative that has already received funding.

9.3 Declaration

Ensure that the declaration is signed by an appropriate Management Committee member stating their position.

9.4 Evaluating the applications

The applications will be checked for eligibility, and will not be scored unless your organisation/s are eligible.

Applications will be scored against the criteria in the following way:

0-Not Met, 1-Met, 2-Exceeded

9.5 Closing date

Your application/s need to be received by the council by 5pm on Friday 3 February 2012.

Late applications will NOT be considered.

Please retain a copy of the application and evidence that the application was sent (and when) for your records.

10 Timetable for the grant process

12 January 2012	Launch & application writing
3 February 2012 (5pm)	Closing date for applications
6 February -13 February	Assessment and scoring of applications by panel
15 th , 16 th &17 th February	Interviews with selected organisations
w/c 20 th February	Panel final deliberations and recommendation of awards
w/c 27th February	Lead Member consideration and decision on award
10 working days from decision	Key decision call in period
March	Award of grants