

BCC Windrush 75 Small Grants Programme Overview and Guidance

Overview

Birmingham City Council is offering grants of up to £2,000 for community groups and organisations to deliver projects that celebrate and recognise the contribution of the Windrush generation and their descendants in Birmingham.

£50,000 will be available for activities and events which will take place between 5 June and 31 August 2023 to positively celebrate UK Caribbean communities and raise awareness of communities who are now integral to the social fabric of a multi-diverse Birmingham.

Background

The Windrush Generation refers to people who migrated from Caribbean countries to Britain between the period of the anchoring of the HMT Empire Windrush, at Tilbury Docks, on 21 June 1948 and the Immigration Act 1971, including the Caribbean passengers on the first ship who disembarked on the 22 of June 1948.

22 June 2023 will be a significant milestone marking the 75th anniversary since the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush, after the then Colonial Office invited citizens from across the Commonwealth to the UK to help with rebuilding the country after the WW2. Many of the Windrush Generation settled in Birmingham and the UK permanently, making a significant and positive change to post-war Britain.

Aims of the fund

The aims of the BCC Windrush 75 Small Grants Programme are to support inclusive community organised activity and events, which mark this significant milestone. The activities funded through the small grants fund will enable communities and people to share their stories, celebrate their contributions to British society and to share heritage experiences with diverse communities across Birmingham. This will all contribute to the promotion, understanding and awareness of the story of Windrush and post-war economic migration to Birmingham for all ages across Birmingham.

Activities and events that can be supported through this grant programme will:

- Mark the 75th anniversary milestone and its significance
- Engage with UK Caribbean communities, to 'capture' their stories, experiences and celebrate their contributions to Birmingham
- Share Windrush Generation stories and experiences with Birmingham's population to educate and spark a wider conversation about the positive impact of migration
- Celebrate the 'rich' culture and traditions Caribbean people have brought to Birmingham.

Who can apply

Community groups and not-for-profit organisations can apply. Individuals are not eligible to apply for this grant programme, unless organised within a collective and sponsored by an established not for profit community organisation.

Applicants should have a bank account, in the name of the group or organisation applying, or be able to identify a sponsor organisation to hold the funds of behalf of the group. If a group is not constituted, you can still apply for the funds, under the umbrella of another constituted group who will act as the fund holder for the grant (a sponsor).

How to apply

Please complete the short application form (attached) and email it to NDSU@birmingham.gov.uk by **5pm on Wednesday 19 April 2023**. Decisions will be communicated week commencing **22 May 2023**.

Successful projects should be able to complete the funded activity between **5 June and 31 August 2023**.

What we can support

The fund will support events, workshops, activities, awareness raising campaigns and other projects. Types of activities or events which will be supported by the fund can include but are not limited to:

- Community celebration and recognition events that bring people of different social backgrounds, ethnicities, faiths, and generations together
- Arts based activities such as creative workshops, poetry or musical performance that explores identity
- Educational activities and resources such as workshops and webinars to explore identity and share experiences and heritage and may leave a lasting resource /legacy.

How decisions are made

All applications will be assessed by a member of the Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit (NDSU) Team and the BCC Windrush 75 Grant Programme Community Panel will come together to consider applications and make recommendations of which projects/ activities should be funded via the BCC Windrush 75 Small Grants Programme.

Marketing and promotion

To mark Windrush 75 in Birmingham, Birmingham City Council has created a free digital platform on the Council website which will include all Windrush 75 activities. All organisations and groups funded via this grant programme will be asked to share details of their planned activities on the digital platform.

Support available

The NDSU will hold two information sessions where potential applicants can come along to hear more about the fund, discuss ideas and find out more about what makes a good project. To register to attend one of the information sessions click the link below:

[BCC Windrush 75 Small Grants Programme Information Session Wednesday 29 March 2023 at 6pm](#)

[BCC Windrush 75 Small Grants Programme Information Session Wednesday 12 April 2023 at midday](#)

Evaluation

All funded projects must complete a monitoring report to provide evidence in the form of photographs, social media posts/videos etc (compliant with GDPR), and commentary to explain how the project has engaged the community and worked towards the aims of the fund. All funded projects must also engage in the overall programme evaluation.

Application process

Fund opens	Wednesday 15 March 2023
Online information sessions	Wednesday 29 March 2023 at 6pm Wednesday 12 April 2023 at midday
Closing date for submission of funding applications	Wednesday 19 April 2023 at 5pm
Internal due diligence processes and review of funding applications	By Thursday 4 May 2023
Community decision-making panel	Week commencing 8 May
Notification of outcome of application	Week commencing 22 May
Confirmation letters and Conditions of Grant Aid forms are sent to successful applicants	Week commencing 22 May
Projects commence	From Monday 5 June 2023
Project to be completed	By Thursday 31 August 2023
Evaluation deadline	Friday 15 September 2023