

The Positive Futures Fund

The Positive Futures Fund is managed by the Heart of England Community Foundation.

Fund Aims

The Positive Futures Fund aims to support community/voluntary organisations and registered charities working with disadvantaged young people aged 13 to 25 years old, within Birmingham and the Black Country.

The fund prioritises and focuses on:

- Projects that work in innovative ways to inspire young people and prevent them from entering the criminal justice system.
- Projects that create lasting change for young people

Grants can be awarded for projects that will meet one or more of the following aims:

- Practically helping young people to develop skills so they are prepared for work e.g. opportunities to gain work experience and mock interviews with employers
- Supporting young people who are in the process of leaving care so that they develop skills to live independently
- Raising aspirations of young people by offering organised mentoring opportunities – these opportunities should have an individualised plan which shows growth and clear outcomes for each individual
- Projects supporting mental health of young people on the periphery of crime

The fund will prioritise projects which support:

- Education
- Learning
- Training

Available Funding

Grants of up to £5,000 are available with a maximum project length of 1 year.

We will support:

- Start-up costs for a new project or organisation
- To extend or develop an existing project
- To purchase equipment or resources

Priority Area

Funding is available to organisations based in Birmingham and the Black Country

Eligibility – what we won't fund

Applicants must have an annual income of less than £500,000

Please note, we are unable to fund the following:

- Direct replacement of statutory obligation and public funding
- Individuals
- Promotion of religious or political activities
- Groups with significant financial free reserves
- Retrospective grants
- Contribution to endowment fund, payment of deficit funding or repayment of loans
- National charities
- Overseas travel or expeditions
- Medical research and equipment for statutory or private healthcare
- General appeals
- Animal welfare, unless the project benefits people (e.g. disabled riding schemes)
- Mainstream activities of schools & colleges
- Sponsored or fundraising events or groups raising funds to distribute to other causes
- Schools, Churches, Parish Councils or PTA's unless community benefit is demonstrated
- Boxing clubs or associated organisations

Additional Supporting Information

To be eligible to apply you must be able to provide proof of:

- Your organisation / company has a management committee / board of trustees / board of directors with at least 3 unrelated people as members, a list of those directors will be required showing who has bank authorisation.
- A written constitution / articles / set of rules.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records showing your organisation's balance of funds, income and reserves.
- A bank account in the name of the organisation with at least two unrelated signatories and bank statement from the last 3 months.
- Copies of your safeguarding policy and your equal opportunities policy.
- Quotes for capital items over £300.

For the Foundation's full eligibility criteria see our website.