

The **Step Up** *Fund*

With £300,000 funding from Wirral Council Public Health and UK Government, the Step Up Fund is seeking to fund 20 Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Organisations, operating in Wirral with the dual objective of increasing capacity within the sector to deliver the outcomes in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and; to improve the resilience and sustainability of organisations.

The Offer

Successful organisations will receive:

- £10,000 unrestricted funding to develop or extend activities that support the Gamechanger objectives of the Wirral Health & Wellbeing Strategy
- £5,000 Support grant that will support the resilience and sustainability of organisations and their leaders.
- Networking opportunities for Step Up funded organisations to share learning, challenges and successes

Wirral Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The Wirral Health & Wellbeing Strategy has five priorities which will make the biggest difference to improving health for everyone with the ambition being for Wirral to be a place where everyone has the opportunity to live a healthier life, no matter who they are or where they live.

Each of the five priorities also have Gamechangers that will make the biggest difference and this is where we would like organisations to focus.

The Gamechangers are:

- Unemployment
- Cardio Vascular Disease
- Early Years and Family Help
- Fuel Poverty
- Violence Reduction

Underpinning both the priorities and the Gamechangers is the aim of “creating a culture of health and wellbeing, listening to residents and working together”

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for the funding organisations must:

- Be based and delivering work in Wirral – preferably with most of their leadership (trustees, staff, volunteers) living in the area
- Have a bank account, in the name of the organisation, which requires at least 2 unrelated signatories to authorise transactions
- Have had a turnover (income) of more than £10,000 in their last submitted accounts (Charity Commission, Companies House etc)
- Be seeking funds to play a greater part in delivering the Wirral Health & Wellbeing Strategy Gamechangers
- Be willing to share their learning – successes and challenges with other funded organisations and other colleagues.

Timeline

1. Open to applications Friday 19th July 2024
2. Applications Close Friday 23rd August 2024 (midday)

3. Assessment panel week commencing 2nd September
4. Applicants informed of outcome 9th September 2024
5. Funding agreements issued 9th September (for signing)
6. Funding issued to organisations week commencing 16th September

Assessment

A panel will be formed including Wirral CVS and Wirral Council Public Health staff to assess and score applications. Scoring criteria will be based on the questions in the application form.