

Brentwood UKSPF: FAQs v1 27/02/23

General fund information

Are there any organisations excluded from applying?

No, all organisation types, with legal status, can apply for funding from UKSPF. Applications from individuals are not eligible. The UK Government provides some examples:

.....this may include local authorities, public sector organisations, higher and further education institutions, private sector companies, voluntary organisations and registered charities.

Organisations must have their own bank account and formal articles, such as a constitution, terms of reference or purpose statement.

Can sole traders apply for funding?

Yes, sole traders can apply. They should include their UTR number on the application form in the box requesting Charity or Company registration number. .

Can an application include capital and revenue funding?

Yes, a bid can include both revenue and capital spend, unless the call specifically requires only revenue or capital.

Can my project be funded through more than one intervention?

Yes, but you will need to clearly identify how your project activity, outputs and outcomes and budget relate to the different interventions.

Can my organisation make multiple applications?

No for this funding round (2023/24) it is only one application per organisation.

Is match funding required?

Match funding is not required, but UKSPF funding can act as match funding for external funding, or the application form allows space to explain if any external

match funding has been secured for the UKSPF funding. You will be required to report on any match funding used to deliver the project.

Some capital projects may require match funding due to the definition of capital costs.

Can UKSPF be used to cover running costs of the organisation?

The funding cannot cover organisation running costs unless these are directly related to the project delivery. It also cannot fund ongoing costs incurred post project completion e.g. maintenance of equipment or licences/subscriptions.

Are we looking for particular projects under the interventions?

No, there are no particular projects that we have in mind for each intervention. Any project that delivers activity under the intervention and fulfils at least one output and outcome will be eligible for funding and will be considered by the assessment panel (subject to passing the technical evaluation).

The application process

Is there scope for partnership?

Yes, organisations can work together on bids in order to pool ideas and resources. There will need to be one organisation listed as the lead organisation, which will be the main point of contact responsible for returning regular monitoring and financial reports, budget and for all partner claims. The partnership will need to have a partnership agreement in place at the time of signing the funding agreement. The experience, responsibility and budgets per partner should be set out in the application.

Will the response to applications be a simple yes/no?

We will provide feedback both at the first draft and final submission stages. If a bid is unsuccessful, we will provide an explanation of why this is the case.

Can the council match up similar projects?

We would encourage organisations to work collaboratively to combine projects before submitting bids, as it will be unlikely that the council will be able to combine bids once they have been submitted.

What will the draft feedback include?

Written comments will be provided on your draft application form, as well as feedback on budgets and the outputs/outcomes you have selected.

Delivering your UKSPF project

Can funds be carried over at the end of the financial year?

Government have stated that projects must spend the funding within the year it has committed to. The government has given no indication that it is prepared to allow funds to roll over from year two (2023/24) to year three (2024/25).

Can I apply for funding in 2024/25?

At present, the current call for project bids will cover 2023/24 and a separate call for 2024/25 projects will go out in the next financial year.

Will existing projects be rolled over into 2024/25?

At present, we do not envision projects being automatically rolled over into 2024/25. However, we will be considering if a streamlined process for existing projects to reapply for funding could be developed.

Do I have to consider subsidy control?

It is possible that grants awarded under UKSPF will be deemed as being a subsidy.

Brentwood Borough Council intends to use the exemption of Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA), which allows public authorities to award low value subsidies without needing to comply with the majority of the subsidy control requirements.

MFA is capped at a financial threshold, meaning no recipient can receive more than £315,000 over three years.

If approved, the applicant will be requested, as part of the grant funding agreement to declare that the cap hasn't been met.



More information is available on the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1117122/uk-subsidy-control-statutory-guidance.pdf