



Westway Trust Transformation Grants 2025/26

Guidelines for applicants

About us

Westway Trust is a unique land Trust situated in the heart of North Kensington. Founded in 1971, the organisation was endowed with 23 acres of land underneath the Westway Motorway. Since then, Westway Trust has established itself as an organisation, stewarding the estate for the benefit of local communities through capacity building in the local community and voluntary sector, delivering key services and programmes such as Cost-of-Living support, Learning and Development, successful grants programmes and forming partnerships with key community stakeholders and community members.

To find out more, please visit: <https://www.westway.org/>

Transformation Grants

Our Transformation Grants Programme is aimed at supporting systemic change in our communities, particularly focusing on addressing inequalities and advancing social justice. These grants are designed to support needs-based initiatives seeking to fundamentally transform services, policies, and practices to create more equitable and inclusive environments. With an emphasis on Social Justice, these grants prioritise addressing root causes of inequality, discrimination, and marginalisation. We recognise that addressing systemic issues can be overwhelming. We do not expect applications to single-handedly solve complex societal issues. Instead, we are looking to fund projects that aim to create a ripple effect towards initiatives that can spark wider impact, contribute to the national conversation, and set an example or standard for others to follow.

Applicants will be given the flexibility to submit proposals rooted in their own research, or drawing on established research, using delivery techniques that can be demonstrated as being effective.

This is our second year of delivering the Transformation Grants Programme. In the previous year we supported three organisations, distributing approximately £120,000 to projects tackling deep rooted societal issues. This early success reflects our commitment to enabling bold, meaningful change and to learning alongside organisations working at the forefront of transformation.

For more information about our organisation strategy and transformation grants please refer to the following:

- [Grants Review](#) (review of our grants and introduction to Transformation Grants)

- [Horizon Plan](#) (key strategic document setting out our strategic direction).

Eligibility

We will assess the grant application against two sets of criteria: (1) Quality, to assess the suitability of the organisation to effectively deliver the programme, and (2) Project, to assess the aims of the project to align with the aims of the Transformation Grants programme.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

Quality	
Criteria	Description
Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered with Companies House and or Charity Commission. • Limited companies and registered charities need to have a registered office in the UK. • Applications from organisations working as a consortium, partnerships, network or group. • Annual turn-over more than £100,000. (This does not include any non-cash contributions, including any in-kind support.) • Financially solvent. • All organisations need to have a UK bank account in the exact name it is applying in (the organisation's name), with two signatories. A signatory is someone that is authorised to make transactions and manage an account, for example can sign cheques.
Internal Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of strong internal systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policies in place that address how organisations deal with conflict of interest ○ Evidence of adequate financial systems/processes to manage and report on spending ○ Strong Governance, accountabilities and reporting structure
Alignment of objectives and values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategic document for the host organisation, setting out clear links between the organisation's objectives and ambition to address the theme of the proposal. • Organisational values with clear links to those of Westway Trust, demonstrating how these values have shaped the work of the organisation in the past, and how those values will shape the project being proposed.

Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track record of delivering successful programmes, delivering social projects of similar scale • Evidence of staff with experience of delivering similar projects. • Efforts to address systemic inequalities or barriers
Project	
Criteria	Description
Project Description and Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show a clear area of focus. • Show evidence of need, specifically related to the community in North Kensington (Including data, findings of reports/studies). • Details of engagement activities already undertaken on the theme, and/or existing research to form or validate a knowledge base on which the project would sit.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong knowledge of the North Kensington community, and the specific issues in North Kensington related to systemic injustices. • Evidence of a community-centered approach. • Applicants not based in North Kensington must demonstrate their commitment to community involvement by providing evidence of local engagement and preferably partnering with community organisations to implement their programme. • Clear, unambiguous and time-bound KPIs for delivery of programme/project and demonstration of proven and effective impact measurement tools.
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed delivery plan (including where appropriate outreach/engagement, evaluation and sharing of learning) for execution in North Kensington before, during and following the project.
Budget Justification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full budget for the proposal, including any committed and non-committed match funding. • Organisation must demonstrate it will seek best value for money.
Sustainability and Scalability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of a pathway to a legacy from which further social justice activities can evolve, including a commitment to share what has been learned.
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of equity, diversity, and inclusion in project planning • Proposed project to ensure relevant groups, i.e. marginalised or underrepresented people, have equitable access and opportunities to participate and benefit.



Size of a Transformation Grant

We expect to award grants of up to £70,000, lasting for up to a year.

Application Process & Timetable

The Transformation grant application round is set to commence June 2025. Below are the provisional dates for our funding round.

(dates may change)

1. Expression of Interest (EOI) period <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicants are required to complete online EOIs.• EOIs received after the closing date will not be considered	Open: 2 June 2025 Close: 30 June 2025
2. EOI assessment	4 July 2025
3. Contact EOIs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notification will be sent to both successful and unsuccessful EOI applicants	7 July 2025
4. Grant application & Workshop period <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successful organisations at EOI stage will be advised to attend at least 1 of 2 workshops (WS) during the grant application period.• Online grant application forms to be completed (only by organisations successful at EOI stage).• Grant applications received after the closing date will not be considered	Open: 9 July 2025 Close: 6 August 2025 WS 1: TBC WS 2: TBC
5. Panel assessment	19 August 2025
6. Notification of outcome	22 August 2025 (TBC)

Grant Agreement Terms and Conditions

Successful organisations awarded a Transformation Grant will be required to sign the Transformation Grant Agreement. This will outline the terms and conditions (signed by both parties) of the funding provided by us.

FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. Why are the transformation grants only open to organisations with a turnover of £100k or more?

The transformation grants have been developed following a key recommendation in an independent review of our grants programmes. The report recommended that the Trust

continue with its various small grants programmes, while investing more significant funds to address longer-term, systemic and structural issues in our communities.

The transformation grants are a new programme. They are designed to complement, not replace, our current smaller grants programmes for grassroots organisations.

Westway Trust intends to take a back seat in the delivery of these transformational programmes, as it is felt that the organisations with the expertise, knowledge and track record are best placed to affect systemic change. For this reason, it's important that the host organisation has the necessary financial, governance and staffing structures in place, as well as a track record of delivering programmes of this scale. We will be looking to fund organisations who have successfully delivered programmes of this scale and can demonstrate the impact they have made in their communities. They will have already conducted the necessary research and can demonstrate need and impact on the themes they intend to address in our communities.

Another requirement for successful applicants will be the ability to demonstrate a robust impact reporting framework.

The transformation grants could also be used to leverage other funding from different sectors locally - private, public, NHS etc. So larger originations with existing funding relationships will be best placed to maximise these leverage opportunities. We realise that this particular criterion will exclude a number of small community organisations in applying for this grants programme. We also recognise that smaller organisations with ambitions to deliver programmes of this scale would benefit from an opportunity like this. That's why we are committed to working with successful applicants to ensure they work with smaller grassroots organisations to deliver their programmes on the ground.

We will be encouraging successful applicants to provide shadowing/mentorship opportunities for the leaders of smaller organisations to play a key part in the strategic planning and impact reporting for the funded programmes.

2. What types of projects does the Transformation Grants Programme support?

The Transformation Grants will seek to support projects that will focus on addressing themes of social injustice in North Kensington and implementing systemic change. We encourage projects that demonstrate sustainability, and potential for positive impact in North Kensington.

3. Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

- Individuals

- Sole Traders
- Organisations based outside of the UK
- Organisations that look to make profits and share these profits out privately – including shareholders.
- Organisations applying to more than one of our funds for the same project.

4. What expenses can be covered by the grant?

The grant can cover a wide range of expenses associated with the project's delivery, including core costs.

5. How do I apply for the grant?

To apply for the grant, interested applicants will need to complete an EOI Form on the Westway Trust website. Upon selection, applicants will be encouraged to complete a Grant Application which will be available on the website during the application period (4 weeks).

6. Are there any reporting requirements for grant recipients?

Yes, as part of our monitoring process, grant recipients are required to submit quarterly progress reports detailing the project's KPI achievements, challenges faced, and financial expenditures. Additionally, a final report on the project's outcomes achieved, impact, and financial reconciliation is required upon completion of the project.

7. Can I apply for multiple grants simultaneously?

Yes, you may apply for multiple Westway Trust grants if you have project ideas that align with the specific grant programmes' objectives. Please see our Community Investments & Grants page for more information - <https://www.westway.org/apply-now/grants/>.

8. How are grant applications assessed?

Grant applications are assessed based on the quality and project criterion set by Westway Trust. Please refer to the transformation grant programme criteria for more information. Applications are reviewed by a panel comprising of staff, trustees and community members.

9. Can I receive feedback on my grant application if it's not successful?

Due to the high volume of interest expected, we will be unable to provide individual feedback on unsuccessful applications. We will, however, provide general feedback on why applications may have been unsuccessful. Please refer to this page for further information.

10. Can this grant support existing projects?

Yes, with a prime focus in North Kensington.

11. Can this grant support beneficiaries from neighbouring boroughs/areas?

Whilst the project needs to focus on North Kensington, we understand that you may have beneficiaries from various boroughs/areas, but we can only award grants for services that will have a primary focus in North Kensington.

12. Will the Transformation Grant be renewed for the next year?

The Transformation Grant will be contracted for one year; however, you will be asked to provide an exit strategy and/or plans for future funding if appropriate.