



# **SNG #iwill Fund 2.0**

## **Wellbeing Champions Programme**

### **Information Pack**

Proudly supporting  
youth social action



Department  
for Culture  
Media & Sport



Sovereign Network Group is the trading name of Sovereign Housing Association Limited, which is charitable.

## Sovereign Network Group (SNG)

The **SNG #iwill Fund** is investing £1 million in creating opportunities for youth social action and a platform for youth voice.

**SNG (Sovereign Network Group)** was formed in October 2023 through the merger of Sovereign and Network Homes.

We provide over 82,000 homes and invest in communities across **London and the South of England**, as well as aiming to create thousands of new affordable places for people to live every year.

Our purpose is to provide quality affordable homes and places, that people love for generations.

Everything we earn, we invest so that our customers - now and in the future - have a sustainable home that they love, in a **thriving community**.

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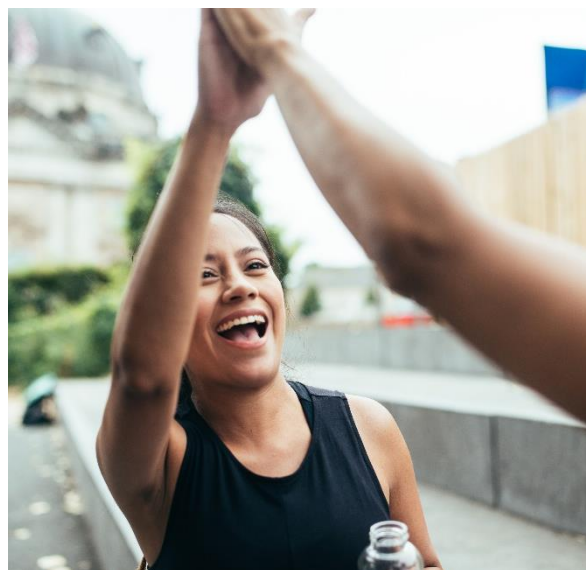
We're more than bricks and mortar, our social purpose is central to what we do. We want to deliver more for our customers and **invest in the communities** where we have homes.

Working in partnership is crucial to all we endeavour to achieve. Building **long term alliances with** community organisations, stakeholders and businesses who share our aspirations is key to helping us increase our **social impact**.

The **SNG #iwill Fund** aims to create opportunities for **youth social action** and a platform for **youth voice**. Investing over £1 million in giving young people a voice in their communities and futures.

It's made possible thanks to a £66 million joint investment from **The National Lottery Community Fund** and the **Department for Culture, Media and Sport** (DCMS) to support young people to access high-quality social action opportunities.

SNG is acting as an **#iwill Fund** match funder and awarding grants on behalf of the #iwill Fund through the **SNG #iwill Fund**.



## The Grants Programme

The SNG #iwill Fund is open for organisations to apply for grants of up to £10,000 to deliver our Wellbeing Champions Programme (WCP).

The project will be **9 months** long and will include, upskilling at least **15 young people**, aged **10-20 years old**, to become Wellbeing Champions, teaching them about **youth social action** and supporting and facilitating the space for young people to plan and lead on a youth social action (YSA) project focused on **mental health and wellbeing**.



We have decided to partner with Reverse The Trend Foundation; A charity focused on helping young people with their mental and physical health and researching links between the two.

Applying evidence-based techniques to reverse the trend of childhood obesity and promote mental wellness within this generation of children.



Wellbeing Champions will receive training on how to look after their **own** mental health, how to help their **peers** as well as how to make changes in the wider **community**.

This training will be provided by the successful grantee with resources and training from SNG and our specialist partner, mental health and wellbeing charity **Reverse The Trend Foundation**.

Wellbeing Champions will also receive **mental health first aid training**, from a qualified provider, to make sure that they know the responsibilities involved, safeguarding and to ensure that a baseline is created across the board of knowledge.



Equipped with this knowledge and training, the Wellbeing Champions will act as a **mentor** and **support** for their peers as well as work in the wider community on **signposting** to **support**, **reducing negative stigmas** and **campaigning** for better **awareness** of mental health and wellbeing issues.

The young people will be equipped with the **skills for life** for looking after themselves, their peers and their community and will enable them to encourage and teach others to do the same.



The Wellbeing Champions will also be taught about the **principles of youth social action** and will lead on planning and delivering **at least one social action project** of their own, focused on **mental health and wellbeing**.

This training will also be provided by the successful organisation, using their own knowledge and experience as well as resources from Reverse The Trend Foundation and SNG, as well as the #iwill Fund.

#### **Examples of youth social action projects are:**

- Weekly wellbeing activities – i.e., arts and crafts, mindfulness sessions.
- Helping to combat loneliness at over 55 schemes and care homes.
- Gardening and nature-based activities for mental clarity and mindfulness.
- Assemblies and presentations on identifying poor mental health, stigmas and where to get help.
- Sports and nutrition projects to focus on your physical wellbeing.

**At the end of the project, the Wellbeing Champions will be encouraged to pledge to continue to be a Wellbeing Champion and to advocate for better mental health within their community.**

**They should also be encouraged to keep taking part in youth social action to continue using their voices to inspire and facilitate change.**

## Eligibility Criteria

You can find our full eligibility criteria and what you can and can't use the grant for [HERE >](#)

**To be eligible to apply for this funding, your organisation needs to be one of the following:**

- a registered charity.
- a constituted community group.
- a community interest company.
- a charitable organisation.
- a public body at a local level.
- another housing association, established in the UK (preferably smaller organisations with limited resources to capacity build).

**Please note, organisations applying for the SNG #iwill Fund must:**

- Have capacity to recruit young people and deliver a youth social action project within the required timeframes.
- Have capacity to deliver on reporting requirements.
- Have capacity to take part in SNG #iwill Youth Network meetings which will involve training, support and networking
- Comply with all due diligence checks from documentation sent through the application process.

**Organisations must not:**

- Have been awarded £332k or more of public funding in the last three years.
- Use the grant for any 'ineligible spend' – Please refer to the full eligibility criteria for details of what this grant cannot be used for.

**Projects eligible for this funding must:**

- Involve young people aged 10-20-years-old
- Cost a maximum of £10,000
- Be delivered between 1 February 2024 and 31 October 2024.
- Be youth-led, for example by giving young people choices and the ability to decide what to do as part of the project.
- Offer new opportunities for young people to engage in youth social action.
- Give young people the opportunity to learn new skills and develop their potential and confidence.

## Key Dates

The SNG #iwill Fund is open for applications of grants up to £10,000 until midnight on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Information and Drop-In Sessions:

Come along to our **MS Teams** calls below to find out more.

**Information sessions** will be running through the WCP grants **programme** and **requirements** with time for **questions and answers** at the end.

The **drop-in sessions** are a time to come and ask your **specific questions** about eligibility, your project ideas or any questions you may have.

#### > Information Session and Q&A

Session 1: **31/10/23 13:00-14:00**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Session 2: **02/11/23 11:00-12:00**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

#### > Drop-In Session for Q&A

Session 1: **09/11/23 14:00-15:00**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Session 2: **14/11/23 12:00-13:00**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Session 3: **17/11/23 10:00-11:00**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**23/10/23** – Applications Open

**19/11/23** – Applications Close at Midnight

**WC 20/11/23** – Internal Scoring. Panel of young people and SNG #iwill Team.

**24/11/23** – Decision emails and offer of a follow up call.

**For successful applicants:**

**Early Dec** – Contracts sent and introduction meeting

**Feb 24** – Project Launch

**Nov 24** – Project End





## Reporting Requirements

In order to report back to the rest of **SNG** and our match funder, The **National Lottery Community Fund**, the great work being achieved by the successful organisations and the young people involved in YSA, we will require you to **report back to us in months 3, 6 and 9** of the project.

**The reporting form can be found [HERE](#) >**

The outcomes are likely ones that your organisation would already be capturing. However, please ensure that you have taken into consideration admin time into your project spend breakdown and that you will have the capacity to report back to us on time.

## How To Apply



## Applications are now open!

Apply by completing our **Application Form** and sending it via email to [iwillfund-applications@sng.org.uk](mailto:iwillfund-applications@sng.org.uk) along with the supporting documents:

- A copy of your constitution/governing document.
- A copy of a recent bank statement no more than 3 months old.
- A copy of your latest annual accounts, or financial forecast
- Your Safeguarding policy and Equality Opportunity policy.
- Any other documents or media to support your application

## Additional Information

- [Eligibility Criteria >](#)
- [Application and Delivery Timeline >](#)
- [Reporting Form \(for reference\) >](#)
- [Case Study Form \(for reference\) >](#)

[\*\*iwillfund-applications@sng.org.uk\*\*](mailto:iwillfund-applications@sng.org.uk) – For applications and questions

[\*\*press.office@sovereign.org.uk\*\*](mailto:press.office@sovereign.org.uk) – For press and media enquiries

[\*\*https://www.sng.org.uk/\*\*](https://www.sng.org.uk/) – Our website

On 1 October, Sovereign and Network Homes merged to become SNG (Sovereign Network Group).

The #iwill Fund is made possible thanks to a £66 million joint investment from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to support young people to access high-quality social action opportunities.

The #iwill Fund brings together a group of organisations who all contribute funding to embed meaningful social action into the lives of young people.

The #iwill Fund supports the aims of the #iwill campaign – to make involvement in social action a part of life for young people, by recognising the benefit for both young people and their communities.

By bringing together funders from across different sectors and by making sure that young people have a say in where the funding goes – the #iwill Fund is taking a collaborative approach.

Sovereign is acting as an #iwill Fund match funder and awarding grants on behalf of the #iwill Fund through the Sovereign #iwill Fund.

[Find out more about the #iwill Fund.](#)



## **SNG #iwill Fund 2.0 – Wellbeing Champions Programme**

### **Eligibility Criteria**

#### **Location**

The project location must be within one of our Sovereign Network Group (SNG) communities:

- Oxfordshire
- Berkshire
- North Hampshire & Surrey
- South Hampshire
- Isle of Wight
- BCP (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole)
- Dorset
- Devon
- Bristol & Gloucester
- Wiltshire
- London
- Hertfordshire

#### **Eligible Organisations**

Applicants will need to be one of the following organisations in order to be eligible:

- Registered charities
- Constituted community groups
- Community interest companies
- Other charitable organisations
- A public body at a local level
- Other housing associations established in the UK (preferably smaller HA's with limited resources to capacity build)

To apply for the grant, applicants must have the following:

- A written governing document (for example, a constitution, set of rules or trust deed).
- At least three unrelated people on their governing body or management committee.
- An England based bank account that requires the signatures of at least two authorised.
- Signatures, who are unrelated and do not live at the same address, to sign cheques or make a withdrawal.

#### **Eligible grant expenditure**

- Investments in systems
- Investments in people
- Investments in infrastructure (but excluding purchases of buildings or land)
- Dedicated capacity development

- Staff salaries
- Project activities
- Running costs
- Small-scale refurbishment (but excluding refurbishments which significantly improve existing land or building assets)
- Equipment
- Organisational development
- Contributions to fixed costs

### **Ineligible grant expenditure**

- Payment that supports lobbying or activity intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, government or political parties, or attempting to influence the awarding or renewal of contracts and grants, or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action
- Using grant funding to petition for additional funding
- Input vat reclaimable by itself and grant recipients from HMRC
- Payments for activities of a political and exclusively religious nature (grant recipient can fund religious organisations if their programme benefits the wider community and doesn't include religious content)
- Goods or services that are its own or its grant recipient's statutory duty to provide
- Payments reimbursed or to be reimbursed by other public or private sector grants
- Contributions in kind (i.e. A contribution in goods or services, as opposed to money)
- Depreciation, amortisation or impairment of its own fixed assets
- The acquisition or improvement of fixed assets by the grant recipient (unless the grant is explicitly for capital use – this will be stipulated in the grant offer letter)
- Interest payments (including service charge payments for financial leases)
- Gifts to individuals other than promotional items with a value of no more than £10 a year to any one individual
- Entertaining (entertaining for this purpose means anything that would be a taxable benefit to the person being entertained, according to current uk tax regulations)
- Statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties
- Liabilities incurred by the grant recipient before the issue of this agreement unless agreed in writing by the fund
- Use in respect of costs reimbursed or to be reimbursed by funding from any other source
- Use to purchase buildings or land
- Activities that make profits for private gain
- Loan payments

## **SNG #iwill Fund 2.0 – Wellbeing Champions Programme**

### **Application and Delivery Timeline – Round 1**

#### Application and Award Timeline

**23/10/23** – Applications Open

**31/10/23 13:00-14:00** – Information Session and Q&A [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**02/11/23 11:00-12:00** – Information Session and Q&A [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**09/11/23 14:00-15:00** – Drop-In Session for Q&A [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**14/11/23 12:00-13:00** – Drop-In Session for Q&A [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**17/11/23 10:00-11:00** – Drop-In Session for Q&A [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**19/11/23 11.59** – Applications Close

**WC 20/11/23** – Internal Scoring. Panel of young people and SNG #iwill Team.

**24/11/23** – Decision emails and offer of a follow up call.

#### For successful grantees:

**29/11/23** – Contracts sent for review.

**WC 4/12/23 and 11/12/23** – Introduction meeting and contract discussion.

**15/01/24** – Welcome pack sent.

**01/02/24** – Project start.

**Feb 24** – Train-the-trainer session with Reverse The Trend Foundation

**Feb 24** – Kick Off Meeting

**30/04/24** – Report 1 due.

**May 24** – Review Meeting 1

**31/07/24** – Report 2 due.

**Aug 24** – Review Meeting 2

**31/10/24** – Report 3 due (end report)

**01/11/24** – Project end.

**Nov 24** – Review Meeting 3 (Wrap up and future opportunities)

# SNG #iwill Fund 2.0

## Wellbeing Champions Programme

### Reporting Form

Please submit this completed reporting form and supporting documents via email by the deadline **XX/XX/XXX** to:

[Email redacted](#)

#### Further Information:

If you have any questions or are struggling with any aspect of the reporting, please get in touch with us via [email redacted](#) before the reporting deadline.

REPORTING FORM FOR PERIOD <b>XXX - XXX</b>	
Organisation Name:	
Date Submitted:	
Supporting Documents Include:	

SECTION 1: STAFF INFORMATION	
Project lead(s)	
Role of project lead(s)	
Tel/ Mob of project lead(s)	
Email of project lead(s)	
Organisation opening hours	
Project lead(s) working hours	
SECTION 2: PROJECT UPDATES	



<b>Project Update</b> For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Set up</li> <li>- Engagement</li> <li>- Project Planning</li> <li>- Project Delivery</li> <li>- Outcomes</li> <li>- Good News</li> <li>- Challenges</li> </ul>	
<b>Are you working in partnership with any other organisations on this project?</b> If so, please let us know who and in what capacity.	
<b>Any major changes and/or issues to flag with us?</b>	
<b>SECTION 3: OUTCOMES</b>	
<b>Number of youth social action projects/ opportunities created to date</b>	
<b>How many adult volunteers do you have working on the project?</b>	
<b>What day/time do sessions normally take place?</b> If there isn't a particular day or time, please let us know.	
<b>How many sessions have been completed with the young people?</b>	
<b>How many hours have the young people spent in total on the project so far?</b>	
<b>Number of training outcomes and types achieved by the young people</b>	
<b>Number of young people engaged</b>	
<b>Number of young people from SNG homes</b> (Formerly Sovereign or Network Homes)	
<b>Number of young people from the following age groups:</b>	Under 10: 10-13: 14-16: 17-20: Over 20: Unknown:  Total:

<b>Number of young people leading on youth social action activities</b>	
<b>Number of young people taking part in youth social action for the first time through this project</b>	
<b>SECTION 4: IMPACT</b>	
If your project is still in the early days and you haven't had any reflection sessions or impact evaluation yet, you can leave the following section blank or put in N/A.	
<b>Describe the impact this project has had on the young people taking part</b>	
<b>Describe the impact this project has had on your organisation</b>	
<b>Describe the impact this project has had on the community(s) you work in</b>	
<b>Have you had any reflection sessions with the young people yet?</b> If so, please detail how these went and how the below questions were asked.	
<b>Number of young people who said they felt a lot more confident after taking part in the project</b> Please also include the total number of responses from the young people asked the question.	
<b>Number of young people who said they felt like they belong to their community a lot more after taking part in the project</b> Please also include the total number of responses from the young people asked the question.	
<b>Number of young people who said they felt like they've gotten new skills after taking part in the project</b>	

Please also include the total number of responses from the young people asked the question.	
<b>Number of young people who said they would continue to take part in youth social action after this project ends</b> Please also include the total number of responses from the young people asked the question.	
<b>Any quotes or other reflections from the young people you want to share?</b>	
<b>SECTION 5: SPEND</b>	
<b>Spend to date (£)</b>	
<b>Please provide a breakdown of your spend to date</b>	
<b>Spending forecast</b>	
<b>Are you on track to spend your entire grant by the end of the project?</b> If no, please detail why If you are projecting an overspend, please let us know how you will address this	
<b>Have you received any in-kind funding?</b> If so, please detail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From whom?</li> <li>- In what form?</li> <li>- What the monetary amount would be</li> </ul>	
<b>Have you received any external funding outside from the grant from SNG?</b> If so, please detail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From whom?</li> <li>- What for?</li> <li>- Amount given</li> </ul>	

**SECTION 5: COMMUNICATIONS****How are you promoting/  
showcasing the project and its  
achievements**i.e. through specific websites, social  
media outlets, campaigns etc**What are your website(s) and  
social media handle(s)?****Please link to any social media  
posts, articles or website pages  
promoting or showcasing the  
project(s)****Please can you send us any  
photos or media that you are able  
to share with us.**You can either inset the pictures  
into here or send them as an  
attachment with the reporting form  
via email.***Please also send signed photo  
consent forms for any media sent  
picturing young people.*****Please submit your application along with the supporting documents, via email by****XX/XX/XXXX to:****[email redacted](#)**



## SNG #iwill Fund Case Study Form

Stories about our residents (case studies) help us highlight our social purpose and showcase the services we provide.

<b>Date</b>	
<b>Name of organisation</b>	
<b>Name of young person</b>	
<b>Age of young person</b>	
<b>Are they living in a SNG home?</b> (Formerly Sovereign or Network Homes)	
<b>Is the young person happy for SNG to talk to them further about their experience?</b>	
<b>Has the young person consented to SNG using this information as part of their reporting and/or for media purposes?</b>	
<b>Does the young person need/want their name to be anonymised?</b>	
<b>Do you have a photo of the young person to accompany the case study?</b> If yes, please also confirm if they have signed the SNG Photo Consent Form.	
<b>Before - Please describe the young person's situation before their involvement in the project:</b>	

**During - Please describe the young person's experience of the project:**

**After - What impact did the project have on the young person and what have they learned/gained from taking part:**

### Questions for the young person:

(If needed, you can reword the questions so that the young person understands better)

- Did you overcome any challenges whilst taking part in the project?
- Can you think of any positive outcomes that you got through taking part?
- How did you make a difference in your community?
- Did you learn any new skills? If so, what were they?
- What advice would you give to someone thinking about getting involved in youth social action?

### Quotes from the young person:

### Checklist

	Yes	No
Are you confident these details are correct and that you understand the full story?		
Have you checked with the young person that they are happy with their quotes?		
Has the young person been informed that we will keep their case study, and any associated content (i.e., photos) on file for three years, and that it may be used for publications such as corporate reports, or on our website? Do they consent to this?		