



## Black History Month 365 Fund

### Guidance notes

**A2Dominion** operates across London and southern England and provides landlord services to 68,000 customers. A2Dominion has a particular focus on providing housing for people who are unable to afford to rent or buy on the open market and offers additional care and support services and homes.

A2Dominion don't just build, manage, and sell homes; we do our best to create vibrant communities. We reinvest all our profit into creating new homes, maintaining our properties, and supporting communities. Workshops to develop skills and help people find good jobs. Personal support for older and more vulnerable residents. Lively neighbourhood centres with activities for all ages.

**Catalyst** are a leading housing provider in London and the Home Counties, managing over 37,000 homes. Our purpose is to provide all our customers with homes they love and to create communities and neighbourhoods that can flourish and grow. As a not-for-profit organisation we reinvest money raised from property sales into developing and maintaining more affordable homes and are set to build 1,300 new homes a year from 2022.

Catalyst is a housing provider with a social purpose, and, through a combination of reinvestment and fundraising, our Community Investment team supports customers to overcome inequalities and break down social and economic barriers. Our community investment team runs and funds a wide range of projects, ranging from youth mentoring schemes to apprenticeship programmes, gardening clubs to exercise classes. We offer services both at an individual and a wider neighbourhood level.

**Metropolitan Thames Valley** provides housing at different levels of affordability for people living in London, the South- East, East Midlands and East of England. We also offer a range of care and support services. Our specialist areas include older people, mental health and transitional services which provide intensive support to marginalised or vulnerable people.

The Empowering Futures team is MTVH's community investment department. The teamwork with customers and communities across the country offering 121 advice, grants/funding to individuals and communities, deliver local projects and services and work in collaboration with others to help level the playing field for MTVH customers. A member of the National Housing Federation and the G15 - which represents London's largest housing associations - we represent our communities and influence policy for the benefits of our customers and the wider sector.

**Sovereign Housing Association** are a leading housing association, striving to provide quality, affordable homes in happy, successful places. We have deep roots in the south of England, with almost 60,000 homes focused in a core area covering Berkshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Dorset, Devon, Wiltshire, the West of England and the Isle of Wight.

We're driven by our social purpose, with residents at the heart of everything we do. We build homes and provide great services, but our work doesn't stop at the front door - we invest for the long-term, creating great places to live, working with residents and partners to support them in realising their potential.



## Black History Month 365 Fund

**Network Homes** is a charitable housing association providing over 21,000 affordable homes for more than 38,000 people across London and Hertfordshire. We're a not-for-profit organisation and we reinvest our money in building more affordable homes and delivering services for residents. We were established in 1974 to support people in housing need and this remains at the heart of everything we do today. Our mission is to provide safe, secure, and affordable homes for as many people as possible.

We believe good homes make everything possible and we support residents with more than finding somewhere to live. Through our Work- smart training and Employment programme, we support our residents to achieve their career goals. We work in partnership with local organisations to provide additional employment advice, support and training. Our Mental Health Liaison Team and Welfare Advice Team also provide advice and support to residents.'

Every year October marks Black History Month in the UK, a celebration which recognises the achievements and contributions of people of black heritage around the world.

A2Dominion Housing Group, in partnership with Catalyst Housing, Metropolitan Thames Valley, Sovereign Housing Association and Network Homes, are offering small grants of up to £500 to enable community celebrations of Black History to take place. The aim of the Fund is to support local voluntary and community organisations to deliver small projects within our neighbourhoods, not just for October but thought-out the year with frequent funding opportunities.

### **We will consider applications which focus on one or more of the following themes:**

- 1) Bringing communities together to mark and celebrate our shared history
- 2) Promoting the awareness and knowledge of black history
- 3) Celebrating the achievements and contributions from individuals of African and Caribbean heritage
- 4) Specifically, engaging Catalyst, Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing, Sovereign Housing Association, Network Homes and A2Dominion communities and residents

### **Who can apply?**

- Voluntary or community organisation
- Registered charity
- Constituted group or club
- Community interest company (CIC)
- Social enterprise
- Schools
- Statutory body (including town, parish, or community council)



## Black History Month 365 Fund

### To be eligible you should have; but not essential

- A bank account in the name of your group *\*compulsory*
- If you work with children, young people, or vulnerable adults you must have or be working towards a Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults Policy & Safeguarding policy
- DBS certificates & insurance documents (Public Liability Insurance)
- Risk assessments
- Health & Safety policy
- Equality opportunities policy
- Data protection & GDPR procedures

### What kind of projects can we fund?

We can make grants to most types of community activity or projects.

- Equipment
- Venue costs
- New projects
- Existing projects
- One-off initiatives

### What cannot be funded?

We cannot consider funding for the following:

- Any party-political activity
- Purely commercial ventures (for profit)
- Spending that has already taken place (retrospective funding)
- Individuals or projects run by individuals as opposed to an organisation
- Activities promoting religious beliefs
- Activities where individuals are excluded on religious grounds, ethnicity, gender, sexuality
- Any other costs considered unreasonable or non-essential for delivery of the proposed activity.

If successful at the application stage, you will receive a letter of confirmation. If you are not an existing supplier of goods or services to A2Dominion, Catalyst, Metropolitan Thames Valley, Sovereign Housing Association or Network Homes, you must fill out a new supplier form and provide any further details as described in the award letter.

On completion of your event/project you will be asked to complete a short overview of the event/activity, with photos and case studies, to be showcased as part of the Black History Month Fund Archive.

If you would like to find out more about this programme, please email:

[Community.Investment@a2dominion.co.uk](mailto:Community.Investment@a2dominion.co.uk) Attn: **Partnership and Fundraising Team**