

Community Innovation Fund FAQs



What is the Community Innovation Fund?	The Community Innovation Fund supports community-led projects that promote inclusion, wellbeing, and positive social impact. It is designed to help ideas grow and to help make sure the benefits last long after the funding ends. We back projects that are shaped with people who have lived experience of substance use, mental health, learning disabilities and autism, or sexual health and wellbeing. By co-designing programmes together, we can create support that truly reflects what local people want and need.	
Who can apply?	• Turning Point services • Registered charities, community groups, not-for-profits • Applicants must be based in areas where Turning Point provides services	Applicants must have: • A signed constitution • Dual-authorisation bank account • 12 months of accounts • Active board • Safeguarding policy
What themes should projects focus on?	Projects must be co-designed with people with lived experience and have a clear theme that aligns with both the Marmot Principles (reducing health inequalities) and the Five Ways to Wellbeing (Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give). This means your project should contribute to creating fairer, healthier communities while helping people build wellbeing in everyday life. Projects can focus on themes such as: • Employment, Volunteering & Skills – supporting people to learn, grow and access opportunities. • Social Connections & Community Participation – helping people build relationships and feel part of their community. • Environment & Sustainability – improving local spaces and encouraging pride, safety and connection to place. • Housing & Basic Living Standards – making sure people have stability and the essentials they need to thrive. • Access to Health & Care Services – removing barriers and helping people get the right support when they need it. • Healthy Lifestyles & Prevention – promoting safer choices, wellbeing and early support. • Tackling Racism, Inequality & Stigma – creating inclusive, welcoming communities where everyone is valued	
What costs are not funded?	We do not fund: projects outside TP areas, unrelated core wages, overheads, capital purchases, completed activities, alcohol-promoting activity, political/ religious activity (including worship, religious instruction, or proselytising), overseas travel, fundraising, profit-making activity and evaluation/reporting costs. • Facilitation costs must be ≤20% unless justified.	
When will I hear back?	If you do not hear from us within 2 weeks of the application deadline, please assume your application was not shortlisted.	
Can I apply more than once?	Yes, but priority is given to applicants who have not received a grant in the past 12 months	



How to apply to the Community Innovation Fund

Visit the [Community Innovation Fund webpage](#) or scan the QR code.

On the webpage you'll find:

- Full guidance on how to apply
- The application form
- The budget sheet template

You can submit your application in writing or as a video — choose whichever format works best for you.

Need support?

Email Innovations@turning-point.co.uk if you have any questions or need help with your application.

