



Home Office

Community Engagement Fund (Windrush)

Information Session

Hosted by the Home Office CEF Team

21st and 23rd April 2026



Home Office

Welcome and Introduction

Agenda

- Community Engagement Fund: Purposes and Objectives
- Overview of application process
- Overview of competition process
- Key Dates
- Further information
- Links and Resource Materials
- Questions

Scope of today's session

Please note that Windrush documentation and compensation eligibility are outside the scope of today's session.

We will not be covering or taking questions on these matters.

We will be providing links to Windrush Schemes at the end of this presentation.

Purpose and Objectives

Community Engagement Fund

1. To fund grassroots and community groups to engage with communities to raise awareness of the Windrush Compensation and Windrush Documentation Schemes with a focus on non-Caribbean communities and encourage them to apply to these Schemes.
2. Build on the insights and learning taken from our existing work on Windrush (for example, Windrush Community Fund and Windrush national communications campaign) to understand:
 - a) why individuals are not applying for the Windrush Compensation Scheme and/or the Windrush Scheme (Documentation); and
 - b) how to encourage eligible individuals to apply to these Schemes.
3. This fund is best suited to support short and easy-to-deliver projects, rather than a programme of work, as all allocated funds needs to be spent within the financial year

Application Process

- The CEF Fund is intended to **support short, discrete projects which can be delivered successfully.**
- The Community Engagement Fund has a total of £150,000 available.
- Applicants can apply for funding between £5,000 and £10,000.
- Fully completed applications must be submitted on the Find and Apply Grant Portal by **4pm on Tuesday 12th May 2026**. NO late applications will be accepted.
- Applications will be assessed by Home Office subject matter experts.
- Outcome letters will be shared with all the applicants that apply.
- Our aim is for grant agreements to be completed and signed between Home Office and successful applicants by mid-July 2026 and for the grant to commence in August 2026. Please note that the Authority reserves the right to make changes to these dates.
- Most money paid will be in arrears. However, applicants can request up to 25% of the grant as set up costs. The set up costs can be paid as soon as grant agreements are completed and signed.
- All projects must be concluded by **31st March 2027**.

Competition Process

- The competition is being managed by the Home Office Grants Commercial Team.
- The competition is advertised on Find-A-Grant, where you can see all competition documents, as well as apply.
- It is important that organisations read the Guidance for Applicants before completing the Application Form. The Evaluation and Award process is also detailed here.
- Clarification questions can be asked during the competition period via email to CommunityEngagementFundCompetition@homeoffice.gov.uk. Do not send any emails/correspondence to anyone within the Home Office, this email address is your only communication channel. The deadline for clarification questions is **5th May 2026 at 9am**.
- Clarification questions and responses will be uploaded to the supporting information section on the Find and Apply Portal. If you sign up for updates on this grant, you will be notified when these are uploaded.
- Application forms must be completed and submitted by **4pm on 12th May 2026 on the Find and Apply Grant Portal**.
- The Authority reserve the right to exclude any late applications.

Key Dates

Competition Bidding

- 14/04/2026– Launch of competition
- 21/04/26 & 23/04/26 – Bidder information sessions
- 05/05/2026 – 9am Deadline for Bidder clarification questions
- 07/05/2026 – 5pm dissemination of responses to Bidder clarification questions
- 12/05/2026 – 4pm Deadline for Bid submissions

Indicative dates based on volume of organisations that apply

- 14/05/26 to 10/06/26 - Bid Evaluation, Moderation,
- Due diligence on winning bids
- Summer 2026 – Bidders notified of award decisions.
- 31/03/27 – Project completion and Funding window closed.

Further Information

The application and key documents

Guidance for Applicants

Example Grant Agreement

Frequently Asked Questions

Application – On Apply for a grant

Only available through the Find A Grant on-line portal on Gov.UK.

Useful Links and Resources

- **We Are Group** (independent claimant assistance) can be contacted at freephone: **0808 196 8496**
- **Communications Partner Packs:**
 - [UK Partner Pack](#)
 - [Overseas Partner Pack](#)
- **Windrush Scheme and Windrush Compensation Scheme:**
 - [Windrush Scheme: full eligibility details - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
 - [Apply to the Windrush Compensation Scheme: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Questions ?

Any questions?

Further questions contact:

Email: communityengagementfundcompetition@homeoffice.gov.uk

Dates to note:

Application closing date: 4pm Tuesday 12th May 2026

All projects must be completed by 31st March 2027

All grant budget must be spent by 31st March 2027