

## 190 - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUNDING (CEF)

| Clarification Question Reference | Question  | Home Office Response  |
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| CQ1                              | Can you save the application whilst in progress and return to it?   | <i>Yes, you can save your application on the portal and return to it later.</i>   |
| CQ2                              | Can you draft an offline version of your application and then upload when ready?  | <i>Yes, you may draft your application offline and upload it once it is ready.</i>  |
| CQ3                              | Q1 & Q2 – the word limit doesn't correspond with the weighting. This seems imbalanced.  | <i>While Questions 5.1 and 5.2 have similar weightings (30% and 25%), they address different aspects of the application. 5.1 concentrates on the project's overall aims and high-level delivery plan, while 5.2 requires more detailed explanation of individual activities and their alignment with the fund's aims. The weightings reflect the relative importance of each question, while the word limits reflect the level of detail required.</i>  |
| CQ4                              | If rejected, can you share the ranking and weightings for feedback for learning points?   | <i>Once final scores have been confirmed, all applicant organisations will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application. Upon request, feedback can be provided to support learning.</i>  |
| CQ5                              | Bids between £5k and £10k – if any of the £150k is left over, will organisations be given the opportunity to top up their applications? | <i>No. Organisations will be awarded the amount requested in their application.</i>   |
| CQ6                              | How do we evidence to support the activities we are stating on our applications? Do we upload photos, videos etc?                       | <i>To ensure fairness and consistency, all applications will be assessed using the same criteria. The assessment will be based solely on the information provided in your application form, so it is important that responses are clear, detailed, and factually accurate. The application portal does not support the upload of supplementary evidence such as photos, videos, or other media. Applicants should therefore ensure that all relevant information is fully explained within the written responses.</i> |

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| CQ7  | Can you share the slides from the presentation?   | <i>Yes. The presentation slides have been shared with attendees of the information sessions via email and on Find A Grant.</i>   |
| CQ8  | Is the portal national, and for the whole of the UK?  | <i>Yes. The portal is national, and organisations across the UK will be able to access and apply through the same Find a Grant platform.</i>   |
| CQ9  | Do you have to have had grants previously to be eligible to apply? (ref. to Eligibility 1.)   | <i>No. While organisations must demonstrate experience of engaging with the Windrush Generation to be eligible for the Community Engagement Fund, this does not require having received previous grant funding.</i>  |
| CQ10 | What happens if the project timelines cannot be adhered to and there is an element of slippage? Would this impact on payment schedules? | <i>We recognise that, in some cases, project timelines may need to be adjusted. Throughout the delivery period, we will maintain regular contact with successful organisations, who will be required to submit monthly project delivery updates and financial expenditure reports. Where there is slippage against agreed timelines, we will work constructively with organisations to understand the reasons and, wherever possible, support them to realign delivery and meet expected milestones. Any potential impact on payment schedules would be considered on a case-by-case basis and discussed with the organisation in advance.</i> |
| CQ11 | Can organisations apply for match funding alongside applying under the Community Engagement Fund?                                       | <i>Yes, organisations may apply for match funding alongside an application to the Community Engagement Fund (CEF), provided the funding requested supports the intended purpose and outcomes of the project. We require transparency regarding all match funding sources. This includes confirming the identity of the other funding party. Following appropriate due diligence checks, we will assess whether the match funding is acceptable and aligned with the project's objectives. Refer to for Applicants section 10.10 and 10.11 for full details.</i>  |
| CQ12 | How much should we be paying our staff? Do you specify wage rates?  | <i>Pay levels are determined by individual organisations, and we do not specify wage rates as part of this fund. However, all organisations are expected to ensure that staff are paid in line with relevant employment legislation, including the National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage, and comply with all applicable</i>  |

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|      |  | <i>employment laws and good employment practices.</i>  |
| CQ13 | Do the Yemeni and Somali populations fall under the Windrush Scheme?   | <p><i>Yes. Yemeni and Somali individuals may be eligible under the Windrush Schemes if they meet the relevant eligibility criteria. There is a category covering people of any nationality who arrived in the UK before 31 December 1988 and are settled in the UK.</i></p> <p><i>The full eligibility criteria for the Windrush Schemes can be found at:</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-scheme/windrush-scheme">www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-scheme/windrush-scheme</a>.</p> |
| CQ14 | If I am funded by WCASF, is there a conflict of interest?  | <i>No. The Windrush Compensation Advocacy Support Fund (WCASF) and the Community Engagement Fund are separate funds with distinct purposes. Organisations applying to the Community Engagement Fund will be required to set out their proposed project and clearly explain how the requested funding will be used to deliver the project, regardless of whether they receive funding from WCASF.</i>   |
| CQ15 | Can the successful organisations for WCASF be published before the successful CEF organisations are published? | <i>CEF organisations that are successful in being awarded funding will be provided with a list of the successful WCASF Year 2 organisations as soon as this information becomes available.</i>   |
| CQ16 | Can the results be published before summer recess?   | <i>Organisations that have applied for funding under the Community Engagement Fund 2026/27 will be notified of the outcome of their application as soon as possible during summer 2026.</i>  |
| CQ17 | Does the weighted score determine the grant value to be awarded? Or it's just a project approval rating?       | <i>The weighted score does not determine the amount of grant monies awarded. The grant awarded, if successful, is that which was applied for on the application, in order to deliver the project you have proposed.</i>  |
| CQ18 | How many projects can one organisation apply for within this fiscal year?                                      | <i>Applicants may submit only one application as the lead organisation.</i>  |
| CQ19 | If projects are approved, is the agreed grant released before or after the project is executed?                | <i>It is a receipt-based fund release, however, there is the opportunity for 25% up front. Then we work together, so that when we obtain your receipts, we release the funds paid.</i>   |

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| CQ20 | How many events we will be able to organise under the grant? Just 1 or more than that?   | <i>Minimum of one event. Your project could be for a one-off event, or for a series of events. Your application form and budget should reflect this.</i>  |
| CQ21 | <b>Application form question 3.2a: If you selected Consortium, please attach proof of a signed Consortium Agreement by all Parties and submit as a General Attachment</b> - it will not let me progress past this page, even though we are applying as sole recipient. What should I do?   | <p>If you are applying as a sole recipient and the system is preventing you from progressing past this page, please upload a short document containing the following statement:</p> <p><i>“This document is purposely blank and is required to progress this application.”</i></p> <p>Uploading this will enable you to move forward with your application.</p>   |
| CQ22 | The guidance for CICs asks for two years of audited accounts (or income and expenditure statements if established after April 2023). Our latest published accounts are for 2023/24, and our 2024/25 accounts will not be ready by the 12 May deadline—should we therefore submit the 2023/24 accounts plus income and expenditure forecasts for 2024/25 and 2025/26? | <p><i>If your 2024/25 accounts are currently in preparation and will not be finalised by the application deadline, you may submit your most recently published accounts (2023/24) alongside either:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>a draft version of your 2024/25 accounts,</i></li> <li style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></li> <li>• <i>a signed statement from your Treasurer confirming the organisation’s current financial position, including an income and expenditure statement or forecast for 2024/25.</i></li> </ul> |