

Strengthening the Voluntary Sector

Supporting effective use of the law and human rights based approaches

Funding Round 2016

Applied projects – guidelines for applications



The Baring Foundation

1. Purpose of the programme

This programme supports effective use of the law and human rights based approaches by the voluntary sector in the United Kingdom. It is a collaboration with The Legal Education Foundation and also, in this second funding round of the STVS programme, with The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

We see the law and human rights based approaches as important tools for the voluntary sector. They can provide a means to tackle directly the discrimination and disadvantage faced by vulnerable people and to create and protect the space in which voluntary organisations operate, helping to safeguard the freedom of purpose, action and voice of the sector as a whole. There are great examples of voluntary sector organisations who have used these tools effectively in these ways.

However, use of the law and human rights based approaches is far from consistent across the voluntary sector and many organisations see no link between these tools and their purpose, strategy and activities, or are wary of using them. This programme aims to boost engagement and to support organisations within the broader voluntary sector to make effective use of the law and human rights based approaches to tackle discrimination and disadvantage.

The programme focuses on domestic activity in all countries in the United Kingdom only. Please note that applications for international work will not be considered.

2. Preparation

In advance of making any application you will need to read the following in addition to this document, available [here](#):

- a paper on the background to the STVS programme;
- the guidelines for training, education and capacity building grants; and
- our monitoring and evaluation approach for the STVS programme.

The application requirements of the two funds are different. Please ensure you use the correct process to apply.

If you are considering making an application, we recommend that you consult our list of Frequently Asked Questions, accessible [here](#). You may also find it helpful to look at the grants we made in the first round of funding, a list is accessible [here](#). This will give you an idea of the sort of work we funded in the first round which was run along very similar lines.

Rather than providing telephone support to potential applicants, we will run two webinar sessions where those considering applying to us can ask questions in relation to either fund. The dates of these are 16 November 2016 and 13 December 2016 and details of how to join these will be available on our website from 3 November 2016. We feel this is a more fair and open way of assisting potential applicants than one to one telephone support. If you need

technical support only with the online applications process please contact us at Baring.Foundation@uk.ing.com or 020 7767 1348.

3. Who can apply for a grant?

Applications will be considered from charities registered in the United Kingdom (or charities exempt or excepted from registration) **except those organisations which were awarded an applied project grant** by us in the first 2015/16 funding round of the STVS programme.

Activity under the grant applied for must deliver benefit in the UK. Applications for international work will not be considered.

4. Size and type of grant

Grants of up to £150,000 are available and will be awarded for projects that last for approximately three years.

Grants will be awarded for the following types of activity (which are not mutually exclusive):

- i. **tackling discrimination and disadvantage directly**
projects that create new opportunities to use the law or human rights based approaches to address a particular form of discrimination or disadvantage. Projects should harness existing or develop new legal capacity or human rights expertise:
 - on a specific area – i.e. homelessness or mental health; or
 - using a place-based approach,to build links with community organisations and front line providers, supporting organisations to recognise and tackle problems with legal or human rights based solutions.
- ii. **safeguarding the freedom of purpose, action and voice of the sector**
the development of legal or human rights based approaches to support the independence of the voluntary sector. Projects should apply the law or a human rights based approach to support organisations to scrutinise public sector decision making or develop and enhance advocacy and campaigns.

We expect projects to:

- identify a clear purpose for the project, detailing how use of the law and human rights based approaches can be used to achieve specific outcomes;
- connect legal or human rights experts and a broader range of activists and organisations focused on the same issue – incorporating these tools into a broader movement; and
- demonstrate how the funded activity can highlight and prove the value of these tools to the broader sector – we are particularly interested in documenting replicable models.

We will consider funding the continuation, replication or scaling of ongoing projects. However, we will expect a clear explanation of how our funding will broaden a project and develop new capacity.

Applications do not need to be made in partnership with other organisations, but you should be able to evidence how your organisation will play a key role in a collaboration or partnership.

You can and should include appropriate budgets for administrative costs and staff time.

5. Applications

This is a two stage application process. The first stage is a written application. Some applicants will then be shortlisted to take part in the second stage which is a telephone interview with a staff member of The Baring Foundation.

All applications must be factual and written in plain English, avoiding jargon and rhetoric.

In order to consider your application, we must receive the following by 5pm on 23 January 2017:

- i. A completed grant application form to be completed online [here](#)
- ii. Proposal (to be uploaded as part of your online application where prompted)

Proposals must be no more than 2,500 words (excluding the 2 appendices requested). They should be presented under the following headings:

- **Executive summary** – a concise summary of the proposed project that should be no more than one A4 page in length. Within this summary, you should provide a brief overview of the project, how you will meet our expectations (see (4) above) and list the three key outcomes you expect to see from the work;
- **Details of your organisation** – a brief summary of your organisation, its key personnel and track record in using the law or human rights based approaches;
- **Details of other organisations involved** – a summary of any other organisations or individuals you will use to deliver the project or plan to collaborate with, key personnel and their track record in using the law or human rights based approaches;
- **The project** – a full description of your project, including proposed activities and their duration;
- **Key outcomes** – please list three key outcomes you expect to see from the work and provide details of when you intend to achieve them; and

- **Evaluation** – your evaluation procedures to monitor the process of implementation, design of the project and progress towards key outcomes. Specific consideration should be given to how you will capture learning as the project develops;
- iii. **Project Budget** – (to be uploaded as Appendix 1 as part of your online application where prompted) in tabular form including, but not limited to, staff and management costs for your organisation, third party contractors and expenses. Assumptions used to calculate the budget should be explained.
- iv. **Issue and Evidence** – (to be uploaded as Appendix 2 as part of your online application where prompted) a summary of no more than 450 words providing (i) a description of the particular form of discrimination or disadvantage you plan to address and/or how your project will safeguard the freedom of purpose, action and voice of the voluntary sector and (ii) an explanation of the evidence that demonstrates the issue identified. You may want to refer to particular studies or research as well as data gathered by your organisation and the broader voluntary sector.

Note: The audited accounts of your organisation in the last complete financial year will only be requested if you are successful in reaching the telephone interview stage of the application process. Do not submit your audited accounts at this stage.

Your application should be submitted through our online applications portal. This will direct you to upload your proposal and two appendices (i) project budget (ii) issue and evidence paper.

You should also send two hard copies of your proposal and two appendices to:
The Baring Foundation, 8-10 Moorgate, London, EC2R 6DA.

Please note the deadline for receipt by us of your online application and all hard copies is 5pm on 23 January 2017.

6. Timetable

24 October 2016:	Applications open
23 January 2017 @17.00:	Deadline for applications
21 March 2017	Applicants who have been unsuccessful will be notified and those successful in proceeding to second stage of the process will be contacted to set up a telephone interview
Week commencing: 27 March 2017	Second stage telephone interviews will take place this week – please ensure you have capacity within your organisation for a representative to be available who can talk to us in depth about the content of your application
17 May 2017:	Applications considered by grants committee
22 May 2017:	Applicants notified

Full details of the conditions attached to any grant will be provided following its award.

24 October 2016