

ESF Community Grants Programme 2019-2021

Lancashire

Tom Youds – ESF Project Organiser (Lancashire)

Nichola Morris – ESF Project Organiser (Grtr Manchester)

Lisa Smalley – ESF Project Organiser (Liverpool & Halton)

Richard Evans - Senior Area Education Manager & North West Digital Lead



Lancashire
Enterprise Partnership



Education & Skills
Funding Agency



Workers' Educational Association

A charity established in 1903, dedicated to bringing high-quality, professional adult education into the heart of local communities.

- 3,000 volunteers
- 2,000 tutors
- 10,000+ members
- 50,000 adults
- Assessed 'Good' by Ofsted in 2018
- Maths, English & IT, employment skills, health & wellbeing, creative programmes, community engagement, active citizenship



Community Grants 2019-2021 – What Is It For?

- To enable small third sector organisations, which would not otherwise be able to access ESF, to apply for small grants.
- To support some of the hardest to reach communities and individuals
- To move people closer to the labour market, into employment, further education or training

Some of the outcomes from 2016-2019 Liverpool City Region Grants

1872 people completed across **76** projects:

- **35%** were helped into further education training
- **15%** were helped into employment
- **12%** into volunteering
- **826** Qualifications were gained

Community Grants 2019-2021 – Lancashire Basics

- Grants available up to **£20,000**
- **4 funding rounds** Apr 19 - May 2021
- **Total Funding allocation:** £782,600

- **Total participant volume – 638**
- **Priority Target Groups**
 - Over 50's – min 14%
 - Ethnic Groups – min 12%
 - Disability / Health Issues – min 22%
 - Female – min 36%

Programme Targets

- 108 into employment (17%)
- 89 into education / training (14%)



Community Grants 2019-2021 – Are You Eligible to Apply?

- Are you a Third sector organisation run on a not for profit basis? Including:
 - Constituted Voluntary / Community Group
 - Social Enterprise (Not For Profit)
 - Registered Charity
 - Community Interest Company (CIC)
 - Company Limited By Guarantee **COMPANIES LIMITED BY SHARES CANNOT APPLY**
- Have you been in operation for a minimum of 12 months?
- Do you employ 12 FTE staff or less?
- Is your annual turnover equal to or under £500,000?
- Does your organisation have a governing document/constitution?
- Does your organisation have an independent bank account into which the grant can be paid?
- Cannot already be in direct receipt of funding from ESF or other ESF co-financing with the DWP, ESFA or National Offender Management Service (NOMS)

Community Grants 2019-2021 - Participant Eligibility

- Aged 16+
- Unemployed or economically inactive
- Legally resident in the UK with a NI number
- Eligible to take up paid employment in the UK

ESF EXAMPLE TYPES OF ACTIVITY

- First contact engagement activities
- Projects to improve confidence, motivation and social integration
- Developing local networks and groups to support people to get a job or access learning
- Softer skills development
- Innovative approaches to attract under-represented Participant groups into learning

ALL ACTIVITY MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN LANCASHIRE



Lancashire
Enterprise Partnership

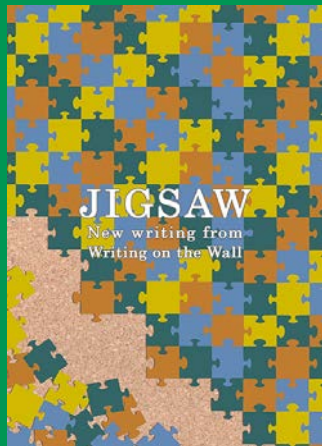
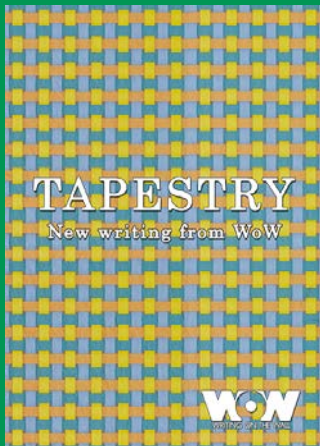
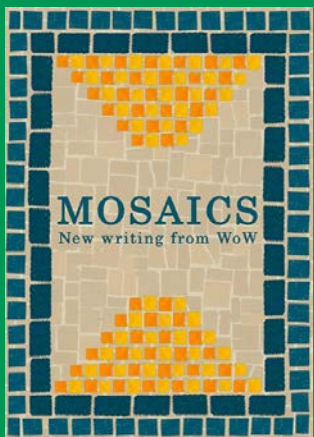


Education & Skills
Funding Agency



European Union
European
Social Fund

Write to Work Project – Liverpool City Region



An innovative 12 wk programme, supporting people to gain opportunities for pathways into employment, further education or training within the writing sector.

All learners attending the project had the chance for their work to be published in the books shown here.

Many have also had their work published in:

- **The Guardian** (My mother's ice tea, my dad in the Marines, My gran's jam sandwiches, Grandma's stolen brussel sprouts, George's jam fritters, My lentil slop, Nonna's minestra)
- **The Double Negative** (*online culture magazine*)
- **Bido Lito** (*Liverpool music magazine*)

Food Biz Project – Liverpool City Region

A Food Training Course that addressed the inequalities that women in the wider Liverpool community face and provided a catalyst for many local women to:

- develop new skills
- discuss their ideas with like minded women
- receive practical training and advice in potential employment fields.



Several of the women who attended the course are well on their way to either establishing or taking their next steps in setting up their own food businesses.

Examples of these included a vegan sweet making business and a traditional Polish bakery.

Engage & Inspire Project – Halton

Provided a weekly programme of activities based from the Halton Stadium that equipped people with the skills and confidence to progress into work , volunteering and other social opportunities.

The project gave learners the opportunity to volunteer at the Vikings in-house Dementia café, giving vital experience in **Event Management, Organising Activities and Customer Service.**



Learners also created memory boxes to help visitors to the cafe reminisce about Widnes Vikings and the local town and community



ROUND 1 – Application Process

OPENED - WED 8th May 2019

CLOSES - WED 19th June 2019

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR R1 – £195,650 (approx. 9/10 grants)

- Go to website www.wea.org.uk/esfcommunitygrants and click on relevant Local Authority area.
- Complete online eligibility questionnaire. If you can answer yes to all questions – download application form along with supporting documents – application guidelines and FAQ's – **IMPORTANT** – do read all supporting documentation
- Submit electronic version by email along with supporting documents by **12 noon Wednesday 19th June 2019.**
- Hard signed copy application by recorded delivery to Liverpool WEA Office by **12 noon Friday 21st June 2019.**

Earliest project start date – 1st November 2019

Max project length – 12 months (*all activity to be completed by 31.10.2020*)

Application Process continued...

Supporting evidence required with electronic application:

- Constitution or Governing document
- Most recent Annual Accounts
- Most recent Annual Report
- Health & Safety Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Adult Safeguarding Policy

Ensuring a fair & open funding application process:

- Initial assessment to check application completeness and eligibility
- Scoring Process – Independent grant assessment panel
- Recommendations to Project Steering Group

Assessment process takes approx. 8 weeks, so you should expect to hear a decision within this timeframe.

Common Application Mistakes

- Not meeting the eligibility criteria
- Not fully completing the forms or sections
- Not adhering to stated word count limits
- Insufficient evidence of demand for proposed activity
- Budget not clearly defined
- Learning activity to be delivered (or benefit to learner) not clearly identified
- Looking for contribution to existing work/project – must be seen as something **ADDITIONAL**

Payment of Grant

25% upfront, 35% mid-way & 40% in arrears.

If you are not successful, we will offer:

- Outline feedback from panel on why not successful
- Signposting to partner organisations for further help and support in submitting applications

You can re-apply to future rounds if you are unsuccessful

If successful, we will:

- Visit you at your Learning Venue
- Invite you to a mandatory Induction Workshop
- Give you a Grant Offer Letter

- We will ask you for:
 - Learner Records and Outcomes
 - Financial Records and Evidence
 - End of project Report
 - Case studies



Lancashire
Enterprise Partnership



Education & Skills
Funding Agency



European Union
European
Social Fund

FUTURE FUNDING ROUNDS – Indicative Dates

Round 2 – Open Aug 2019 - Planned project start date – March 2020

Max project length - (12 mths)

Round 3 – Open Jan 2020 - Planned project start date – July 2020

Max project length - (9 mths)

Round 4 – Open Apr 2020 - Planned project start date – Sept 2020

Max project length - (8/9 mths tbc)

What next / next steps...?

Thinking of
applying?

Access the on-line Eligibility Questionnaire –
www.wea.org.uk/esfcommunitygrants

THANK YOU

CONTACT DETAILS - Tom Youds tyouds@wea.org.uk

Website

www.wea.org.uk/esfcommunitygrants

ESF Grants Team

Email: esfgrantslanacs@wea.org.uk

Tel: 0151 243 5356



Lancashire
Enterprise Partnership



Education & Skills
Funding Agency



European Union
European
Social Fund