

Alcohol & Drugs - Local Improvement Fund

Frequently Asked Questions



1. What does this fund support?

This one off fund aims to provide funding to partner organisations, including the Third Sector to support implementation of the [Highland Alcohol and Drugs Strategy](#) and the national strategy; [Rights, Respect and Recovery](#). The principle aim is to prevent and reduce alcohol and drug related harm. The funding is to provide opportunities to; test new approaches, improve ways of working and support recovery.

The current position is that the Local Improvement Fund will be open once. A total of up to £100,000 will be available and there will be a maximum of 10 awards of up to £10,000.

It is essential that all projects build in evaluation from the outset.

2. Who can apply?

This fund provides an opportunity for Third Sector and public sector organisations to bid for money to prevent and reduce drug and alcohol related harm and support recovery. Applications are also welcome from consortia. Third sector partners are encouraged to apply, either alone or as part of a consortia. We strongly recommend that consortia form as soon as possible to ensure a collective commitment and shared understanding of the proposal. Joint commitment to evaluating the project is essential.

3. How do I apply?

Those interested in applying are advised to contact HADP as soon as possible to note their interest. Applications will be made via an electronic application form, which will open on 16th December 2019.

Applications must be completed by noon Monday 20th January 2020.

4. What can I apply for?

The fund is designed to support activities and service developments that; test new approaches, implement improvements and/or support recovery.

Organisations cannot apply to fund core business or existing activity.

Test new approaches

The funding can be used to enable organisations to test new approaches to engaging and supporting individuals and families affected by / or at higher risk of alcohol and drug related problems and issues.

For example; this could mean an organisation testing an assertive outreach approach in order to engage harder to reach groups of people in their service (i.e. older people using drugs or alcohol or children / young people of parents

with drug or alcohol problems or engaging parents or communities with high levels of deprivation in drug and alcohol prevention work or developing advocacy support for people with drug and alcohol problems.

Improve ways of working

The funding can be used to enable agencies to implement improvements that reconfigure existing services and activities to be more integrated and inclusive of individuals and families affected by / or at higher risk of alcohol and drug related problems / issues.

For example; this could involve adapting existing service provision to take a more integrated approach to meeting drug and alcohol as well as mental / physical health and homelessness issues. It could also involve tackling loneliness and isolation or adapting community activities to ensure they are accessible to individuals and families affected by drug and alcohol issues. It could also include improving the capacity of communities with high levels of deprivation to reduce the risk of drug and alcohol problems in their local area. Or improving the skills, knowledge and capacity of workers and communities to tackle stigma and promote equality and inclusive practices.

Support Recovery

The funding can be used to enable agencies to promote recovery from drug and alcohol problems for individuals as well as children / young people and other family members. It can also be used to provide opportunities for volunteering / employability or community involvement that gives a voice to people and families with lived experience.

For example; this could involve organisations supporting development of groups or forums that provide mutual aid for individuals / family members or represent the views of people with lived/ living experience. It could also involve supporting the participation of people with lived/living experience in community forums and local partnerships or community activities that help to promote and sustain recovery.

5. Are there priority areas?

Yes. There are six priority areas:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Integrated approaches
- Engaging hard to reach groups
- Whole family approaches
- Preventing and reducing young people's drug and alcohol use
- Community approaches to reducing alcohol and drug related harm

HADP are particularly interested in proposals that focus activity in communities with higher levels of deprivation.

6. How will progress be monitored and reported?

Successful organisations will be required to provide quarterly progress reports on a template. They will also provide an end of year report and if requested a presentation. Successful applicants will be expected to participate in HADP activities. With some organisations asked to input to the HADP Annual Stakeholder Conference, and (with agreement) social media for example the website, twitter and blogs.

Successful agencies will also be expected to evaluate the impact of their project.

It is expected that projects will be delivered within one year of the funding award.

7. Will there be support to progress my proposal?

Yes. HADP want to support organisations to be successful and achieve their outcomes. We can help by; discussing your application, providing advice and guidance, recommending potential sources of evidence e.g. [Local Alcohol and Drugs Profiles](#) and evaluation.

8. How do I apply?

There is a standard form that all applicants will have to complete in full.

9. How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be reviewed and scored by members of the HADP Strategy Group, who will recommend which proposals should receive funding.

10. When will we receive a decision?

All organisations who apply will be notified of the outcome by mid-March 2019.

11. If I am unsuccessful will I be given feedback?

Yes, you will receive an email outlining the outcome and feedback.

12. Who can I speak to if I have more questions, or to note my interest in this fund?

Contact: Debbie Stewart, HADP Coordinator: deborah.stewart@nhs.net or Sharon Holloway, HADP Development Manager: sharon.holloway1@nhs.net or Public Health Consultant: elisabeth.smart@nhs.net Tel: 01463 704603.

Completed applications should be sent to: aileen.trappitt@nhs.net no later than noon on 20th January 2020.