



INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT IN HEALTH AND CARE FUND

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Purpose of the programme

This grant programme is open to registered or exempt charities and to NHS organisations and provides capital funding to support innovation and improvement in health and care.

Applications may address any area of physical or mental health or disability, but the Trust will prioritise projects which support:

- the development of new models of health and care (to improve outcomes for people living with serious long-term or life-limiting conditions, enhance access to services or improve their resilience)
- the integration of health and care services
- areas of unmet need.

What the Trust will fund

Applications may be to support innovation and improvement in health and care in any area of physical or mental health or disability.

Applicants will need to provide evidence that the project will lead to innovation or improvement in health and care practice with direct benefit for the charity's beneficiaries and explain how these outcomes will be scalable/replicable by other organisations. This evidence might be from a pilot study, from practice in a specific setting that the applicant is now looking to roll-out more widely, or from practice in other countries that has not previously been applied in the UK.

The Trust adopts a broad definition of capital funding. Funding may include facilities or equipment where these are necessary to support innovation or improvement in practice. Funding may also be available to support start-up costs (including staff or consumables costs) necessary to develop or scale-up new, improved practice. Any such funding agreed by the Trustees will be for a fixed period and the Trust will not provide ongoing funding once new models are in place. The applicant will therefore need to demonstrate how the new model will be sustained once the project supported by the Trust has been completed.

It is likely that 2-3 awards will be made each year, depending on the availability of resources and the scale of selected projects. In previous years, the value of individual awards to support innovation and improvements in care has typically been in the range of £100K-£500K.

The Trust will look to fund specific facilities or projects which will support transformations in practice that can be adopted elsewhere. The Trust will not make contributions to large capital campaigns for “bricks and mortar” projects unless they directly address these priorities.

The Trust will not support the routine replacement of equipment or the routine refurbishment of facilities through this fund.

The fund is not designed to support small scale activity to make incremental improvements in practice in a single setting; however worthwhile these may be.

Eligibility

The programme is open to registered and exempt charities in the UK and to NHS organisations. Applications will also be accepted from UK universities which work in partnership with charities or the NHS to support innovation and improvements in health and care.

Given the focus of the programme, projects may involve a number of partners. The lead organisation responsible for delivery of the project, and to which any funding would be awarded, should be an established centre of excellence or have the potential to become a leader in its field.

Applications will need to demonstrate:

- a) the organisation’s track record in developing new models of health and care and/or providing high quality care for its beneficiaries
- b) how the application relates to the organisation’s wider strategy
- c) the organisation’s commitment both to sustain and disseminate the work funded by the Trust.

Application process

There is a two-stage application process.

Preliminary proposals should be submitted to the Trust by 8th April. All proposals must be submitted using the online application form, which is available on the Trust’s website [here](#). Proposals submitted by other means will not be considered.

The Trustees will consider and short-list proposals at their summer meeting, which is usually held in May or June.

Applicants whose proposals are shortlisted will be invited to make a full application by 30th August. These shortlisted applications will then be considered by the Trustees at their autumn meeting, which is usually held in October or November.

How to Apply

Preliminary proposals must be submitted using the online application form [here](#).

In completing the form, applicants will be expected to explain clearly and convincingly:

- how the requested funding would be used to develop a new model of health and care and/or support the integration of health and care services
- the anticipated outcomes of the project and how these will improve provision for people living with serious long-term or life-limiting conditions
- an assessment of the opportunities for, and potential barriers to, these outcomes being adopted more widely
- how the proposed investment relates to the organisation's wider strategy
- the individual or team that would be responsible for leading the project
- the expected cost to the project and the organisation's fundraising plan
- the expected timescale for the project.

Shortlisted organisations will be invited to submit a full application. There is no set format for full applications, but submissions must not exceed 10 sides of A4 with a minimum font size 11. Applicants may attach annexes to the document (for example to provide additional data from pilot studies or practice in other settings, or additional information on the costings). Annexes must not exceed 5 sides of A4 in total.

The full applications, together with the preliminary proposal, should provide the Trustees with a comprehensive picture of the project, its financing, and the justification for the Trust providing support.

The application should update, and where appropriate expand, the case for the proposed investment and how this will translate into improvements in health and care. It should also set out:

- the indicators the organisation will use to assess the success of the project, and when it expects these measures to be achieved
- a clear plan for sharing/disseminating outcomes and the lessons learned from the project
- updated costings for the project
- how the project will be funded, including details of cash and in-kind contributions from the organisation's own resources, progress in securing other external funding and the fundraising pipeline
- projected cashflow showing how the care model supported by the proposed investment will be sustained
- the timetable and key milestones for the project
- the key risks and mitigations considered in developing the project plan.

The Trust may wish to visit your project as part of the assessment process for full applications or invite you to suggest the names of external experts to act as referees.

January 2022

Additional Guidelines

This programme is available to registered or exempt charities and NHS organisations operating within the United Kingdom and is for capital projects only.

It is not possible for the Trust to make donations to:

- a. beneficiaries who do not have registered charity status
- b. overseas organisations, or to organisations based in the UK who are seeking support for a project overseas
- c. faith-based charities.

Substantial demand for the Trust's limited resources means that applications are competitive. Submitting an initial proposal and/or a full application does not guarantee either shortlisting or the award of funding.

Applicants should contact the Trust should they have any further questions at donations@julesthorntrust.org.uk.