

2026-2027

RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING FUND

SINGLE YEAR FUNDING GUIDANCE

RENFREWSHIRE



**COMMUNITY
MENTAL HEALTH &
WELLBEING FUND**

Photo credit: RIG Arts

ENGAGE
RENFREWSHIRE

www.engagerenfrewshire.org

FUND BACKGROUND

The Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults (the Fund) was established in October 2021 and to date has distributed around £99 million to community initiatives supporting mental health and wellbeing across Scotland. In Renfrewshire the fund has seen over £2.5 million distributed to organisations, community groups and community projects.

The Fund has a strong focus on **prevention** and **early intervention** and aims to support grass roots community groups in tackling mental health inequalities and address priority issues of **social isolation and loneliness, suicide prevention** and **tackling poverty and inequality**.

There will be a continued emphasis in year 6 on responding to the **cost of living crisis** and on those facing **socio-economic disadvantage**.

non-clinical
prevention
early intervention
person centred
community based



Photo credit: Paisley North Church

OVERARCHING AIM

Support community based initiatives that promote and develop good mental health and wellbeing and/or mitigate and protect against the impact of distress and mental ill health within the adult population (aged 16 or over), with a particular focus on prevention and early intervention.

INTENDED OUTCOMES

In line with Scottish Government's long term outcomes for mental health in communities, this Fund intends to provide investment for:

- 01** Develop a culture of mental wellbeing and prevention within local communities with improved awareness of how we can all stay well and help ourselves and others.
- 02** Fostering a strategic and preventative approach to improving community mental health
- 03** Supporting the resilience of communities and investing in their capacity to develop their own solutions, including through strong local partnerships
- 04** Tackling the social determinants of mental health by targeting resources and collaborating with other initiatives to tackle poverty and inequality.

The Fund directly contributes to Outcome 4 of the [Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) published in June 2023:

“better equipped communities to support people’s mental health and wellbeing and provide opportunities to connect with others”

WHO CAN APPLY

Groups do not have to have mental health and wellbeing as a main focus, but applications do have to clearly outline how a group and/or project will benefit the mental wellbeing of people in the community.

Applications will be accepted from a range of voluntary, 'not for profit' organisations, associations, groups and clubs or consortiums/partnerships which have a strong community focus for their activities.

The range of organisations that can apply are:

- Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO)
- Unincorporated Associations
- Companies Limited by Guarantee
- Trusts
- Not-for-profit company or asset locked company or Community Interest Companies (CIC)
- Cooperative and Community Benefit Societies
- Community councils
- Parent councils*

We will consider funding unconstituted groups, through a small grants approach (up to £2,000) for wellbeing support and capacity building purposes.

The fund can support both new and existing work, including those funded in previous rounds. Previously funded work will need to demonstrate impacts and outline any development planned if successful.

It cannot however be a replacement source of funding for work previously funded via the HSCP or health board.

*Please note that parent councils are eligible to apply, subject to the following conditions:

- The funded activities must meet the aims of the Fund and specifically must focus on supporting adults rather than their children.
- Any Parent Council applying to this fund must have a statutory duty to keep proper accounts.

grass roots
community focussed
new and existing



Photo credit: Paisley Opera



Photo credit: Renfrew Cricket Club

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED

WHAT WE CAN FUND

Equipment

One-off events

Hall hire for community spaces

Small capital spend up to £5,000
(i.e. land or building projects)

Staff costs (that meet the conditions of
Fair Work First policy)

Training costs

Transport

Utilities/running costs

Volunteer expenses

WHAT WE CANNOT FUND

Contingency costs, loans, endowments or
interest

Electricity generation and feed-in tariff payment

Political or religious campaigning

Profit-making/fundraising activities

VAT you can reclaim

Statutory activities

Overseas travel

Alcoholic beverages and other harmful
substances (eg. tobacco)

FAQs

- How much can we apply for?

If you're an unconstituted group then the limit is £2,000.

Constituted groups of any size are able to apply for up to £7,000.

- We received multiyear funding in year 5, can we apply for a new project?

No, unless you are applying as part of a partnership to support a smaller, unconstituted group.

In the interest of fairness we are limiting single year funding to those not already in receipt of multiyear funding.

- We work across multiple local authorities, can we apply?

Groups not based within Renfrewshire may be eligible to apply but must show existing local engagement and, if applying to multiple TSIs must state this in their application.

Guidance from Scottish Government is for this fund to support local, grass-roots where possible.

Photo credit: Kustom Kruizers



FAQs cont'd

Photo credit: Paisley Mens Shed



- What support is available for groups applying?

We are hosting a series of Information Sessions and Application Writing training sessions in August and September 2026. Please see the Engage calendar for dates and times:

<https://engagerenfrewshire.org/calendar/>

- Can we use AI to help with our application?

We understand many groups use AI writing tools in creating applications, particularly as an accessibility tool. The content of applications will be judged on merit regardless of whether AI is used, but applications must remain authentic and accurate to an organisation's ambitions.

We would also encourage groups to consider the environmental impact of using AI and to limit usage appropriately.

- What are the monitoring requirements for the fund?

Successful organisations must submit an interim report approximately 6 months in to the delivery period. This interim report will cover actions, learning, challenges and expenditure so far.

An end of project report will also be expected in December 2027.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Single year funding applicants need only submit one application form.

The form will ask for an outline of your project plan, evidence of the need for the project, and information on how your community has informed the plan.

You should outline who in the community will benefit from your work, where and when it will take place, and your overall aim and ambition for the work.

You will also need to provide:

- Organisation details
- Copy of last audited accounts
- Copy of governing document
- Banking details and evidence of the account

Unconstituted groups that do not have any element of the above should contact the Engage Renfrewshire team to discuss their options well in advance of the closing date.

We are committed to ensuring diverse communities across Renfrewshire can benefit from this funding; if your organisation would like to discuss accessible alternatives to a written application please get in touch.

APPLICATION PERIOD: 18TH SEPTEMBER TO 30TH OCTOBER



Photo credit: Engage Renfrewshire

