Housing First Fund

Application Guidance

The Housing First England Grant Programme will test new approaches and build capacity within existing Housing First delivery. This funding will ensure that organisations have the opportunity to build on the enthusiasm, commitment and expertise that already exists in Housing First teams in order to extend and improve Housing First services at the local level, which will then inform our national network.

Criteria for applicants

The programme is open to charities and not-for-profit companies in England delivering existing Housing First services.

Only organisations meeting these criteria at Stage 1 will be invited to submit a full application:

- Registered charity or not-for-profit company
- Operating in England
- Proposed activity is in line with the organisation’s charitable mission/purpose (constitution will be reviewed)
- Organisation is delivering Housing First service(s) in England
- Demonstrates how the funding will support existing Housing First service(s)
- Audited accounts are submitted
- Recent management accounts are submitted

Proposal guidance

Applicants should be existing Housing First providers and confirm compliance with the Housing First principles for England in their stage 1 proposal.

Proposals must show how the funding will improve sustainability of the service after the grant ends. The funding must not be used to create provision where the end of the grant results in loss of support. For example, when funding for a post ends, it cannot result in the caseload of the remaining team increasing beyond the limits recommended by Housing First England.

Activity that could be funded includes, but is not limited to:

- Specialist posts or development of existing teams’ skills/knowledge to extend or improve Housing First for a specific population e.g. young people, women, BAME, LGBTQ, physical care needs
• Transitional support to improve routes into Housing First
• Development of peer mentoring and/or community links
• Development of co-production or other forms of representation with Housing First residents
• New approaches to supporting people in Housing First whose tenancies are at risk
• Systems change influencing e.g. working with statutory services to change how Housing Frist residents access mental health assessments
• Improved access to health provision, and to social services and mental health assessments
• Improved access to diverse accommodation options for people coming into Housing First

This is not a definitive list – projects should be responsive to their local context and to the needs of the people who will be accessing funded services.

How much can you apply for?

Grants of between £20,000 and £100,000 for project delivery commencing after October 2019.

What cannot be funded?

Grant funding must be used for delivering front line services and we are unable to fund the following types of activities:

- New Housing First projects or running costs of existing projects
- Activities of a political or exclusively religious nature
- Goods or services that you have a statutory duty to provide
- Gifts to individuals and promotional items;
- Overseas travel
- Interest payments on loans
- Building purchase
- Work that has already taken place
- Work outside England
- Academic research

How to apply

To apply, please complete our brief online expression of interest (EOI) form.

The deadline for EOI applications is: 14th August 2019 (TBC)

EOI’s will be assessed on a rolling basis with access to the full application form provided once EOI’s have been approved. We therefore encourage applicants to send in their EOI’s sooner rather than later in order to maximise the amount of time available to complete the full application form before the final deadline (key dates below)
**Application Timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing First (HF) expressions of interest (EOI) open</td>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; June 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final closing date for EOI’s</td>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; August 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful applicants at EOI stage notified by</td>
<td>On a rolling basis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full applications open</td>
<td>W/C 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final deadline for full Large Grants applications</td>
<td>8 September 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful applicants notified by</td>
<td>October (TBC)</td>
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If you have an enquiry that is not covered in this application guidance, you can send your enquiry to fund@homelesslink.org.uk please insert ‘Housing First Grant Programme Enquiry’ as your email subject and provide your organisation and contact name.
What we do
Homeless Link is the national membership charity for frontline homelessness agencies and the wider housing with health, care and support sector. We work to improve services through evidence and learning, and to promote policy change that will ensure everyone has a place to call home and the support they need to keep it.

Let’s end homelessness together

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