**Mid and South West Wales Community Cohesion Fund 2022 - 23**

The Mid and South West Wales Community Cohesion Team have project funding available (up to £1500) to help create cohesive communities.

Community cohesion is the process that must happen to ensure different groups of people get on well together in the area. A cohesive community is an area where those from different backgrounds share positive relationships, feel safe in the neighbourhood and have a sense of mutual respect and shared values.

The Community Cohesion Small Grants Fund will support projects which meet one of the following priority areas:

* develop events/safe spaces to bring people from across different communities together, either virtually or in person. Events could promote integration, including new communities such as resettled refugees from Ukraine/Syria/Afghanistan etc. Project examples could include people from different backgrounds cooking together, community music groups for young people from different nationalities, community arts based projects, active citizenship, interfaith events, Welcoming newcomer initiatives.
* raise awareness of campaigns or events such as: Hate Crime Awareness Week; Interfaith Week; Holocaust Memorial Day; International Day of Disability; Black History Month etc
* focus on Hate Crime Awareness
* engage with diverse groups to promote community cohesion and mitigate community tensions.
* support communities with needs such as cost of living crisis (eg Cooking on a budget, events with agencies to provide advice on finance etc).

We would like to encourage applications to carry out activities to bring together communities who may otherwise never get to meet online or (if appropriate) in person – for example new arrivals in neighbourhoods getting to know people who have lived in the area for a long time, twinning projects with other communities in different parts of Wales where areas have a different diversity profile, or intergenerational work. Often this can be done though arranging social, cultural or sporting activities. But these activities must also include some additional ‘meaningful activity’ such as conversations, sharing life experiences, getting to know each other or finding out what they have in common.

#### Publicity

Applicants must acknowledge Welsh Government as a funder of their project on any publication and include relevant logos.

To support publicity and promotion, applicants are requested to submit photographs, where consent has been given, with their end of project monitoring and evaluation report. Please be aware that all parents/carers are required to complete a photography consent form to enable photographs involving children and young people involved in projects to be used for promotional purposes.

**The programme will not fund the following:**

* Retrospective funding for projects i.e. applying for a project undertaken prior to the application date.
* Applications for the same project year on year which have been previously funded.
* More than one application from the same community group within a 12 month period.
* Individuals, as they would not be a qualifying organisation.
* Projects which involve or benefit one individual would not qualify.
* Projects which involve working with young people and/or vulnerable adults where the applicant cannot demonstrate suitable checks or DBS records are in place.
* Projects where organisations do not hold relevant insurance. All projects must be adequately insured, such as public liability insurance, and it is the responsibility of organisations to ensure their project is suitably covered.
* Projects where the activity is to promote belief in, or support for, a religion, philosophy or political party, or to provide services on the basis of adherence to a religion, philosophy or political party.
* Applications which request contributions towards funding for revenue costs in the form of *ongoing* year on year staffing costs, although some short term costs may be considered to enable project start-up.
* Building costs
* Projects that have high/disproportionate administrative and or management costs and are not good value for money as assessed by the awarding panel.

This funding will need to be spent by the **28 February 2023.**

**To apply to the fund, please complete the application form and return it by 30 August 2022.**