**West Yorkshire and Harrogate Green Social Prescribing Grant Fund**

**Background**

Green social prescribing is about supporting people to access nature-based activities in order to improve their physical and mental health. COVID-19 has reinforced the importance of spending time outdoors and highlighted significant inequalities in access to green and blue spaces [(Improving Access to Greenspace, 2020)](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CJ.Ozols-Riding%5CDocuments%5C-%20Grants%5CGSP%5Cs%5Csystem%5Cuploads%5Cattachment_data%5Cfile%5C904439%5CImproving_access_to_greenspace_2020_review.pdf). As a Health Care Partnership we want to support more equitable access to nature, as a means of reducing health inequalities.

**Overview of Project Funding**

The West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership would therefore like to fund innovative and transformative projects, which help connect people to nature and improve their physical and mental health.

We are interested in funding projects that either:

* Enable people to access nature-based activities

e.g. outdoor arts, outdoor education, conservation projects, walking groups, outdoor sports, community food growing projects etc.

* Involve creating new greenspaces

e.g. pocket parks, spaces to grow food etc.

* Do a combination of the two

The fund is open to voluntary, community and public sector organisations operating within the West Yorkshire and Harrogate region. Grants of between £5K and £10K are available.

**Funding Conditions**

* Projects must support people from one or more of our target groups to access nature. Our target groups are:
* people living in areas of deprivation
* people from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds, including refugees and asylum seekers and gypsy and traveller populations
* people with mental health conditions, learning disabilities or autism
* These groups have been identified because we know they experience additional barriers to accessing green and blue spaces.
* Projects must be delivered between March and September 2021
* An informal written or verbal update must be provided 3 months into the project (June 2021)
* A report demonstrating the impact of the project must be provided at the end of the funding period (September 2021)
* The provider must be willing for us to share learning about the project with our Green Social Prescribing Network

**Application Process**

* To apply for the grant please complete the application form below and return it to josephine.ozols-riding@nhs.net by 5pm on the 2nd March 2021.
* Applications will be assessed by a panel of individuals from the Health and Care Partnership, with one or more representatives from a local authority or CCG. By completing this form you are agreeing to us sharing the information in the form with this panel.
* Applications that meet the funding criteria will be ranked by the panel.
* We may triangulate applications with data on deprivation and other characteristics known to correlate with inequalities in access to greenspace.
* We may interview applicants to inform our award decisions.

## Full Timeline

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| **9th February 2021** | Applications open |
| **2nd March 2021**  | Applications close |
| **3rd - 12th March 2021**  | Shortlisting and announcements |
| **15th - 31st March 2021**  | Funding awarded |
| **End of June 2021** | Informal project update |
| **End of September 2021** | Formal project report due |

Please contact: josephine.ozols-riding@nhs.net with any further questions about the application.

**Application form:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name and address of organisation  |  |
| Name and contact details of lead applicant |  |
| Please provide an overview of your project (max 200 words)  |  |
| Where will the project be delivered? [See the region covered by the Health and Care Partnership](https://www.wyhpartnership.co.uk/application/files/9015/7917/2137/our_partnership_landscape.jpg). (max 50 words) |  |
| How will your project improve the mental and/or physical health of communities and help reduce health inequalities? *Please make reference to our target population groups*(max 150 words) |  |
| How will you measure the impact of your project? (max 100 words)  |  |
| What makes your project innovative and transformative?(max 100 words) |  |
| How will you ensure that the voices of service users / the local community are involved in the development of the project and its evaluation?(max 100 words) |  |
| Please outline your experience of delivering similar projects(max 100 words) |  |
| How much funding are you requesting? *And please provide a high level breakdown of funding*  |  |
| What will the funding enable you to do that otherwise wouldn’t be possible?(max 100 words) |  |
| How will the project continue to have an impact after funding has ended?(max 100 words) |  |
| Please confirm that it would be possible to deliver the project between March and September 2021 and provide a high level project timeline?(max 100 words) |  |
| Please confirm that we could use this project as a case study of innovative practice to share with our Green Social Prescribing Network? | Yes/No |