

# Morecambe Bay Primary Care Collaborative VCFSE Support Fund



## Summary

Total fund available: £13,500 (one-off charitable funding)

Maximum grant value: £2,000

Geographical area: South Cumbria & North Lancashire

Application Window: 1 April 10am - 30 April 11:59pm

Delivery: until 31 August 2026

Reports due: 30 September 2026

Administered with support from: Lancaster District CVS and Cumbria CVS, in partnership with South Cumbria VCFSE Gateway Group

## Context

The Morecambe Bay Primary Care Collaborative (MBPCC) has allocated a one-off charitable funding pot of £13,500 to support voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) organisations delivering activities that benefit patients and local communities in North Lancashire and South Cumbria.

The fund is designed to support initiatives that work with, alongside, or complement general practice, recognising the important role community organisations play in improving health and wellbeing.

Through this funding, MBPCC aims to:

- Strengthen relationships between general practice and the VCFSE sector
- Support small-scale, high-impact community activity
- Help improve health and wellbeing across local communities

The programme aligns with the direction set out in the NHS 10-year Long Term Plan, which highlights three key “shifts” in how health and care services should develop in the future. The three NHS “shifts” are described briefly below:

1. From sickness to prevention: supporting people and communities to stay well and prevent ill health before it develops or worsens.
2. From hospital to community: providing more care, support and wellbeing activity closer to where people live.

3. From analogue to digital: improving access to services, information and support through digital approaches where appropriate.

Projects should demonstrate how their activity contributes to at least one of the NHS shifts. We recognise that the VCFSE sector already play an important role in supporting people's health and wellbeing.

## Support

If you'd like to talk through your project ideas, contact Sharon Phillips at [sharonphillips@lancastercvs.org.uk](mailto:sharonphillips@lancastercvs.org.uk) or call 01524 555900.

## Grants

Grants of up to £2,000 are available from a total budget of £13,500. We expect to fund between six and eight projects through this opportunity.

The funder has indicated that this programme should be considered a one-off opportunity. Continuation funding is unlikely to be available.

## Outputs & Activities

You'll need to explain how your activities contribute to one or more of the NHS "shifts". Below are some suggestions of outputs that could support each shift. This isn't an exhaustive list, and you can use your own knowledge and experience to suggest activities that would best benefit your community.

From sickness to prevention: supporting people and communities to stay well and prevent ill health before it develops or worsens.

- Community wellbeing or physical activity groups
- Healthy eating or cooking sessions
- Peer support groups that reduce loneliness or social isolation
- Mental wellbeing activities
- Exercise, movement, walking groups

From hospital to community: providing more care, support and wellbeing activity closer to where people live.

- Support groups for people with long-term conditions
- Community wellbeing sessions
- Peer support or social connection programmes
- Community health information sessions
- Activities that support recovery or independence after illness
- Volunteer-led befriending or community support networks
- Projects that connect people to local services and opportunities

From analogue to digital: improving access to services, information and support through digital approaches where appropriate.

- Digital confidence or inclusion sessions
- Support to access online health services
- Activities helping people develop basic digital skills
- Using digital tools to connect people with wellbeing activities
- Supporting people to download and use the NHS app

We can fund a wide range of activities that support these outputs, including:

- Putting on events or taking part in other people's events
- Undertaking outreach in your local community, including to other community groups, schools and businesses
- Publishing content like websites, videos, podcasts or books
- Providing training or education
- Buying equipment or resources
- Paying staff
- Working with volunteers and paying their expenses
- Reasonable management time and facilities costs proportionate to the scale of your project.

There are some things we can't fund, which are:

- Activities which have already taken place, or you have already spent money on
- Activities that take place after 31 August 2026
- Activities not related to general practice or community health
- Large capital projects
- Clinical or medical treatment
- Running costs not related to the funded activity
- Alcohol or tobacco
- Contingency costs, loans, endowments or interest
- Paying someone else to write your application
- Profit-making or fundraising activity
- VAT that your organisation can reclaim
- Religious activities (although religious organisations can be funded for projects that benefit the wider community)
- Statutory activities (activities that statutory organisations are required to deliver)
- Overseas travel
- Projects that take place outside the South Cumbria and North Lancashire Area. This is the area covered by Lancaster City Council, South Lakeland, Barrow and Millom.
- Political activities, such as lobbying.

## Reporting

Successful applicants will report on their activities using the same online portal they used to apply. They will need to submit their report on or before 30 September 2026, telling us:

- What the funding was used for

- How their community benefitted
- How their outputs supported or complemented general practice through one or more NHS “shifts”.

If you have any difficulty in delivering your project, we are here to help. Contacting us early means that we are better placed to help your project succeed.

## Eligibility

Voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise organisations are all eligible to apply. They must be at least one of the below:

- Unincorporated voluntary or community organisation with a constitution or set of rules
- Constituted group or sports club
- Registered charity
- Charitable incorporated organisation
- Not-for-profit company
- Community Interest Company
- Faith-based group.

Your organisation must also:

- Have at least two unconnected people on the board or committee. This means not related by blood, marriage, civil partnership, long-term relationship, or living together at the same address.
- Have a UK bank or building society account, in the legal name of your organisation, with at least two unrelated people able to manage it.
- Produce annual accounts by a method and in format relevant to its size and structure, or plan to do so if your organisation is less than 15 months old.

## Applying

We will accept applications until 11:59pm on Thursday 30 April 2026. The application form may remain open, however applications submitted after this time will not be taken forward.

### How do we apply?

*Create an account and access the form*

Apply by creating an account at [morecambabay.grantplatform.com](https://morecambabay.grantplatform.com)

This secure service allows you to work on your application, saving and returning to it as many times as you like before submitting. It is also where we will record information we create regarding your application and anything else you send us while you are delivering your project, as well as your final report.

Once you’ve given your application a name, you’ll be able to review the entire form before you start answering questions.

### *Answer our questions*

In the application form, you will answer a few brief eligibility checks before telling us more about your project by answering questions covering:

- Information about your organisation and key contact details
- What you'd like to do:
  - How your project supports one or more of the NHS shifts
  - Who your project will benefit and how many people it will support
  - What the impact will be for those who take part
  - Where and when your project will take place
  - Who you have already worked with or want to work with to help plan and deliver your project
- Why your project is needed
  - If it's a new initiative, how you know it is needed in your community
  - If you're supporting or enhancing existing work, what is already working well and why additional funding is required
- What you will do to measure your impact
  - We'd like to know how you will record the number of people your project supports, how you will measure what happens to them, and how you will collect their stories.
- What you'd like to spend
  - The total amount that you're requesting
  - An estimated budget
- Anything else you'd like to tell us about your plans

There's a limit of no more than 250 words for most questions. You don't have to use all the words available - they are not a target.

### *Upload some documents*

We'll ask you to upload some documents. They're optional at this stage, but we'll need to see them before we can issue a grant agreement so providing them when you apply will speed up the process. We'll need to see:

- a) A bank statement, showing:
  - Your organisation's legal name
  - The address the statements are sent to
  - The bank name and/or logo
  - Account number
  - Sort code
  - Date (must be within last 3 months)

For bank accounts opened within the last three months, we can accept a bank welcome letter. This must confirm the date your account was opened, account name, account number and sort code.

If you're a school using a local authority bank account, we'll need a letter from the local authority dated within the last 3 months. It should show:

- Your school name
  - The bank account name
  - Account number
  - Sort code
- b) Your most recent accounts
- c) Your organisation's memorandum and articles of association, certificate of incorporation, constitution, or rules.
- d) If your project will work with children, young people or adults at risk of harm, a copy of your safeguarding policy which explains how they'll be safe.
- e) If your project includes activities which require public liability insurance and you already have this, a copy of the certificate of insurance.
- f) If your project requires people in your organisation who are running activities to have special qualifications, memberships or affiliations, and these are already in place, evidence of these.

### *Agree our terms and conditions*

Finally, you will be asked to agree our standard terms and conditions (which are also at the end of this document). You'll also need to confirm that you are authorised to make the application, that all the information you've provided is accurate, and that you understand how we will use your data.

## What happens next?

### We'll check your application

After you've submitted your application, you will receive an email receipt from us. We'll then check your application, looking at your answers to the eligibility questions and that the rest of the form is filled in properly, before beginning our due diligence checks using any documents you uploaded at this stage. If your application doesn't pass these initial checks, we'll get in touch with you to discuss how to resolve them.

### The panel will review your application and make decisions

Applications passing initial checks will then be assessed by a panel composed of the project's collaborative group. The panel will assess your application against the fund criteria and the other applications received.

### We'll tell you about the decision and any next steps

We will tell you about the panel's decision as soon as possible after the meeting and provide feedback. If successful, we will ask you for any further documents we need to complete our checks, and once those are complete your grant agreement will be issued.

## Terms & Conditions

### **1. By submitting an application to Lancaster District Community and Voluntary Solutions (LDCVS), the organisation named in the application (referred to as "you" in these Terms and Conditions) agrees, if awarded a grant, to:**

- 1.1. hold the grant on trust for LDCVS (referred to as 'we' or 'us') and use it only for your project as described in your application or otherwise agreed with us, and only for expenditure incurred after the date of your grant award;
- 1.2. provide us promptly with any information and reports we require about the project and its impact, both during and after the end of the project.
- 1.3. act lawfully in carrying out your project in accordance with best practice and guidance from your regulators, and follow any guidelines issued by us about the project or use of the grant and let us know promptly about any fraud, other impropriety, mismanagement or misuse in relation to the grant;
- 1.4. acknowledge funding using our logos in accordance with the relevant guidelines for recognising your grant, which will be supplied to you by email;
- 1.5. hold the grant in a UK based bank account or building society account, which is in the legal name of the organisation that is applying for funding;
- 1.6. adhere to our guidance on financial controls and banking arrangements, ensuring that no single individual has sole responsibility for any single transaction from authorisation to review and completion and that the account is managed by at least two unrelated and authorised individuals in your organisation;
- 1.7. maintain a register of assets purchased using the funding and share it with us during monitoring and evaluation meetings, maintain insurance covering these assets, depreciate these assets correctly according to your accounting practices, and tell us if you intend to sell an asset within five years of the end of the project. For the purpose of this clause 1.7, an asset is any piece of equipment or machinery costing over £500, or the purchase or refurbishment of any land or building costing over £500.
- 1.8. immediately return any part of the grant that is not used for your project or which constitutes an unlawful subsidy;
- 1.9. co-operate with any research or evaluation-related activities which we carry out and further confirm that we may use any part of your application and/or project information for research or evaluation purposes.
- 1.10. comply with data protection laws and obtain the consent of your beneficiaries for us and you to receive and process their personal information and contact them;
- 1.11. keep accurate and comprehensive records about your project both during the project and for seven years afterwards and provide us on request with copies of those records and evidence of expenditure of the grant, such as original paper or electronic receipts, invoices, and bank statements;

1.12. allow us reasonable access to your premises and systems to inspect project and grant records; and

1.13. LDCVS and the project collaborative group publicising and sharing information about you and your project including your name and images of project activities. You hereby grant us a royalty free licence to reproduce and publish any project information you give us. You will let us know when you provide the information if you don't have permission for us to use it in this way.

**2. You acknowledge that we are entitled to suspend or terminate the grant and/or require you to repay all or any of the grant in any of the following situations. You must let us know if any of these situations have occurred or are likely to occur.**

2.1. You use the grant in any way other than as approved by us or fail to comply with any of these Terms and Conditions.

2.2. You fail to make good progress with your project or are unlikely in our view to complete the project or achieve the objectives agreed with us.

2.3. You have match funding for the project withdrawn or receive or fail to declare any duplicate funding for the same project costs as funded by the grant.

2.4. You provide us with false or misleading information either on application or after award of the grant, act dishonestly or are under investigation by us, a regulatory body or the police, or if we consider for any other reason that public funds are at risk or you do anything to bring us or the organisations we work with and receive funding from into disrepute.

2.5. You enter into, or in our view are likely to enter into, administration, liquidation, receivership, or dissolution.

2.6. You receive any grant money incorrectly either as a result of an administrative error or otherwise. This includes where You are paid in error before You have complied with your obligations under these terms and conditions and Offer Letter. Any sum, which falls due under this paragraph 2.6, shall fall due immediately. If you fail to repay the due sum immediately, or as otherwise agreed with us, the sum will be recoverable summarily as a civil debt.

**3. You acknowledge that:**

3.1. the grant is for your use only and we may require you to pay us a share of any proceeds from disposal of assets purchased or enhanced with the grant;

3.2. we will not increase the grant if you spend more than the agreed budget and we can only guarantee the grant as long as we receive sufficient funds to pay it;

3.3. the grant is not consideration for any taxable supply for VAT purposes;

3.4. we have no liability for any costs or consequences incurred by you or third parties that arise directly or indirectly from the project, nor from non-payment or withdrawal of the grant, save to the extent required by law;

- 3.5. these Terms and Conditions will continue to apply for one year after the grant is paid or until the project has been completed, whichever is later. Clauses 1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.7, 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13, 3.4 and 3.5 shall survive expiry of these Terms and Conditions; and
- 3.6. if the application and grant award are made electronically, the agreement between us shall be deemed to be in writing and your online acceptance of these Terms and Conditions shall be deemed to be the equivalent of your signature on that agreement.