



Sirius Minerals Foundation Grant programme in response to the Covid-19 pandemic Eligibility Criteria and Guidelines for Applicants

The Foundation is acutely aware of the impact that the current Covid-19 crisis is having on our local communities and greatly sympathises with those directly impacted by the crisis. It also wishes to thank all those who have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and wellbeing of communities.

£250,000 has been made available for this funding round. The Trustees have taken time to consult with other funders and stakeholders in order to design and develop a grant programme that will best meet the needs of our communities and make the most impact. In developing this funding round the Foundation has taken into account the grants and funding available from other bodies and has tailored its grant scheme to address those areas that it feels need the most support.

The Foundation anticipates that this grant programme will be in great demand. Please read the following eligibility criteria and guidelines for applicants carefully. You are advised that you should only apply if you are confident of meeting the criteria. If you are unsure, please contact info@siriusmineralsfoundation.co.uk for further assistance.

If you require help in developing your application, please contact the following support organisations who have services that can help you.

For North Yorkshire; Community First Yorkshire <https://communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk/>

For Redcar and Cleveland; Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency
<https://rcvda.org.uk/>

Eligibility criteria

Geographical area of benefit

Your organisation must be based in and active in meeting needs in one or more of the following areas;

- Scarborough and Whitby District
- the North York Moors National Park
- Redcar and Cleveland.

National charities or those based outside of the above areas are unlikely to be considered eligible unless they are able to demonstrate a longstanding connection to the area and substantial evidence of local activity and involvement.

Meeting our objectives

All applicants will be required to demonstrate how they meet the Foundation's objectives as well as the criteria for the two Themes contained in the grant programme.

Type of organisation

This grant programme is designed to support the local voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. This means that applicants will be expected to be one of the following;

- Small unregistered charity with a Management Committee and Constitution
- Registered Charity
- Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- Social enterprise including Community Interest Companies
- Other not-for-profit structures will be considered where there are appropriate safeguards in place.

If your organisation is not one of the above, please contact info@siriusmineralsfoundation.co.uk to discuss your eligibility.

Other requirements

- Groups must have a bank account in the name of the organisation with two or more unrelated signatories.
 - National charities who do not have a base or deliver significant levels of activity in the areas of benefit are unlikely to be funded.
 - Organisations with a level of reserves that is greater than their stated reserves policy may be required to provide details of their plans to use their reserves.
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General Guidelines

- The programme has 2 Themes; Theme 1 is The Digital Success Programme and Theme 2 is the Regroup and Rebuild Programme.
- Each Theme has a lower limit of £500 and an upper limit of £15,000.
- Groups can apply under both Themes simultaneously and therefore have the potential to be awarded a total of £30,000 of funding, although such awards are likely to be in exceptional circumstances. All groups are encouraged to apply only for what they require to meet their needs; applications for smaller amounts that can make a difference to the community are welcome.
- Groups applying under both Themes must complete separate applications for each Theme.
- Funds awarded must be spent by the end March 2022, although funds can be spent over shorter timescales if required.
- All successful applicants will be expected to participate in monitoring and reporting that will be proportionate to the amount of funding awarded.
- Larger grant recipients will be required to demonstrate the impact of the funding awarded.

What cannot be funded

- Activity that has already taken place and/or costs that have already been incurred
- General fundraising appeals
- Capital projects such as new buildings
- Research and evaluation projects
- Applications from individuals
- Applications from private businesses

The Foundation's objectives

All applications must meet one or more of the Foundation's objectives, which are;

- Advance education, including supporting projects and training that benefit people by enhancing their skills;
- Promote the general health of the community;
- Advance environmental protection and improvement including the enhancing of the local landscape;
- Provide and improve facilities in the interests of social welfare and leisure time with the aim to improve residents' well-being;
- Help gain skills to those in need, because of financial hardship by being out-of-work, particularly the long-term unemployed

Applicants can apply to one or both of the following themes.

Theme 1 - The Digital Success Programme

This grant programme is designed to support groups to succeed in delivering services differently and effectively by strengthening their digital capability and capacity. It is designed to enable you to 'future proof' your organisations, facing current and future challenges with the confidence and ability to respond in an effective and agile manner. The programme recognises that groups can be reluctant to invest in their own infrastructure and the impact of the pandemic may leave them even more reluctant to do so. However, the Foundation believes that this is the time to invest in essential digital equipment, systems, and knowledge.

Grants may be spent on, but are not restricted to, costs associated with;

- Staff time to research, pilot or deliver new ways of working
- Equipment or services for staff and volunteers to enable digital access, for example to facilitate homeworking or volunteering from home, or from Covid-safe premises
- Creating better real or virtual office infrastructure, e.g. configuring telephone systems for remote access, creating or improving databases, making office space safe for physical access by staff, volunteers and beneficiaries
- Delivering group or one to one activities online, via telephone apps or other digital means.
- Supporting access to digital connectivity for end users, for example by training or the provision of equipment

Theme 2 - The Regroup and Rebuild Programme

This grant programme is designed to support groups with a contribution towards their core costs and development costs during 2021 while they adapt and plan their long-term responses to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Grants may be spent on, but are not restricted to, costs associated with;

- Staff time to focus on the leadership and development of the organisation. This might include spending time on strategic planning, developing new income streams and fundraising strategies, taking part in online learning and development to upskill and support staff and volunteers with new ways of working
- Bringing in external support and expertise, e.g. funding advice, help with business development, coaching and mentoring
- Premises costs such as insurance, rent and other overheads, where the ability to generate income to meet these costs is temporarily affected by the pandemic or while the organisation reconfigures its premises, staffing structure or methods of delivery.

Applications

- Applications for each theme should be submitted on the appropriate application form
- Applications should be emailed to info@siriusmineralsfoundation.co.uk , or posted to;

Sirius Minerals Foundation
Resolution House
Lake View
Scarborough
North Yorkshire
YO11 3ZB

- The closing date for applications will be **12 noon on Tuesday 15th September 2020.**
- Final decisions on funding will be announced by the 19th October 2020.
- We do not intend to give detailed feedback in this grant round as we anticipate a high demand. All unsuccessful applicants will receive a general letter of notification with an indication of the main reason(s) their application was rejected.