



Creative Civic Change: programme briefing

Overview

Creative Civic Change is a new programme to help make positive change in your community using the arts and creativity. The programme will provide funding and other support, like advice and mentoring, to at least 10 local areas in England over the next three years. We want to support ambitious creative projects and activities led by local community groups (by which we mean groups that are organised and run by members of the community and are working for the public benefit), helping you achieve your vision for your area. We are also interested in sharing the experience and learning to inspire others to use the arts and creativity to make positive, local change. The programme is a partnership between Big Lottery Fund, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, and Local Trust.

Your vision for your future

Creative Civic Change will support your community to use the arts and creativity to make positive change in your local area. Communities will take the lead. Whatever your local priorities, the programme will help you to use the arts and creativity to achieve them, whether that is:

- social and community issues, like isolation or lack of engagement
- bringing your streets to life, or improving the physical environment
- supporting skills, training or local business development
- giving people a voice
- celebrating local culture.

In fact, it could be any combination of these, or something entirely different! In short, we want local communities to take the lead and for you to tell us what your priorities are, so we can support you as you plan and work to achieve them.



Using the arts and creativity

We know this is very broad! We want to know how you think about the arts and creativity and what you might include – whether knitting, singing, drama, dancing, pottery, sewing, writing stories or poems, storytelling, making jewellery, animation, making music, coding, photography (including Instagramming), woodcraft, gardening, cake decorating, film making, community radio, putting on festivals, parades and much more.

Who it is for

The programme will be open to at least 10 community groups (by which we mean groups that are organised and run by members of the community and are working for the public benefit) in England (including five Big Local areas). These areas will already have some experience of how important the arts and creativity can be in getting people involved and enthusiastic about making positive change locally. We want the programme to show what can be achieved in areas when creativity and imagination are used to build on the great things that already exist in local areas, whether that's community groups, buildings or activities.

Creative Civic Change is open to local communities in England. Local could mean anything from a few streets or part of an estate, to a neighbourhood or a cluster of villages (but it must be an area smaller than a local authority). We are looking for expressions of interest from those who are already part of the [Big Local initiative](#), and those who are not but share similar characteristics. For example, we are most interested in areas which have been overlooked in the past, and facing a range of issues. (If you would like to find out more about Big Local areas to see if your area has similarities with them please click here to watch [this short film](#).)

One of the things we want this programme to do is encourage different sorts of partnership. Firstly, we want to introduce communities to artists and arts and/or other creative organisations (which might be social sector organisations). Secondly, we'd like to support clusters of two or more local areas to invite artists or organisations to help you develop ideas and partnership projects that deal with or respond to some of the priorities that you have in common.

What the programme offers

We expect to offer a range of funding and other support to communities who take part in the programme. For example, there will be grants of between £50,000 and £300,000 available per area over three years. There will also be a substantial and inspiring support programme of mentoring, coaching, peer-to-peer support, networking, and advice – whatever it is you need to achieve the change you're setting out to make. For any communities that are not selected, we will consider what else we might be able to offer, and how to let you know what we are learning through the programme once started.



www.bit.ly/CreativeCivicChange
[#CreativeChange](https://twitter.com/CreativeChange)

How the programme will work

There are three stages to the Creative Civic Change programme:

1. Community call out

Where we ask local communities to say if they want to take part in the programme's development (opens 18 July; please return all the information needed by 28 Sept 2018)

2. Development phase

Co-designing the programme with the partners and the selected local communities (at least 10 areas; autumn 2018 – spring 2019). This could include:

- Getting a better understanding of local needs and assets and developing your ideas and plans
- Understanding what support you need to deliver your plans, including funding but also inspiration, advice etc
- Working out how we record the knowledge and experience we gain from the programme

We will do this together through a funded process of local creative workshops, conversations and surveys. We will continue to work with you to develop and refine the plans you start at the workshop. Once they are worked up, they will be considered for funding by a panel of programme funders. We will probably want to select a range of different types of local communities addressing different issues, taking a variety of approaches, communities spread across England, and so on. We expect to get more applications than there are spaces on the programme. For any communities that are not selected, we will consider what else we might be able to offer, and how to let you know what we are learning through the programme once started.

3. Programme delivery

The local areas which are successful will be funded and supported to go on and deliver their programmes over up to three years, with us recording and sharing the knowledge we gain from the experience as we go.

We are also committed to working with all the communities involved in the programme once it has finished to try to make sure the work can continue into the future and if possible grow and develop.



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About the partnership

The Big Lottery Fund, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch) and Local Trust are working in partnership with at least 10 communities to deliver Creative Civic Change in 2018-19. The partnership will support communities to lead arts and creative projects that realise their own visions for their areas. The organisations share the belief that arts and creativity can be harnessed to engage, inspire and mobilise communities, and together they want to showcase the difference creativity and imagination can make, particularly in places which are often depicted negatively in the media.

The Big Lottery Fund

The Big Lottery Fund uses money raised by National Lottery players to help communities achieve their ambitions. From small, local projects to UK-wide initiatives, the funding brings people together to make a difference to their health, wellbeing and environment. Since June 2004 Big Lottery Fund have awarded £8.5 billion to projects that improve the lives of millions of people.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is an international charitable foundation with cultural, educational, social and scientific interests, based in Lisbon with offices in London and Paris. The purpose of the UK Branch in London is to bring about long-term improvements in wellbeing, particularly for the most vulnerable, by creating connections across boundaries (national borders, communities, disciplines and sectors) which deliver social, cultural and environmental value. The Creative Civic Change partnership is being supported as part of the UK Branch's Inquiry into the Civic Role of Arts Organisations:

civicroleartsinquiry.gulbenkian.org.uk

Local Trust

Local Trust was established in 2012 to deliver Big Local, a unique programme that puts residents across the country in control of decisions about their own lives and neighbourhoods. Funded by a £217m endowment from the Big Lottery Fund - the largest ever single commitment of Lottery funds - it provides in excess of £1m of long-term funding over 10-15 years to each of 150 local communities, many of which face major social and economic challenges but have missed out in the past from accessing their fair share of statutory and Lottery funds in the past.

www.localtrust.org.uk



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