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Community Resilience Fund – FAQ

In order to apply for this fund I need to get permission from my local authority, but is there anything else I need from them at the application stage?

We do not need any additional information from your local authority at this stage. Simply ask for agreement to work in collaboration with your local authority and/or Borough Resilience Forum, and put their name in the application form. The idea of this fund is to help organisations work in partnership with local authorities and Borough Resilience Forums on community emergency planning, so their collaboration is key to a successful application.

Is the Community Resilience Fund for delivering services/projects to clients or residents?

This fund is aimed specifically at building and strengthening collaboration between infrastructure organisations and local authorities, and is not for delivering services or projects to individuals.

CVS' and Volunteer Centres are examples of 'Infrastructure Organisations', is there anything else that you consider to be an Infrastructure Organisation?

You need to be an infrastructure organisation or a second tier organisation because this fund is about building stronger connections across civil society and the voluntary and community sector, not about delivering services to people.

We're being as non-prescriptive as possible on what we mean by 'infrastructure'. As well as CVS' and Volunteer Centres, an infrastructure organisation could be one that



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works with a specific community or demographic in London, such as people from ethnic minority backgrounds.

Is it up to the recipients of the funding to decide what the money is spent on? Can we put the money wherever we think the borough needs it most?

This fund must focus on emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery. It must not focus on service delivery. We also have four outcomes, and we would like you to choose at least two to focus on:

- Increased community preparedness for emergencies
- Improved relationships between VCS and statutory agencies
- Improved communications channels for responding to emergencies
- Improved data and insight into community preparedness

Please also bear in mind that, if planning a long-term project, you will need to consider the cost of upkeep once the fund has been used. London Councils has launched a [fund for local authority engagement work](#), so this is a potential additional option for local authorities to consider.

Outside of this, it is up to you where the money goes. Every borough is different, and we want this money to go towards the best possible thing for your borough. This can mean working on something brand new, or improving upon something you're already working on. We don't want to be too prescriptive, and are looking to keep the fund as broad and flexible as possible.

I work for a local authority - what if more than one organisation from my borough wants to apply?



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That's completely fine. As long as you like the projects that organisations suggest, you can say yes to as many as you like. You will not need to make a decision on which project to choose.

The Red Cross is offering training as part of the fund, is this training free and non-compulsory?

The training is both free and non-compulsory. It is simply a helpful addition to the fund.

You have outlined four outcomes for this fund, what is the best blend of outcomes to aim for if my organisation is new to emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery?

The four outcomes are:

- Increased community preparedness for emergencies
- Improved relationships between VCS and statutory agencies
- Improved communications channels for responding to emergencies
- Improved data and insight into community preparedness

If you are just starting in this area, our first outcome 'Increased community preparedness for emergencies' is the most broad, and is therefore likely most suitable for you. The second outcome 'Improved relationships between VCS and statutory agencies' is also very broad and a good place to start.

The other two outcomes are more specific, although you might find that they are still suitable aims for your project, even if you are new to emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery.



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The application form says 'local authorities will be asked to contribute in kind' - what does this mean?

We don't expect local authorities to give funding toward this, although it would be welcome. When we ask local authorities to contribute in kind, we mean that we expect local authorities to give adequate staff and time resources to work with you. We don't expect you to have specific details of how local authorities will support you at this time.

Why are you only able to fund 12 boroughs? Is there a reason why boroughs that are further behind in emergency planning are not prioritised for funding?

Unfortunately our funding pool is limited and could not stretch across all boroughs without greatly reducing the amount for each borough. We do hope to do another round of funding in the future, where more boroughs will hopefully be able to be funded.

Regarding the application process and criteria, would a local authority on behalf of volunteer organisations be able to apply for funding regarding a pan borough initiative?

No, the local authority cannot apply directly. They would need to promote this to their local VCS infrastructure partners and work with them on this.