

Managed by Salford CVS on behalf of
10GM

Greater Manchester Moving's GM Walking and Wheeling Fund

Guidance for Applicants Small & Medium Grants

2026/27



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We want our grants programme to be accessible to everyone. If you **require adaptations** to the guidance and/or application form or you would benefit from **submitting your application in another format** (for example as a video or voice recording) please get in touch with the **Grants Team** email grants@salfordcvs.co.uk or phone 0161 787 7795.

If you would like **general support**, for example feedback on a draft application, please contact your [local infrastructure organisation](#).

Please see page 8 for more information.

About the fund

The GM Walking and Wheeling Fund (GMWWF) aims to improve the health and wellbeing of communities in Greater Manchester by encouraging people who are **less active or inactive to walk or wheel regularly**. By wheeling, we mean using a **wheelchair, mobility aid, pushing a pram or adaptive cycling projects** where walking is not a suitable or accessible option, such as for people with a disability or long-term health condition. **Cycling activities that aren't adapted** or are for people who are able to walk are not included.

This fund is **not** looking to fund general walking projects working with members of the community who are already active or regular walkers.

The GM Walking and Wheeling fund is offering two grants (small and medium) to **Greater Manchester-based VCSE** (voluntary, community and social enterprise). The **small grants programme** will be offering **grants of up to £2,000** to VCSE organisations with a **turnover of less than £10,000** and the **medium grants programme** will be offering **grants of up to £7,000** to VCSE organisations with a **turnover over £10,000**.

The GMWWF also hopes to increase awareness of, and engagement with, GM Walking: which is a hub of information and resources that recognises the important role walking and wheeling can play in increasing physical activity levels. For more information about GM Walking, or to read case stories from projects funded in previous rounds of the GMWWF, visit: <https://gmwalking.co.uk>

This funding is provided by the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership to GM Moving and is distributed by Salford CVS working in partnership with 10GM.

Priorities of the fund

All projects must encourage **people who are less active or inactive to walk or wheel regularly**.

Based on the most recent [Sport England Active Lives data](#), we will consider applications from organisations wishing to support the following priority groups which are statistically less likely to be active:

- People on a lower / no income
- Disabled people and those with long-term health conditions
- Older adults, particularly those aged 75+
- Black and Asian adults, and particularly those of Muslim faith

- Women, and particularly those who are pregnant and / or have a child or children under one year old.

Applications to support groups outside of these priorities will not be eligible for this funding.

We will be funding projects that work with and **encourage inactive or less active people into movement**, rather than activities for people who are already active.

There are many ways your organisation could do this, for example:

- Supporting people to take part in walking and wheeling groups
- Working with schools, faith centres or workplaces to encourage active travel
- Recruiting and training Walking and Wheeling Champions to encourage people in the community to walk or wheel regularly.

Projects in 2026/27 are also asked to demonstrate how their proposed project will **link into the wider health and care system in their area**, such as a local GP practice or family centre. You could do this by:

- Linking in with your local GP practice(s) for their help in promoting your walks to their patients and referring new walkers to you
- Working with social prescribing programmes, local family hubs, health visitors, midwifery teams or other health condition-specific teams (e.g. diabetes, healthy hearts etc.) to co-design and promote your walks
- Developing projects in collaboration with local partners to meet an unmet need, e.g. a walk for people with lung disease, or sight loss etc.

For more examples, of how previously-funded projects have linked in with their local health and care system, [please see this article](#).

Partnership applications

The GM Walking and Wheeling fund encourages **partnership applications** and is keen to see groups collaborating. If you are interested in working with another VCSE organisation but are unsure where to start, please contact your [local LIO](#).

Unsure if your project is a good fit for the GMWWF? Please contact the **Grants Team** for an informal conversation before applying (contact details are available on page 8, 'Support with your application').

Important dates

The GMWWF will close to applications for medium grants at 12pm (midday) on **Friday 4th September 2026** with decisions expected within 6-8 weeks of the closing date. Successful organisations will have **until 31st May 2027** to spend their grant.

Fund opens	July 2026
Application deadline	12.00pm on Friday 4 th September 2026
Decisions expected	Within 6-8 weeks of the closing date
Approximate delivery period	October 2026 – May 2027
End of project report due	Within one month of project completion

Salford CVS and GM Moving will be hosting an online Meet the Funder session to discuss the small and medium grants programmes in more detail, how to apply for a grant, and tips and tricks on writing a strong application. There will also be the opportunity to ask questions. The sessions will take place on Microsoft Teams on the following dates: to register to attend please click the link below.

Meet the Funder sessions – [Click here](#)

Monday 17th August 2026, 1–2pm

If you cannot attend this session, you will be able to watch at a later date as we will be uploading a recording of the session on to the 10GM website.

Who can apply?

We will be prioritising applications from organisations that haven't been previously funded through this grant and new project ideas. However, previously funded organisations can apply to the fund, but only for a different project with different beneficiaries.

To apply, your group or organisation must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Constituted as a voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE) group or organisation operating in Greater Manchester for the benefit of Greater Manchester residents.

- CICs are required to have a minimum of three directors and an asset lock.
- Companies limited by guarantee will need a minimum of three directors, and within their Articles of Association a statement about their purpose and social impact, a not-for-profit clause, a director remuneration clause as well as a clause stating that assets will be distributed to another not-for profit organisation fulfilling similar objects if they dissolve.
- If your organisation is delivering a project for children or adults at risk of harm your organisation must have an up to date and suitable safeguarding policy with staff and/or volunteers undertaking DBS checks (if appropriate for the role)
- Meet the turnover threshold (see About the fund on page 3)

All organisations must:

- Have a bank account requiring two signatures in the name of your organisation.
- Undertake an evaluation of your project and share the learning generated.
- Give permission for the project to feature on the GM Walking website.
- Be able to complete the project delivery by 31st May 2027 and submit the end-of-project reporting form by 30th June 2027.

What do I need to demonstrate in the application form?

You will need to demonstrate:

- How the project idea was initiated by and/or meets the needs of the community
- A clear plan on how you will engage people who are usually less active or inactive
- How you will encourage long-term behaviour change in your participants, for example, by forming a supportive community on your walks, or upskilling your participants to lead walks themselves **(Medium applications only)**
- How you will keep beneficiaries engaged over the colder autumn/winter months
- How as an organisation you plan to share the learning and outcomes of the project, including through storytelling. Photos, videos and quotes bring projects to life, and successful groups will need to allocate time and resources to collect and develop creative feedback. For examples of photos, videos and quotes from previously funded groups please see Impact reports from previous funding years [2024/25](#) and 2025/26 on [GM Walking's website](#).

What can the grant be spent on?

The grant can be used to pay for project and capital costs, including (but not limited to):

- Purchase or hire of equipment/materials
- Training
- End of project reporting costs (including time of staff and volunteers)
- Refreshments (including for participating staff and volunteers)
- Sessional worker/facilitator and/or staffing costs
- Travel costs
- Venue hire
- Volunteer expenses (linked to a project)
- Promotion
- Public liability insurance
- A contribution to overheads/management costs (must be proportionate to the project)

The majority of costs should be used towards directly encouraging walking and wheeling only. While wraparound activities such as arts and crafts can have wider benefits, **this funding must be mainly to facilitate movement, not pay for wider enrichment activities.**

This fund can be used as match funding for other local grants with similar purposes.

What can't the grant be spent on?

- Costs for meals, trips or one-off events unless there is a clear and compelling need and benefit for the community
- Alcohol
- Retrospective costs (i.e. costs that have already been incurred or for activities that have already happened before a grant has been awarded)
- Costs for work that statutory bodies (such as schools or local authorities) have a duty to fund

What policies and other documentation are required?

All organisations will be expected to have the following policies in place at the time of application:

- a) Health and Safety policy
- b) Equality/Diversity Statement or Policy

- c) Public Liability Insurance (cost can be included in budget)
- d) Risk assessments

...and if applicable to project activities:

- e) Volunteer Policy
- f) Safeguarding Adults policy
- g) Safeguarding Children policy

Please note: If your project involves working with children or adults at risk of harm you will need to include a copy of the relevant safeguarding policies with your application form.

How to apply

Complete the small or medium application form depending on the grant you are applying for (to check you are applying for the correct grant please check the name at the top of the application form). Submit the completed form by email to grants@salfordcvs.co.uk in Word format before the application deadline.

Alternatively, applications can be posted to: Salford CVS, The Old Town Hall, 5 Irwell Place, Eccles, M30 0FN.

What support is available for applicants?

There have been multiple rounds of the GM Walking and Wheeling Fund, and each year has seen a high level of interest from VCSE groups across Greater Manchester. As a result, the fund is highly competitive, and unfortunately, we are unable to guarantee funding for all applicants.

We recognise that completing an application requires significant time and resources, and that being unsuccessful can be disappointing. While demand for funding exceeds the funding available, we remain committed to supporting organisations applying to the fund. We provide detailed guidance notes, Meet the Funder sessions, and one-to-one support to discuss application ideas and review draft applications. We encourage all applicants to make use of this support. Please see below for further information on how to access it.

Support with your application

If you have any questions or concerns about the fund or how to complete an application form, please contact the Salford CVS Grants team either by email at grants@salfordcvs.co.uk or 0161 787 7795.

For support developing a project idea and writing an effective application form, please contact your local infrastructure organisation. A full list of the infrastructure

organisations in Greater Manchester is available on the 10GM website - <https://www.10gm.org.uk/local-areas.html>

To attend the **Meet the Funder** sessions please book on using the [following link](#).

Wider development support

You can also contact your local infrastructure organisation for practical support including policy development, accessing volunteers and accessing wider funding. <https://www.10gm.org.uk/local-areas.html>

Accessibility

We want our grants programme to be accessible to everyone. If you would benefit from submitting your application in another format (for example as a video or voice recording) or require adaptations to the guidance and/or application form, please get in touch with the Grants Team by emailing grants@salfordcvs.co.uk or phone 0161 787 7795.

Using AI

The use of AI tools such as ChatGPT and Copilot has increased significantly in the past few years, and we understand these can be beneficial. However, when it comes to completing your application form the panel are looking for authentic answers that convey meaning and clearly demonstrate your experience and knowledge of the community you work with.

Using AI to write your application form can lead to generic answers that don't effectively explain your project idea. A well written application form uses simple, plain English, is easy to understand and clearly demonstrates the want and needs of the community in relation to the funding priorities. The panel value your organisation's unique, on-the-ground perspective and want to hear this voice in your application form.

How will applications be assessed?

- On receipt of applications, Salford CVS will undertake eligibility checks
- All applications that are eligible will be independently scored by a panel consisting of representatives from, 10GM, GM Moving, a large VCSE-sector organisation and Salford CVS.
- The assessment panel will meet to agree the awards

- Feedback from the assessment panel will be provided to groups who are not awarded a grant.

In the event of more than one application receiving the same or a similar score, tipping factors may support the decision-making process. These include:

- To get a wider range of beneficiaries
- To get a wider geographic spread across Greater Manchester
- To fund applicants who have not been funded before, or who have not received funding from the GM Walking and Wheeling fund before
- Where the applicant has a poor or weak monitoring track record for previously funded work

What happens if your application is successful?

If your application is successful, we'll let you know by email. Please read the offer letter attached to the email in full, which contains important information about the grant including the amount awarded, any conditions, and next steps to claim the grant. Once you've sent us the documents we ask for, we aim to issue the grant by bank transfer within 10 working days.

How will we evaluate your project?

We have a three-fold approach to evaluation:

- **Assessing impact** – the difference your project made in words, numbers, stories, quotes and photos
- **Gathering learning** – what you have learned as an organisation, how your organisation has developed and what you would do differently next time
- **Providing assurance** – demonstrating good management of public money

In practical terms, this means providing feedback to Salford CVS in the shape of a simple **End of project report form** when your project is complete. On average this takes about 1 hour to complete. **Please see the FAQs** for more information on what is required in terms of evaluation.

We may also select your project for a monitoring visit (in person or remotely) to help us understand how you are getting on and if you're in need of any support. You may also be selected to take part in a case study interview with colleagues at GM Moving to provide a more in-depth understanding of what has been achieved and the impact your project has had.

As guardians of public money, Salford CVS requires all funded organisations to keep receipts for all project spend. We undertake spot-audits every year and you may be asked to provide evidence of your spending.

With your help in providing simple feedback Salford CVS and GM Moving can demonstrate how grants and investments can make a real difference encouraging people to become more active and incorporate walking and wheeling into their everyday lives. This is important in helping us report back to our funders and wider partners and helps secure investment in our sector over the years to come.

Any further questions?

Please contact the Grants Team by phone 0161 787 7795 or email at:
grants@salfordcvs.co.uk