

**A call for applications to**

**Islington Food Fund Round 2 grants**

**Application guidelines**

Islington Food Partnership and Islington Giving are working in partnership to distribute Islington Food Fund grants. We are inviting applications from existing organisations in the borough, to provide support to those experiencing food insecurity during the cost-of-living crisis.

This is a call for the Round 2 grants, that all and only successful Round 1 applicants are eligible to apply for.

The budget for this round is £60,000, and will provide grants for three new projects and initiatives that deliver on goals and outcomes in the [Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028](https://www.islingtonfoodpartnership.org.uk/islington-food-strategy-full/). Organisations are invited to apply for projects with costs no higher than £20,000, to be delivered over the course of 12 months.

**Round 2 grant process**

We will take a flexible approach to the distribution of Round 2 grants, so that these can be designed to the strengths and approaches of the applicants. We also will only ask for a short application, to minimise time spent in the application process.

1. Organisations are invited to read through the [Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028](https://www.islingtonfoodpartnership.org.uk/islington-food-strategy-full/) and summary below to identify potential project ideas they may wish to pursue. Organisations can join the [online Introduction to the Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028 session](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-introduction-to-the-islington-food-strategy-2023-2028-tickets-541000004577) on Monday 6th March from 12-12.30pm to hear more about the strategy.
2. Those interested in applying are invited to email alex@manorgardenscentre.org and victor.momodu@cripplegate.org.uk as an Expression of Interest, and to receive a link to the online application form. You do not need to include any project information in your Expression of Interest, but please tell us if you wish to book an informal discussion slot with Alex Britten, Chair of the Islington Food Partnership. Please provide your availability on Thursday 16th March and Wednesday 22nd March if so.
3. Individual 30-minute discussion slots will be available with Alex Britten, Chair of the Islington Food Partnership, on Thursday 16th March and Wednesday 22nd March. These slots will be available for anyone that wants to hear more about the Islington Food Strategy, the priorities and projects within it, and to discuss any other project ideas they may have.
4. Organisations will submit their applications **by Friday 14th April at 12pm.**
5. The panel will meet to agree on the awarding of the funding, and applicants will be informed of the outcome by the end of April 2023.

Please note: The Islington Food Partnership hopes that further funding will be secured to fund further strategic projects. Therefore we will keep all potential ideas in mind, and applicants may be invited to submit a project proposal and plan in future, should additional funding be secured.

**How to apply**

Applications will be collected through a short online form. Please email an Expression of Interest email to alex@manorgardenscentre.org and victor.momodu@cripplegate.org.uk, to be sent the online application form link. You do not need to include any project information in your Expression of Interest, but please tell us if you wish to book an informal discussion slot with Alex Britten, Chair of the Islington Food Partnership.

We want the application to be manageable for all applicants, so we suggest no more than 2 sides (1,000 words) in total, however we will not be restrictive with the word count. The questions will be as follows:

* Applicant organisation
* Lead applicant name and contact details
* Project title
* Project summary (max 100 words)
* Project overview, to include:
	+ Goals of the project
	+ How the project will be delivered
	+ Who the project will benefit
	+ The themes, priorities and/or projects within the Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028 that your project aims to contribute to
	+ How you intend to measure the outcomes of your project
* Project budget
* Any other information you would like to provide

**Data and monitoring**

We will agree a data and monitoring approach with successful applicants, based on the information you provide in your application.

**Decision making timeline**

* Round 2 grant process opens w/c 6th March. Interested organisations are invited to send an Expression of Interest email to alex@manorgardenscentre.org and victor.momodu@cripplegate.org.uk, to be sent the online application form link. You do not need to include any project information in your Expression of Interest.
* Islington Food Week is w/c 6th March, where Alex Britten, Chair of the Islington Food Partnership, and selected panel members will be available for informal discussion at the [Islington Food Partnership meet up](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/islington-food-partnership-meet-up-tickets-541078459237) at Manor Gardens on Thursday 9th March from 3.30pm-5pm
* Individual 30 minute discussion slots available with Alex Britten, Chair of the Islington Food Partnership, on Thursday 16th March and Wednesday 22nd March
* **Applications should be submitted by Friday 14th April at 12pm**
* Round 2 panel will meet w/c 17th April to make award decisions
* Applicants will be informed of the outcome by the end of April 2023

**Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028**

Our strategy focuses on four themes, each with a principle directing all that we do:

* **Healthy affordable food for all**. Everyone should be able to eat the food they need to thrive.
* **Sustainable local food economy**. Good businesses and entrepreneurs should be able to thrive in Islington.
* **Climate and nature emergency**. The way we live our lives should have a positive impact on nature and the planet.
* **People-powered change**. People and communities coming together is the only route to achieving real change.

We have 15 priorities that will drive our work over the next 5 years:

1. **Best start in life:** Ensure that good food gives babies, children and young people the best start in life
2. **Community-first solutions:** Build and protect community-first solutions to food insecurity
3. **Cross-sector approaches:**Develop partnerships and build relationships across communities and sectors to enable cross-system solutions
4. **Advocate for our people and businesses:** Lobby for the local and wider policy and practice changes needed to build a thriving local food system
5. **Build a community movement:** Create momentum towards a food movement, each with our own part to play
6. **Everyday sustainable food choices:** Encourage sustainable food choices to be taken every day across the borough
7. **Connect to our food system:** Increase all our understanding and sense of connection to the wider food system
8. **Reduce fossil fuels:** Reduce, and eventually remove, fossil fuels from our Islington food system
9. **Utilise our land and property:** Utilise more land and property in the borough for food growing, biodiversity, community food services and good food businesses
10. **Less food waste and packaging:** Reduce food waste and packaging, building circular systems
11. **Good food sector work:** Ensure food sector employees earn a living wage, with appropriate working conditions and opportunities to develop
12. **Thriving local businesses:** Ensure good food businesses and entrepreneurs can thrive
13. **Better supply chains:** Implement a dynamic food procurement system across the borough, to build a more local and sustainable food system
14. **Good food everywhere:** Ensure all food bought in the borough is safe and sustainable, with healthy, affordable and culturally appropriate options widely available
15. **Make healthy the easy choice:** Advocate for a local food system which makes healthy options the easy choice

Through 2022 and 2023, the Islington Food Partnership spent over a year speaking to a wide range of organisations and residents to develop the Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028. From this collaborative process, we have identified a number of projects that we want to implement in the borough. These are:

* Employ community chefs who can work across the Borough within different community kitchens and food services
* Expand the provision of home delivered meals, in particular for older and socially isolated people
* Provide delivery services to enable food donations between businesses and community food services
* Provide cross-Borough services to support people to have the equipment, resources, skills and knowledge they need to be able to prepare and eat the food they need to thrive. For example, this could include promoting food preserving (freezing, jam making, chutneys or hydrating), or providing training on energy efficient and waste reducing food preparation.
* Develop a new high street community café and kitchen
* Create a food hub that would enable community groups to buy food direct from farms and to accept bulk deliveries of surplus foods
* Work with education settings to deliver creative and practical workshops on topics such as food growing, envisioning a different food system, food justice, imagining a new community project or initiative, or visits to local community projects

However, the Islington Food Strategy 2023-2028 is also designed to be flexible and inclusive of additional ideas from across our community, and therefore we are open to project ideas outside of the list above, that align with our four themes and 15 priorities.

**If your application is successful**

Once you have been notified of the decision to fund your project you will be sent Islington Giving’s terms and conditions – which you will be required to read and sign.

Full details of our requirements for feedback from your project will be agreed following confirmation of a successful application. Funded organisations will be required to keep financial records of how the grant is spent and to provide feedback on progress and learning every 6 months and when the project comes to an end.

Successful organisations will also be asked to provide publicly accessible examples of their work (e.g. case studies, quotes, photographs, blog posts) to be shared through Islington Giving’s websites and social media channels. Successful organisations are also asked, where possible, to work with Islington Giving to share positive stories of how this funding is helping.

Please contact Lisa Robinson, Director of Fundraising & Communications, on lisa.robinson@islingtongiving.org.uk if you have any specific questions.

**About Islington Giving**

Islington is a borough of stark contrasts – a place where great wealth sits alongside hidden poverty. Islington Giving was set up in 2010 to address these issues and create opportunities for people in Islington. It is a partnership that brings together residents, businesses, community organisations and funders to make a real difference in the Borough.

Islington Giving currently supports over 40 local projects across 3 core themes:

* Investing in Young People
* Supporting Families
* Reaching Isolated People

Please see the Islington Giving website <http://www.islingtongiving.org.uk> for further details of our work.

**About Islington Food Partnership**

The Islington Food Partnership is a broad coalition of local organisations and individuals working together to build a thriving local food system for Islington.

We work together across four themes:

* **Healthy affordable food for all**. Everyone should be able to eat the food they need to thrive.
* **Sustainable local food economy**. Good businesses and entrepreneurs should be able to thrive in Islington.
* **Climate and nature emergency**. The way we live our lives should have a positive impact on nature and the planet.
* **People-powered change**. People and communities coming together is the only route to achieving real change.

For more information see [www.islingtonfoodpartnership.org.uk](http://www.islingtonfoodpartnership.org.uk) or contact hello@islingtonfoodpartnership.org.uk.

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