Live in Islington? Want to take an active role in providing more opportunities for residents to improve health in our borough?

A group photo of our Community panel, members of some of our funded groups, and some of the Islington Giving team | January 2025

Islington Giving is looking for residents to come together and make decisions about which local projects and services to fund, with the aim of **improving health for residents**. In doing so, you will be helping us to think about what residents need to improve health and wellbeing and deciding on what initiatives to fund to achieve this. We are looking for people of all ages, from 18 up.

This is a paid opportunity at London Living Wage **(£14.80 per hour),** for approximately **4-6 hours per month**. If receiving payment is not suitable for you, please apply anyway, and we can discuss if there is a way forward. If you

are interested in working with other residents from across Islington, we'd love to hear from you. Please note that the closing date for applications is **11am on 2nd March 2026.**

What is 'Grant Making'?

Islington Giving is a grant maker, which means we give out money to local groups and charities in the borough of Islington. The money we give out comes from money that we have raised through our partners which include donations from local people, other funders and businesses who are based locally, to name a few.

We fund all kinds of projects which help a range of people. You can see some examples of organisations and projects we have funded at www.islingtongiving.org.uk/our-impact

Why resident grant making panels?

In recent years, we have asked groups of residents to help us make decisions about how we spend our money. Residents know what makes a good service and what local people need. Your life experiences complement the expertise of our Programme team, so help us make better decisions.

Young Grant Makers Panel 2023

Since our initial project involving residents in grant making in 2018, Islington Giving has involved over 100 local people in decision making, who have awarded over one million pounds to local organisations. We have run resident led giving panels for young people, for parents, for older people, and for unpaid carers. This will be our second community panel that brings people together from all those groups – and more.

Who can be involved?

No previous experience is necessary – we don't expect you to have done anything like this before. We want to meet residents who have ideas about what they would like to happen locally.

We are looking for people who:

- live in Islington
- are over 18
- have a desire to effect change in their local area
- can commit to participating on the whole programme from **March – July 2026, around 4-6 hours per month, which is a 2-hour meeting every two weeks, plus some reading time**
- are willing to work as part of a team to share ideas and reach a common goal
- have an interest in working with other residents with a range of backgrounds, ages and experiences

What do panel members do?

You will be part of a diverse group of residents who make decisions on how funding is spent on local projects and services which aim to **improve health** in our borough. The programme will run from **March – July 2026, around 4-6 hours per month,** which is a 2-hour meeting every two weeks, plus some reading time.

At the meetings panel members will discuss what projects or services you would want Islington Giving to prioritise with its funding, creating a funding call. This will then be advertised to local charities and organisations who can apply for funding. Once the applications have been received, you will work as a team to decide which to of the applications to fund.

During panel meetings, members will receive training about Islington Giving and its values, decision making, unconscious bias, the local voluntary sector, reading and assessing applications and budgets.

Young Grant Makers 2024

Therefore, regardless of your previous experience, by the end of the

programme you will have the necessary skills to be a successful resident grant maker!

In addition to panel meetings, panel members will also be required to read applications in preparation for the meetings. This is likely to be no more than an additional 1-2 hours per week during that period.

To hear more from previous resident grant makers please take a look at our YouTube Channel: Islington Giving.

Practicalities

We pay panel members for panel meeting and reading time at the London Living wage, which is currently **£14.80 per hour.** If receiving payment is not suitable for you, we can alternatively offer a voucher of your choice as a thank you for your involvement.

We can also fund support for you to take part if needed, such as with childcare arrangements, respite care for a person you care for or translation / interpretation or accessible transport to name a few. If you are interested in the role but have any questions or concerns, for example about accessibility, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are keen to ensure that we do all we can to ensure people can be involved.

Meetings take place at our offices which are close to bus routes on Upper Street and the Essex Road, and we have a lift and accessible toilets.

How to apply

If you are interested in being a Panel member:

1. Complete the expression of interest form ASAP or by 10am on 2nd March 2026 at the latest, and email it to laura.guy@cripplegate.org.uk or send by post to 13 Elliott's Place, London N1 8HX.

2. The next step would be for us to have a phone conversation with you about your application – to find out a little bit more about you and answer any questions. This will give you and us the chance to see whether the programme is right for you.

If you have any difficulty with the form, please feel free to contact Laura - laura.guy@cripplegate.org.uk or 07869 803737 (phone, text or WhatsApp) to discuss your interest.

Important information:

Meetings will take place on **Tuesdays from 11am-1pm at 13 Elliott's Place, N1 8HX.** Meetings take place every other week. The commitment is usually around **4-6 hours per month, from March - July 2026**. Exact dates to be confirmed. If you are interested but can't make these times, please contact us and we can keep your contact information on file to alert you about future programmes.

The closing date for applications is 10am on 2nd March 2026

Scan the QR code to visit the webpage or visit directly at:
https://islingtongiving.org.uk/join-the-islington-giving-community-panel-2026/