



Ward Flexibility Funding Application Form

Thank you for your interest in Stockport Council's Ward Flexibility Fund. To give your group the best chance of success please read the guidance notes and the questions on the application form carefully.

Please ensure that all boxes on this form are completed. You must also include all additional information that is requested.

1. About Your Organisation

1. Name of Organisation/ Group

Be / Here MCR CIC

2. Organisation/Individual Address

3. Main Contact Details (for correspondence)

Title: Mx

Name: Max Townley

Role: Director/Founder

Address:

Postcode:

Home Phone Number:

Mobile Phone Number:

Email Address:

Return to:
Democratic Services
Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE
democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk

4. Please provide your bank account details

Account Name:

Account Number:

Sort Code:

5. What is the status of your Organisation/ Group?

Please Tick

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| A New Group | <input type="checkbox"/> | Voluntary Organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A Registered Charity No. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Company Limited by Guarantee No. 16022330 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Applying for Charitable Status | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unregistered Association | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Friendly Society | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Housing Association | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

6. Please describe the main activities of your Organisation/ Group

Be / here's mission is to provide the LGBTQIA+ community within Stockport with culturally competent mental health support. We provide financially accessible 1:1 counselling and psychotherapy both in person and online which we offer using a sliding scale payment structure to remove the financial barrier to private therapy.

Alongside this, we offer mental health workshops and courses as well as run support groups and group therapy, all of which guided and facilitated by trained mental health practitioners and therapists. These groups are free to attend in order to allow us to give as many LGBTQIA+ individuals and their allies the skills and tools to be able to care for and maintain their own mental wellbeing.

Our groups will also provide a vital sense of community for LGBTQIA+ people and their allies around Stockport as studies show the importance a sense of community can have on a person's mental health.

During these challenging times for our LGBTQIA+ community, and the Stockport community as a whole, we feel this is a vital service to help tackle the nation's mental health crisis in a way that is financially accessible and in a time where the cost of living is so high and NHS waiting lists for mental health support are so long.

7. When was your Organisation/Group established?

2024

8. Does your organisation have the following policies and procedures in place?

If you are awarded a grant you will be required to send copies of all relevant documents as part of the grant agreement.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| A governance/management committee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| A Constitution/governing document/set of rules | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| An Equal Opportunities Policy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| A Child Protection Policy (where necessary) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| A Health and Safety Public liability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

2. About Your Application

9. Please give us a brief description of your proposed/planned project or activity

You may wish to include details of what activities will take place, where will it happen, how often and who will take part. If you are applying for equipment you can tell us what will it be used for and why is it needed.

In order to be able to reach the most vulnerable members of the LGBTQIA+ community, both in terms of mental health and those who are financially vulnerable, our mental health workshops, courses and our support groups will all be free to attend at the point of delivery (there may be voluntary donations requests to cover the cost of resources used in the workshop). These groups will help to build vital community connections as well as help attendees to gain the skills needed to manage their own mental health; reducing stress on the NHS, reducing waiting lists, helping with employability and school/college attendance. All groups will be facilitated and run by trained mental health practitioners and therapists.

Our workshops will cover a range of topics including: managing emotions, coping with anxiety, neurodiversity awareness and managing strategies, trans healthcare, parenting as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, parenting a queer young person and healthy relationships. We aim to hold at least 1 in person workshop per month, at a variety of locations across the Borough of Stockport to be able to make them as accessible as possible. Attendee limits at these will be around 10 people. We will also be running online workshops alongside these in person events, which will feature similar content but be able to potentially reach a wider audience as attendee limits will be closer to 20 individuals.

The costs of venue hire and facilitatory fees will be covered by ourselves using the money we earn through the provision of 1:1 therapy. However, as we are a new service, we need support in our strategic set up to ensure our own sustainability. The advertisement of our service within the Stockport community is vital to ensure that we are reaching the most vulnerable of our community who are experiencing the most need for mental health services.

In order to effectively carry out our strategic set up plan, we will be required to purchase several pieces of equipment for use in all of our free to attend workshops and events to ensure their professional delivery. We will also be needing to successfully advertise our service amongst the LGBTQIA+ community via attendance at pride events and a comprehensive branding and advertising strategy. Some of this involves one off costs for equipment which can be then used moving forward as part of workshops and events to create a cohesive and strong brand.

We are requesting funds to purchase key equipment and consumables for use in our free to attend workshops and events to ensure their professional delivery. We also want to use the funds for strategic advertising of our service amongst the LGBTQIA+ community. This includes resource to cover attendance at pride events (most notably Stockport Pride on June 1), covering costs of reusable advertising materials, purchasing advertising space within the Pride programme, and leaflet printing costs to be able to advertise our presence in physical locations (e.g. libraries and cafes) to support those in our community with limited internet access. We expect this injection of funding would be a one-off request as we hope that the workshops will become self-sufficient within 6 months of their launch, with running costs covered by voluntary donations and supplemented from income from our 1-1 therapy.

10. Who will benefit from this grant?

e.g. local residents, young people, older people and how?

The LGBTQIA+ community and their allies of any age or background.

10(a) How Many Stockport residents will benefit?

According to the 2021 census, there are 7,120 residents of Stockport who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. This number is now likely to be higher due to the redevelopment of many areas of Stockport which has seen more people drawn to living in the area. This number also does not take into account the number of LGBTQIA+ youth living within the Borough. Our services will benefit anyone who identifies as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, plus their friends, families and allies who may want to attend our workshops as part of supporting or living with an LGBTQIA+ individual.

The funds requested are designed to cover our first six in-person workshops targeted at a combined audience of 60 people. However, it is the aim that this becomes a self-sustaining rolling provision, adding additional activities and running for many years beyond.

In terms of the localities of these workshops, we are currently in advanced discussions to secure locations for the first sessions to be held within central Stockport, Cheadle, the Heatons, Bredbury, Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme but do hope to extend the provision to all Boroughs as the CIC grows.

10(b) Are there any restrictions on who will benefit from the funding?

Apart from one family friendly workshop, most of our workshops are not aimed directly at those under the age of 12. However, there will also be workshops for parents/carers of LGBTQIA+ youth.

11. Your Project's Budget

Please provide a breakdown of cost for your project including VAT where applicable and submit any estimates for the purchase of equipment or work to be done.

11(a) How much will the project/activity cost in total?

We estimate that the combined cost for the ten free workshops will be £1,294. We are requesting Ward Funding to cover £304 of this total cost. An itemised breakdown is provided below. Items in bold are those we are requesting Ward funding to cover.

Room hire per 2-hour workshop: £90	(Not covered by Ward funding)
Facilitator fee per 2-hour workshop: £75	(Not covered by Ward funding)
Flip chart stand:	£45 (one off purchase)
Large whiteboard:	£35 (one off purchase)
Flip chart paper:	£30 (consumable to cover 10-months of workshops)
Whiteboard/flip chart pens:	£9 (consumable to cover 10-months of workshops)
Printing of workbooks and resources: £90	(consumable to cover 10-months of workshops)
Craft materials for workshops: £65	(consumable to cover 10-months of workshops)
Tea/coffee/juice provision at workshops: £30	(consumable to cover 10-months of workshops)

We are requesting a further £366 to cover strategic advertising material to ensure we are visible within our target communities.

Leaflets:	£100 (consumable to cover 6-months)
Attendance at Stockport Pride:	£25 (one off purchase)
Gazebo for event attendance:	£150 (one off purchase)
Roller banner:	£91 (one off purchase)

11(b) Tell us about other any other sources of income you have already applied for or raised so far in relation to this project

This is our first funding application. We are in the process off gaining more 1:1 therapy clients to help us self-fund our strategic set up plan. We are also in the process of starting a Crowdfunder donation page.

12. How much are you applying for from the Ward Flexibility Budget?

£670

12(a) If the amount you are applying for covers only part of the project/activity, then please tell us how do you intend to fund any shortfall?

Our therapists work at a reduced rate so that we can offer our 1:1 therapy on a sliding scale payment system which allows service users to pay what they can afford. Any profit made goes back in to be/here mcr which we will then use to pay for room hire costs and the cost of group and workshop facilitators. Many of our group facilitators also do this at a reduced fee or on a voluntary basis in order to give back to the LGBTQIA+ community.

13. What is the planned timescale for spending this grant?

Start	April 2025
Finish	October 2025

3. Which Wards are you Applying to?

You may tick more than one box. Please note that no grant of more than £1,000 in totality will ordinarily be made.

Please tell us for each ward you wish to make an application to:-

- (a) how many people will benefit in that ward; and
 (b) what proportion of funding from your overall application you are seeking from each ward.

		Number of beneficiaries	How much funding you are seeking
Bramhall & Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee			
Bramhall North	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£71
Bramhall South & Woodford	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Cheadle Hulme South	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£71
Central Stockport Area Committee			
Brinnington & Stockport Central	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	50	£102
Davenport & Cale Green	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Edgeley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£71
Manor	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Cheadle Area Committee			
Cheadle East & Cheadle Hulme North	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£71
Cheadle West & Gatley	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Heald Green	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Heatons & Reddish Area Committee			
Heatons North	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£71
Heatons South	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£71
Reddish North	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Reddish South	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Marple Area Committee			
Marple North	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Marple South & High Lane	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Stepping Hill Area Committee			
Hazel Grove	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£35.50
Norbury & Woodsmoor	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Offerton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£35.50
Werneth Area Committee			
Bredbury & Woodley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£35.50
Bredbury Green & Romiley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25	£35.50
Totals		300	£670

This total should add up to the figure you provided in **Question 12**



Return to:
 Democratic Services
 Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE
democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk

4. Application Checklist and Declaration

1. I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the above organisation
2. I certify that the information contained in this application is correct
3. If the information changes in any way I will inform Democratic Services accordingly.
4. I give permission for Democratic Services to contact my organisation and/or myself by phone, mail or e-mail with information about its activities and funding opportunities.
5. I/ we agree (if required) to attend an Area Committee meeting to explain how the proposal will improve the environmental, economic or social wellbeing of the area and to answer any questions.
6. Our details can be used for promotional purposes should this request be successful
7. I/We will use this grant for the proposed project/activities stated in our application.
8. I/we will not use the grant for any other purpose prior to contacting Democratic Services in order to seek authorisation.
9. I/we will provide appropriate proof of expenditure to Democratic Services, within 12 months from the Grant being made.
10. I/we will highlight the support of the Area Committee in recent publicity material.
11. I/we agree to providing information to assist in the future monitoring of the effectiveness of the funding including reporting back to the Area Committee on how the grant has been spent and what difference it has made.
12. I/we agree that the content of this completed application form and any supplementary information provided may be published on the Council's website and other publications as part of the application process.

Print your name: Max Townley

Signature:

or if submitted electronically tick this box to signify your agreement to the above terms

Date: 27/03/2025

Return to:
Democratic Services
Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE
democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk