

# MAYOR OF LONDON

## Booklet 1 About our fund



Our Green Roots Fund



Easy Read booklet

# Who we are and what this booklet is about

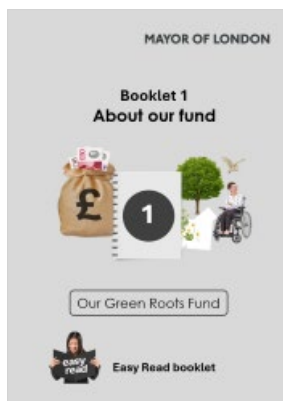
GREATER  
**LONDON**  
AUTHORITY

We are the **Greater London Authority**.

The Mayor of London is part of Greater London Authority.



We make sure London is a great place to live. We are in charge of services like housing and transport.

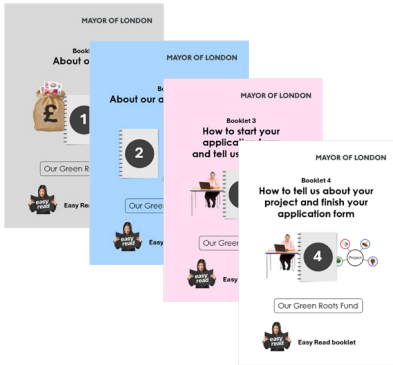


This booklet tells you about our **fund** called our Green Roots Fund.



A **fund** is a big amount of money that lots of organisations share. You can apply for a small amount of this money to do certain work.

# About our other booklets



We have 4 booklets that tell you about our fund and how to fill in the application form for our fund.

You do not have to read all the booklets at once. You can take breaks.

These are called

**Booklet 1. About our fund**

**Booklet 2. About our application form**

**Booklet 3. How to start your application form and tell us about you**

**Booklet 4. How to tell us about your project and finish your application form.**



We explain many difficult words and ideas in this booklet that we do not in the others.

# About our Green Roots Fund



We started our Green Roots Fund to make more **green spaces** and **blue spaces** in London.



**Green spaces** are places like parks, gardens and woodlands. They are not people's gardens.



**Blue spaces** are places like rivers, ponds and wetlands.



Green and blue spaces are important in busy cities like London.



They make people happy and healthy and give them a place to be together.



Green and blue spaces are homes to wildlife like bugs, birds and fish.



They also help with the bad effects of **climate change**.



**Climate change** is about the Earth getting hotter and our weather changing.



Trees, bushes and plants help make the air we breathe cleaner.



When it rains, areas with grass and plants can take in a lot of the water so roads and paths do not flood.



# What our fund is for



Our fund must be used to do projects that will make or look after green or blue spaces in London.



You must use our fund to do

- **implementation projects**
- **enabling projects.**



**Implementation projects** are when you do or make something.



**Enabling projects** are when you do or make something to help with a larger piece of work.

## Implementation projects are things like



- creating or fixing a green or blue space
- planting trees or cleaning a river.
- helping to bring more wildlife back to an area that no longer has as much
- making something that will help stop the bad effects of climate change.



## Enabling projects are things like

- working with people who live near a green or blue space to help make it better
- doing research
- teaching people to help look after green or blue spaces
- giving money to people who are doing their own projects
- finding out new ways to make or look after green or blue spaces.



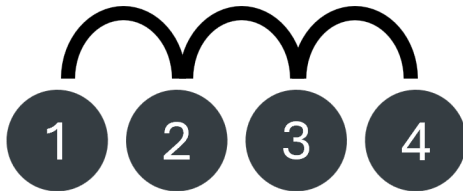
# What our fund is not for



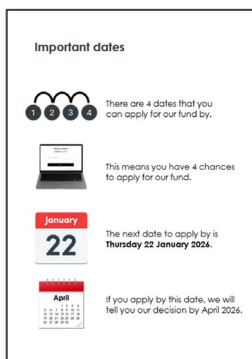
Our fund cannot be used for

- projects that are not about green or blue spaces
- projects that will take longer than 2 years
- work you have already done
- work that should be done by people who own the land
- projects outside of London
- buying land
- everyday costs of running your organisation. Like paying for your building
- projects that will only help a few people enjoy green and blue spaces.

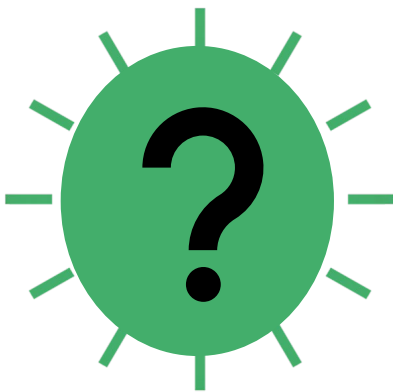
# Our priority themes



There are 4 dates that you can apply for our fund by. Each date is called a **round**.



We tell you more about these dates on page 16 of this booklet.



For each round we will have a new **priority theme**.



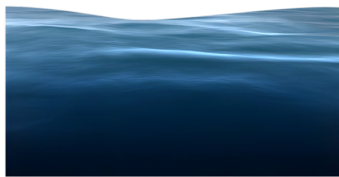
Our **priority themes** tell you about the work we really want to fund in each round.



Our priority themes help us to make sure we fund the right projects.



These are projects that will help problems that are the most important to fix right now.



Our priority theme for our next round is **clean and healthy waterways**.



**Waterways** are types of blue spaces that let the water move from one place to another. Like lakes, rivers or canals.



Around 30% of the projects we fund will be about looking after or making clean and healthy waterways.



We will still fund lots of other projects that are not about our priority theme.

# Who can apply for our fund



Our fund is for **public organisations** and **civil society organisations**.



**Public organisations** help everyone and their work is paid for by the government.



Like schools, councils and the NHS.



**Civil society organisations** help certain people and their work is not paid for by the government.



Like charities, housing associations, community interest companies and community groups.



Your organisation must be **not-for-profit**.

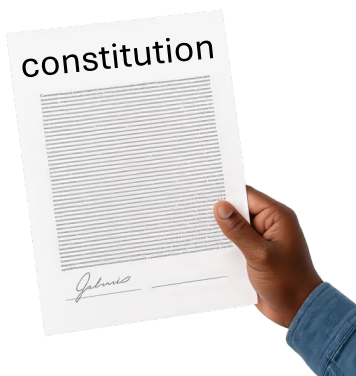
**Not-for-profit** means your organisation uses all the money it makes to do its work and pay staff.



You must be allowed to work on the green space.



You must be told you are allowed by the person that owns the land.



Your organisation must have a **constitution** and be allowed to start a contract with us.

A **constitution** is a document that explains how your organisation is run and who by.

# About your project



Your project must help people in London to enjoy green or blue spaces.



It must teach people about green or blue spaces and nature.



People in London should be involved in your project.



They should help you make decisions or take part in activities.



# If you apply with another organisation



Organisations can apply and work on a project together.



If you apply as two or more organisations, one of you must be the **lead organisation**.

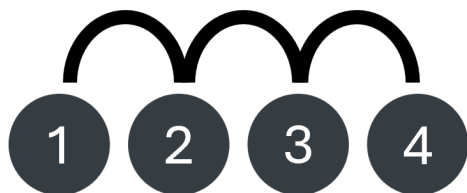
The **lead organisation** is in charge of the project and fund.



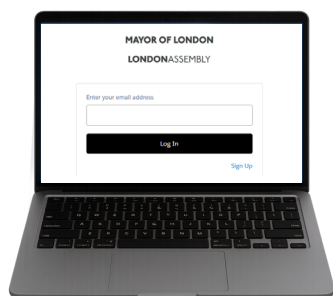
The other organisations are called **delivery partners**.

**Delivery partners** help with your project.

# Important dates



There are 4 dates that you can apply for our fund by.



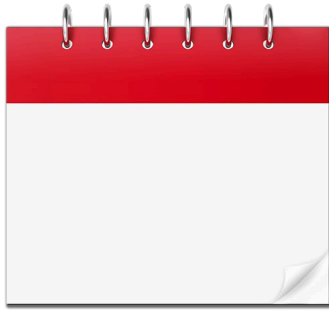
This means you have 4 chances to apply for our fund.



The next date to apply by is **Thursday 22 January 2026.**



If you apply by this date, we will tell you our decision by April 2026.



There will also be other dates in

- Summer 2026
- Winter 2026
- Summer 2026



You can apply for our fund for all 4 rounds if you want to.



You can only be lead organisation for 1 project in each round.



You can be a delivery partner for as many projects as you want in each round.



You can be a lead organisation and a delivery partner at the same time.

# How much you can apply for

£10,000  
↕  
£500,000

For each round, you can apply for any amount between ten thousand pounds and five hundred thousand pounds.



You can use the money to pay for things like

- building materials
- plants
- looking after trees
- small equipment or signs
- travel
- staff and **volunteers**
- people to do work for you
- events or activities
- posters, adverts or videos that tell people about your project and how they can take part.

**Volunteers** do not work for you. They help you with your project because they want to.



Some money should be spent on collecting information about your project.



We will use this information to check your project is going well.



In your application form, we will ask what your project **milestones** and **outputs** are.



Your **milestones** explain how you will do your project step by step. They can be important dates or the activities you will do.



Your **outputs** are the things you will make or that will happen by doing your project.



Make sure you choose milestones that you know you can do.



Every 6 months we will check how your project is going and if you are meeting your milestones.

£200,000

If we give you more than two hundred thousand pounds, you should get a company to do an **evaluation** of your project.



An **evaluation** is when they look at the information you have collected and decide if you will meet your milestones.



# Match funding



**Match funding** is the money you need to get from someone else if you get money from us. This might be from another fund.



Match funding is a way to make sure you get support and money from more than one place.



Your match funding needs to be at least 10% of the amount we give you.

£10,000

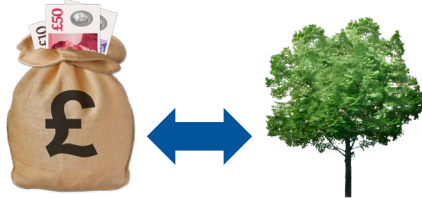


£1000

For example, if you ask us for ten thousand pounds you need to get a thousand pounds from someone else.



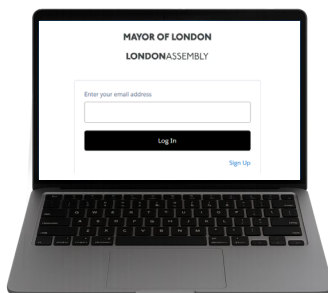
You can also get a type of match funding called **in kind match funding**.



**In kind match funding** is when you are not given money, but you are given something worth that amount of money.



Like if someone gives you their time to help with your project.



You do not need to have the match funding when you apply.



You do need to have the matching funding before we give you money from our fund.

Now read booklet 2  
about our application form