

Transformational Grants programme

A highly specialised programme to create
systemic change for Armed Forces communities

Frequently Asked Questions

Transformational Grants programme FAQs

Why will only a limited number of grants be awarded?

We are keen to ensure these grants are transformational and deliver systemic change that lasts well beyond the life of the grant. We ran a survey and a series of round table discussions in 2022/23. People told us that it was important to ensure that projects were adequately resourced to deliver transformational, sustainable change. This is why we are offering grants of up to £300,000. We are also enabling these grants to be spent over a period of up to five years. Enabling grants to deliver their activities for a longer period of time was an important topic raised in our consultation activities

Why is there a two stage application process?

We will be making complex grants to large projects. The expression of interest stage ensures that all organisations wishing to apply do not have to complete the detailed application form. Only a small number of applications with the strongest likelihood of success will be invited to submit a full application. We will assess the expressions of interest (and later, the full applications) against the criteria in our guidance.

Can you give an example of thematic areas where there is a strong evidence base that people with specific needs linked to mental health or other challenges do not currently have access to specific services that meet their needs?

There could be many examples of this and you would have to provide evidence of who this group is and why current service provision is not meeting their specific needs as members of the Armed Forces community. You will find on our website details of the grants we awarded for this programme in 2022/23, but please note that it is unlikely that grants will be awarded to address exactly the same themes in 2023/24.

The community that our project is seeking to work with has had limited opportunities to engage in formal consultations and we will need time and resource to work with this community to develop a full understanding of their barriers to accessing existing services, and to co-design a way forward. Could we do these activities in the first year of the grant?

Yes - you will need to give us evidence as to why you need to undertake these activities, but eligible activities include detailed scoping and consultation activities within the first year of the grant.

**On other grant funding programmes charities need to have existed for three years.
Why is this programme different?**

The Transformational Grants programme will make a very small number of grants for projects that will deliver systemic change to specific groups of people within Armed Forces communities who cannot currently access the services or support that they need. It will support innovative projects that have a national focus and can evidence that the project will deliver long term systemic change for specific, unmet needs within Armed Forces communities. It may be appropriate to consider funding applications from a range of organisations to identify projects that best meet the programme aims. If a newer organisation were to apply, they may be subject to additional monitoring requirements. There is more information in the programme guidance.