



COMMUNITY GRANTS PANEL

APPLICANT PACK 2025



Hello,

Thank you for your interest in applying to be a Manchester Pride Community Grant Panellist! As a grants panellist you will have the opportunity to make key decisions in the Manchester Pride Grants Programme, have a huge impact on the local LGBTQ+ community, and award grants to amazing projects taking place in Greater Manchester.

Our Grants Programme

Manchester Pride is one of the leading LGBTQ+ charities in the UK. We are most famous for our annual Festival celebrating LGBTQ+ life and culture in Greater Manchester and beyond. Not only does the festival provide a space to platform LGBTQ+ artists and let attendees celebrate their identities, but in addition a proportion of ticket sales go to our Community Fund which provides grants of up to £1000 to local charities and grassroots community groups.

Grants applications are open year round, and assessed through the year by an independent panel built of community members based in Greater Manchester. In 2023 the panel reviewed over 180 applications and awarded over £120,000 to our local community.

Our grants priorities and our prioritised communities are decided each year by the LGBTQ+ community in Greater Manchester through our Pride in Our Future survey.

THE COMMUNITY FUND

Grants from £250 - £1000 are available to support grassroots community groups and organisations. This fund is designed to support the activities of local community groups, voluntary groups and organisations that work towards improving the quality of life and well-being of LGBTQ+ people. Applications should include activities that are designed to support and include at least one of the following communities: LGBTQ+ disabled people, QTPOC, Trans people.

THE SUPERBIA FUND

Superbia is Manchester Pride's year-round calendar of Queer arts and culture. Grants from £250 - £1000 are available to support the staging of a Queer arts or cultural event or to bring to life a project or initiative with a message to challenge discrimination and raise awareness of LGBTQ+ issues. A Superbia Queer Arts Grant is enhanced with further promotional support from Manchester Pride and its Superbia initiative.

THE LOCAL PRIDES FUND

Grants from £250 - £1000 are available to provide support for particular projects within local Pride programming across Greater Manchester. Local Pride Grants can be enhanced with additional support from volunteers, promotion on our Superbia website, and signposting via our newsletter and social media.

THE IMPACT FUND

Co-designed with local LGBTQ+ charities and organisations, The Impact Fund benefits larger and longer-term projects supporting the welfare of LGBTQ+ people in Greater Manchester. The goal of this fund is to allocate vital funds to a broad array of initiatives that leave a meaningful imprint on our communities with grants of up to £10,000 available.

You can read more about the grants programme at these links:

<https://www.manchesterpride.com/grants>

<https://www.manchesterpride.com/grants-awarded>

<https://www.manchesterpride.com/community-grants-panel>



About Manchester Pride

Our Vision:

A world where LGBTQ+ people are free to live and love without prejudice and our culture is universally celebrated.

Our Mission:

To authentically celebrate and liberate LGBTQ+ communities in Greater Manchester and beyond so that we can all thrive.

Our Values:

Unity: Great things are achieved by working harmoniously to achieve our vision.

Liberation: Nobody's free until everybody's free.

Joy: Celebrate and take unrivalled pleasure in queer expression and our rich, diverse culture.

Our Goals:

- Stage an annual world class celebration of LGBTQ+ life in Greater Manchester
Maintain the position of the festival on its international platform, acting as a beacon for LGBTQ+ equality in Greater Manchester and throughout the world.
- Campaign for the advancement of LGBTQ+ equality & inclusion at home and abroad. Educate people of Greater Manchester and beyond to recognise, understand and challenge discrimination against LGBTQ+ people.
- Support grassroots projects and initiatives that encourage the wellbeing of LGBTQ+ people in Greater Manchester, in line with the priorities of our communities.

Role Title: Manchester Pride Grants Panel Member

Location: Manchester City Centre / Remote

Fee: Voluntary, expenses reimbursed

Term: 3 years

About the Role

To ensure that our Community Fund is distributed fairly and equally, grant applications are reviewed by an independent Grants Panel made of LGBTQ+ individuals based in Greater Manchester.

As a Grants Panel member you would be responsible for assessing applications to Manchester Pride's Grants. This includes reviewing grant applications, providing constructive feedback and ensuring that decisions are made that reflect the needs of our prioritised communities.

What do I do as a Grants Panel member?

Our Grants Panel's main duty is to provide authentic and transparent feedback to our Community Grant applications. This is done in 4 meetings spread through the year. Panellists are sent applications for review 2 weeks before a meeting, these are scored against a matrix that ensures our grants priorities and prioritised communities' needs are being met.

At a grants panel meeting, you will discuss if each application passed or failed the criteria for approval, and collaboratively make a decision on if the application is approved, or suggest recommendations and provide feedback for unsuccessful applicants. The panel's decision is recorded, and a member of the Manchester Pride team will let the applicant know if their application has been approved, or provide the feedback given by the panel.

Do I need previous experience of being on a grants panel?

No! As a new panel member you will be given suitable training and support, however any of the following skills and knowledge are desirable:

- Community knowledge: Having an understanding of Manchester's LGBTQ+ community, including our prioritised communities, a
- Analytical skills: The ability to critically evaluate application forms and be able
- Communication: The ability to clearly communicate your decision on applications alongside any constructive feedback for the applicant.
- Time management: Able to review applications ahead of the meetings and meet deadlines for providing feedback

Above all else, what we are looking for from a Grants Panel member is a connection with the local LGBTQ+ community and/or arts scene, a desire to make a difference, and someone who can champion our prioritised community groups.

How much time would I need to be a Grants Panel member?

Panel members commit approximately 5-10 hours per month, including reviewing applications and attending meetings.

Training and Support:

As a new member of the grants panel, you will receive an induction session to the programme and an opportunity to sit in on a panel meeting so you can understand the process. You'll be provided training on the application process, the scoring criteria and any relevant policies.

Support will always be available from our current Grants Panel members, and from the Manchester Pride Team.

Benefits:

- Contribute to the positive development and empowerment of local LGBTQ+ communities.
- Develop your skills in grant evaluation, decision-making, and teamwork.
- Gain insight into the needs and opportunities within the charity sector.
- Gain experience on a panel with responsibility for large budgets.
- Build networks within the charity, community and events sectors.

How do I apply?

To apply, please provide a written application outlining why you want to join the Community Grants Panel and the skills and experience you bring to the role (no more than one or two pages).

Upload your application to this form: <https://form.jotform.com/242623860264355>

Your application should include:

- Your connections to the grant programme's prioritised communities (QTPOC (queer, trans and intersex people of colour), LGBTQ+ disabled people and wider trans communities).
- Your understanding of the issues prioritised by Manchester Pride's grant programme: LGBTQ+ Mental Health, LGBTQ+ Wellbeing, Drug Addiction and Substance Misuse,, HIV Stigma and LGBTQ+ Sexual Health.

The deadline to apply is **Monday 3rd March**. If your application is successful, you will be invited to a group interview session on the evening of **Monday 17th March 2025**.