

## Equality grants criteria

Derby City Council is committed to equality of opportunity. We realise that some initiatives promoting good race relations and equality can cost money. To help voluntary organisations carry out equality initiatives, the Council has introduced an Equality grant. Groups can only apply once for an Equality grant in any one financial year. The grant can be up to £500.

To qualify for an Equality grant, you will need to follow all our general rules for grants from the Council. Your equality initiative should promote good race relations and equality of opportunity for **minority ethnic communities, women, disabled people facing discrimination, lesbians and gay men, people facing age discrimination or because of living with HIV/AIDS.**

You can apply for an Equality grant to pay for or help towards the cost of:

**equipment** - your group might want to buy a minicom so Deaf people can reach your service. You might want to hire some equipment, such as display boards to promote your equality initiative. Software computer packages are now available that can translate English into other languages. You might need help in paying for this.

**a service** - providing leaflets in large print, on audio tape and in languages other than English enables more people to access services and groups more easily. You may need an interpreter at one of your meetings, but cannot afford one, an Equality grant would help with the cost. Providing crèche facilities for your event cost money, so you might need a grant for this.

**an event** - you might want to put on some equality training courses to create more awareness about a particular equality issue, such as racism, sexism or disability. Putting on an 'Open Day' to promote your group might involve providing transport for some people. You can apply for an Equality grant towards these transport costs. You might want to put on an activity to promote understanding of the different cultures in Derby. An Equality grant could help with the cost.

**You do not have to be from a minority ethnic, women's or a disabled group to apply for a grant. Any voluntary group can apply so long as the money is to promote equalities within the organisation or in the community.**

You can apply for an Equality grant if...

- the project has not received an equality grant during this financial year
- the funding is not for an individual or if it is that it will benefit the organisation as a whole
- the grant will benefit a wider audience
- the grant does not include the provision of refreshments and food.

We want to offer groups the opportunity to access an Equality Grant, so groups that have not previously received an Equality grant will be given priority. Smaller grant applications of £50, £100, £200, and £300 will be encouraged. New organisations with projects requiring the maximum £500 may be supported with 100% of the grant.

Please feel free to contact the Area and Neighbourhood Unit on 258528 or textphone 258522, if you want to discuss your application before submitting it.