

BRITISH EQUESTRIAN
TOGETHER FUND GUIDANCE
AND CRITERIA



Background

The Together Fund is a continuation of the Tackling Inequalities Fund, which was set up in April 2020 as part of Sport England's support package to help the sport and physical activity sector through the pandemic. The focus of the fund for 2022/23 is to support the sector to recover and grow as we emerge from COVID.

Sport England is providing British Equestrian (BEF) with funding to distribute and support Equestrian centres, community groups and targeted organisations to provide riding activities aimed at engaging the following priority audiences:

- Lower socio-economic groups
- People with long-term health conditions
- Culturally diverse communities
- Disabled people (*please note the RDA also has Together Funding, so this is less of a focus for British Equestrian*)

Insight around these priority audiences shows that COVID has had, and is still having, a significant impact on their ability to be physically active, which has the potential to further widen the gaps in activity levels that already exist within these groups.

Focus of Sport England's Together Fund

- Supporting community organisations to reach and engage their audience in movement/physical activity, creating a line of sight to movement/physical activity/sport
- Supporting organisations to recover and grow in this period while acknowledging in some instances there will still need to be some support for immediate hardship

Key objectives

British Equestrian is looking to address a number of areas to maximise the impact of this funding and our key objectives are:

- To support organisations who are able to deliver new riding activities aimed at the priority audiences and connect better with the communities around them.
- To shape new ways of linking with these priority audiences.
- To address operational issues and hardship amongst riding centres (working with the priority audiences) still struggling to grow and recover from COVID.

British Equestrian's priority investment strands

Our priority investment strands include:

1. Building capacity and/or addressing hardship challenges that restrict riding centres from engaging with the priority audiences, as well as helping them to reach new audiences.
2. To further support and expand existing projects targeting specific audiences, such as faith groups
3. Initiatives around equine-assisted therapy projects
4. Assisting urban equestrian centres (inner city or wider urban locations) to build capacity and offer opportunities for people in their local communities.
5. Innovative projects in partnerships with targeted external stakeholders

We are keen to work with centres who are affiliated with or registered to our member bodies in order to support projects that meet the criteria of this fund, such as Changing Lives Through Horses or the Riding for the Disabled Association's Tea with a Pony. However, those organisations who are not affiliated to our member bodies but still meet the criteria are also welcome to apply for the Together Fund.

All projects need to demonstrate how they will get their target audience active through equestrian activities. We will facilitate this through a mix of open applications and a targeted approach. All organisations will need to complete the application process and meet the criteria for funding.

If you feel you can help us meet these objectives then please see the criteria detailed below and how you can get involved.



Eligibility

Who can apply?

- Projects aimed at the priority audiences
- Organisations must have a constitution in place
- Charities, social enterprises or similar are eligible to apply
- Riding centres licenced by their Local Authority

Who can't apply?

- Organisations promoting religious or political beliefs.
- Individuals
- Any commercial businesses or profit-making organisations, unless they are a social enterprise or community interest company.
- Sole traders
- Un-constituted organisations*

*It may be possible for you to link with another accountable body to support you or work in partnership with a charity/community group. They will need to act as the applicant and manage the funds for you.

Criteria

Alongside fitting into British Equestrian's priority areas detailed above, all applicants will need to respond to the following key Together Fund questions:

1. Will this investment impact upon at least one of the four priority audiences?
2. Has the requirement arisen as a direct result of this community group or audience being adversely affected as a result of COVID-19?
3. What issues does the funding help to resolve in improving access to take part in equestrian sport and activities for the target audience?
4. Will this investment help a community group to recover and grow or continue to survive as a result of hardship? If hardship, please set out in the application how this investment will enable the community organisation to continue beyond the immediacy of this short-term investment.
5. Is this project directly funding the provision of physical activity or if not, how will it support the delivery of physical activity in the immediate future?

What can funding be spent on?

Eligible items:

- Staff costs
- Training costs
- Coaching fees
- Rent / facility hire
- Utility costs
- IT costs
- Insurance

Ineligible items:

- Activities or costs which are already covered by other government funding, including rates
- Capital works – no fixed equipment items
- Activities promoting religious or political beliefs
- Where there is personal benefit to an individual
- Horses, feed, stabling and veterinary costs



How much can we apply for?

- A maximum of £10k is available for any single award. Please note, we would expect the majority of applications to be under £7k.
- Only one application per organisation.
- No single community organisation can be awarded an accumulative total of more than £30k across the fund period for Tackling Inequalities Fund and Together Fund
- Applications that duplicate funding already received from Sport England will not be able to receive funding from the Together Fund

Timescales

All projects will need to be completed by 31 March 2023. The application process will be open so you can apply at anytime, but please note there is a finite pot of funding, so once the funding has been allocated the pot will close. Therefore, we would advise you to submit your application as soon as possible.

Application process

All applicants will need to complete the British Equestrian Together Fund [online application form](#) and provide the following supporting governance documents:

- A copy of your governing document or constitution
- Your most recent annual accounts
- A copy of your safeguarding policy

Please note that all applications are subject to final approval by Sport England. All successful organisations will receive a partnership agreement and be expected to meet the monitoring and evaluation requirements for the British Equestrian Together Fund.

Your application will be stored securely in line with our [privacy policy](#).

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your project before submitting an application, please email Jemima Morris at togetherfund@bef.co.uk or call 07825 841070. If, for any reason, you are unable to complete the online application form in this format, then please contact togetherfund@bef.co.uk.



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