Cooperate Islington

Brilliant Coops Application Questions

If you have any questions, or would like to understand more about the programme before you apply, please email us at **support@cooperatesislington.com,** or send an SMS or WhatsApp message to 07444 106233.

Please be aware that the total pot is roughly £25, 000, and a lot of groups may apply, so the maximum you can apply for in Round 2 is £5000. The deadline for applications is 9am on Monday 16th May.

We would like to encourage groups to apply who plan to be trading entities rather than only receiving grant funding.

The Basics

1. Contact name:

2. Your role in the organisation:

3. Name of the group/ organisation:

For Established Businesses Only

If you are an established business, we also need the following information from you. This is to comply with funding criteria for this project.

1. Business Trading Address including postcode:

2. Unique identifier (preferably Company Reference Number (CRN)) if applicable. If not applicable, VAT Registration Number, SelfAssessment/Partnership Number, National Insurance Number, Unique Taxpayer Reference, Registered Charity Number will also be acceptable):

3. High level SIC Code (click here for guidance):

4. Date business established:

5. Number of employees:

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6. Business rates account number (if applicable):

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The Group

1. Website and/or Facebook page:

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2. Other social media info:

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3. When did your group start?

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4. Legal form and registered number (if incorporated e.g. Companies House number):

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5. How and to whom the organisation is accountable? Is your group independent or linked to other organisations? Please explain. **(max. 100 words)**

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6. How many people are in your group?

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7. Tell us a bit about who's actively involved in your group e.g. demographics, roles, experience, skills. We welcome applications from groups that are led by people who identify as women or people from ethnic minority backgrounds, as well as from other groups with less power in society such as disabled people or unemployed people. **(max. 250 words)**

8. Where is your group based? Where do you expect to trade, operate or make an impact? **(max. 100 words)**

9. If your organisation has a business address in the borough of Islington, or one of your members has a residential address within the borough, please provide it here.

Please note, if you do not have either you are still able to apply - so long as you can describe the impact your business would have in the borough. If successful, you would be required to register for use of our co-working building, Space 4, in Finsbury Park.

Your Work and Project Ideas

1. Is your work focused on (a) particular community/ies or issue, if so which? **(max. 20 words)**

2. What are your regular activities so far (if any)? **(max. 150 words)**

3. What is your cooperative business idea? What do you want to do? What do you want to achieve? If you are an existing business, what are the ways in which you want to develop? **(max. 250 words)**

4. Do you have a timescale in mind? e.g. we hope to open the women's bike shop by the end of 2023. If you have a project plan or more details about your plans please provide these here or send them as attachments (no more than 4 pages). However, it is fine if you don't have loads of detail yet. **(max. 100 words)**

5. What is your understanding of cooperative enterprise, values and principles? How do these relate to your project/group? **(max. 250 words)**

6. Will the cooperative business idea involve use of land or a building? If so, please provide details:

What Advice You Need

1. What support or advice do you need? For example, governance, decision-making, legal forms, fundraising, membership etc. **(max. 150 words)**

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2. How will your group internally manage and organise receiving the advice, support and grant? (e.g. who will attend the support meetings and trainings?) **(max. 150 words)**

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Your Financial Information

You will automatically receive a participation grant of £500* towards covering your time engaging in the programme. This will be paid if your application is successful, and you have signed our support agreement.

* If you have already applied in Round 1 and received the £500 participation payment, you will not receive this again in Round 2.

Please note, we accept support only or support + grant applications – so please be aware you do not need to apply for funds if these are not necessary.

1. Do you wish to also apply for a grant from Cooperate Islington? If so, how much additional money are you asking for?

   Please note that the maximum grant is £5000 - however we may well be unable to meet your full grant request as our funds are limited.

2. What will you spend this money on? This does not have to be exactly how you end up spending the money but it gives us an idea. Please break this down as much as possible into areas, such as '£200 will be used for publicity materials'.

   If you have more detailed financial projections, please feel free to include these here or send this as an attachment. It's not necessary to have these, but if you happen to have more detail that you can send please feel free.

3. Is your group or has your group previously been in receipt of grant or other material support, or enterprise advice? If so, please provide details:

4. Does your group intend to apply to other support providers in the future? If so, please provide details:

5. Do you have a bank account for your organisation? **Yes/ No**

If so, please include your details below. If not, you are still able to receive a grant and support through this programme. We have arranged a way of paying groups without bank accounts and can support with setting up a bank account if that is something your group may be interested in. Please indicate if you would like advice and support to set up an account.

Name and address of bank:

Account Name:

Account Number:

Sort Code:

Do you want support setting up a bank account?:

Last Question

1. How did your group hear about this opportunity? This helps us to improve our outreach to as many people as possible.