

VISIONS FOR NORTHOLT

Floating Community Room, Venue grants

Application Guidelines, August 2023

Apply for £5,000 - £20,000 to improve your community venue on and around the Racecourse Estate in Northolt!

Introduction

The Floating Community Room Programme will bring together local people and activate existing community spaces across the Racecourse Estate.

A total of £65,000 Venue grants funding is available for venues that are part of the Floating Community Room network to improve accessibility to their venue on or around the Racecourse Estate.

We have also launched an Activity grants programme for local people to run events in Floating Community Rooms. You can find out more about this opportunity [here](#).

What is a Floating Community Room?

These are existing community spaces in and around the Racecourse Estate that could be activated to host community activities. The aim is to support existing venues to generate income and increase community involvement across the estate.

Sign-up to become a Floating Community Room by emailing visionsfornortholt@ealing.gov.uk. There is no charge to become part of the network. We are here to support you and your venue to thrive. As a Floating Community Room, you will receive promotional support and agree to:

- Be featured on an online platform, including booking information
- Host and maintain a notice board advertising Floating Community Room activity (provided and installed at no cost in agreement with the operator)
- Display signage/ branding showing they are a Floating Community Room (provided and installed at no cost in agreement with the operator)

You do not need to apply for or secure Venue Grants funding to be a Floating Community Room. For example, some venues may just want the promotional support.

Who can apply for this grant?

Applicants should be based on or around, or serve the Racecourse Estate, including:

- Voluntary and community organisations
- Constituted group or clubs
- Registered charities
- Charitable incorporated organisations
- Not-for-profit companies
- Community interest companies
- Schools
- Community benefit societies

What are we funding?

This funding can be used to pay for:

- Costs related to extending your existing offer, including changes to your opening times and managing external bookings (e.g. additional staff costs)
- Minor building works to improve your space so you can host a diverse range of activities
- Accessibility improvements (e.g. ramped access)

Applications that focus on one or more of the following objectives will be prioritised:

- Make existing venues more accessible to a diverse range of community members
- Make existing venues more flexible to host a range of different activities
- Improve the environmental performance of venues and reduce running costs
- Support the local economy, by sourcing materials and labour locally
- Support skills and training, by involving local volunteers or employing local people
- Contribute to a long-term vision and sustainable business plan for the venue, beyond the 12-month programme

We are offering technical support to develop your application, including a meeting with Architect Alison Crawshaw. Please email visionsfornortholt@ealing.gov.uk with the subject 'Floating Community Room - Venue Grants Support' to request this support.

How to apply

Get started on your application today!

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| 1 | Download an Application Form |
| 2 | Review the Frequently Asked Questions . |
| 3 | Speak to a team member to discuss your project ideas and any queries by 1pm Friday 1 September 2023. Please email visionsfornortholt@ealing.gov.uk with the subject 'Floating Community Room - Venue Grants Support'. |
| 4 | Submit application form to visionsfornortholt@ealing.gov.uk by midnight Friday 15 September 2023. |
| 5 | Receive the outcome via email by midnight Friday 6 October 2023. |
| 6 | Successful applicants contacted to finalise proposal and grant agreement. |
| 7 | Delivery of works anticipated November 2023 – April 2024. |

Applications will be scored as follows:

| Criteria | Weighting |
|---|-----------|
| Objectives: The extent to which your proposal delivers against one or more of the objectives above. | 40% |
| Training: The extent to which your proposal provides volunteering and training opportunities for those involved. | 10% |
| Deliverability: The extent to which your proposal is deliverable, including a cost breakdown, project plan and risk assessment. | 30% |
| Accessibility: The extent to which your proposal is inclusive and accessible for different groups with protected characteristics . | 20% |

Successful applicants must commit to:

To make your venue available for potential community bookings for a minimum of 6 hours a week for a minimum of 35 weeks over a 12-month period.

Hire charges for these bookings must be reasonable, representative of the space available and comparable to similar spaces nearby.

You can set out any restrictions on use of your venue in the application form. Staff costs associated with this extended use are eligible for grant funding and you may wish to create a new staff post to enable this. It is important to ensure that any new activities do not negatively impact your existing offer.