

HOW?

Funding applications – some good practice ideas

There are a number of things that you can do to help your funding application stand a greater chance of success.

What you are proposing must be in line with what the funder wants

Target your application carefully, otherwise you are wasting your time and theirs. Use IVAC and other advice services to help you identify relevant funders.

Highlight positive things about your organisation

How do you implement equal opportunities?
How do you involve your users in the management of your project/organisation?
How does your management committee represent the users? Demonstrate that your group is financially sound.

Highlight positive things about your proposal

The project has clear objectives, a thorough and reasonable work plan and sensible exit strategy, demonstrate experience of managing this kind of work.

Accurate Budget

This is essential. See the separate HOW? guidance sheet.

Composition

Write your proposal with constant reference back to the criteria of the funder. Use language they use, demonstrate at every turn how your proposal will fulfil what they are looking for, and how you are the best group to do this work, how you will provide added value, and high quality work.

Monitoring & Evaluation

This is covered in more depth in the separate

HOW? Guidance sheet, and it is a very important part of your proposal, as this is how you ensure and demonstrate the quality of your work. It will provide the basis of a report, evidence of your organisation's effectiveness, and will also prove useful in your next application.

Avoid

Most funders will not give you money to replace core funding or statutory funding. If your group has suffered cuts, it may be necessary to reconsider the structure of your workplan to adapt to the new financial environment. For example, this could mean moving to a service delivery model or a project model.

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Who are we?

High Peak CVS works to ensure that local voluntary and community groups can access as much support, advice and information as possible. We help groups in many different areas, such as funding, charity registration, practical services including printing, training and links to training and with legal issues. We have resources, including a meeting room, computers and OHP for use by groups.

To find out how we can help you, please contact us on 01663 735 350 or email hello@highpeakcvs.org.uk Visit us at www.highpeakcvs.org.uk



HOW? Guides are written by High Peak CVS, for use by voluntary and community groups across the High Peak.

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