

**FAQs from our ‘Early Support Hubs’ webinar**

**GENERAL**

1. **How do I apply?**You can submit an expression of interest form until 9th September at 2pm. The form will ask for your contact details, basic organisational details (reg numbers, income), followed by a 200 word space to tell us about what happens in your hub, 200 words to tell what you’d like to spend this funding on, and 150 words each to describe evidence of impact you’ve gathered and how you’re connected to other local services.
2. **Can we submit more than one application?**No.
3. **What is the total grant pot for this funding round? How many awards to you expect to make?** The total grants pot is £1.5 million, and we expect to award 3-4 large grants of different sizes.
4. **How much can I apply for?**We won’t make awards less than £250k (so please don’t apply) and are unlikely to award more than £500k in one grant.
5. **When does the programme/evaluation need to start by?**Your project should be ready to start within a few months of the grant being awarded in December 2024.
6. **How many organisations do you expect to invite to stage 2?**
4-5.
7. **Over what time period will the grants run?**You can apply for a grant period of up to 24 months.
8. **When will I know if we’ve been successful?**You will know if you are invited to submit a second stage application by the end of September. If invited, you will know if you have been awarded a grant by early December. Please see the webpage for a full timeline.
9. **I can’t see the application link on your website, or I can’t submit the expression of interest!**

Please clear your cookie cache, refresh the page or try another browser. Please do get in touch with us if you are still having difficulties at grants@theprudencetrust.org.

**ORGANISATIONAL ELIGIBILITY**

1. **We already have a Prudence Trust grant, can we apply? Will this affect our likelihood of success?**You can apply even if you already hold a Prudence Trust grant. Your existing grant will be considered as part of the competitive assessment process.
2. **Are Community Interest Companies (CICs) eligible?**

Yes.

1. **Can new charities access funding?**

Unfortunately, new charities will not be able to apply as organisations must have a proven track record of at least three years in delivering drop in hubs.

1. **Are there lower or upper size limits of applicant organisation as part of eligibility?**

For this opportunity, organisations must have a minimum income of £1 million. There is no upper limit.

1. **We received funding through the recent government early support hubs funding opportunity. Can we still apply?**
Yes, if you meet our other criteria.
2. **Does the funding cover England only or can projects be UK-wide?**
Funding can cover any part of the UK. We would particularly welcome applications from underserved areas such as coastal towns or rural locations.

**PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

1. **Are partnership/ consortium bids eligible to apply?**Partnership or consortium applications are welcome, but the lead applicant must meet all three of the eligibility criteria: a registered UK charity or CIC, have a £1 million + income, and have at least three years’ experience delivering drop-in hub services.

**BENEFICIARIES**

1. **We support people of many ages, including many young people. Can we apply?**Our focus is on young people aged 11-25. The services you deliver must be to support mostly young people. I.e. we understand if your programme includes a small number on either side of that age range but the primary group supported should be young people.
2. **Are you accepting applications from services which target specific groups of young people?**We will accept applications targeting specific group of young people, for example from particular demographics or neurodiverse young people, providing they meet the other criteria. We expect most of the grants will not be to support targeted groups.
3. **What if some of our target beneficiaries fall outside of 11-25 years?**A significant proportion of beneficiaries reached must be 11-25 years.
4. **Does the project have to be for the whole age range?**No, the service does not need to be offered to the whole age range.

**PROJECT TYPE**

1. **Can I apply for service delivery costs?**Yes.
2. **Can I apply for funding of a new support hub?**Yes. As long as *your organisation* has at least three years’ experience delivering drop-in services, the hub project you want funding for can be newer than this.
3. **Does the hub I want funding for need to be in one location? You ask for an address in the application form.**No, you can apply for funding for several hubs across many locations. Please give us the address as an indication where one hub is.
4. **Does a hub need to be a physical ‘bricks and mortar’ space? We have an online hub.**Yes. For the purpose of this opportunity, we are seeking real life physical spaces where young people can go to seek support.
5. **Can a drop-in service include online or telephone support?**Yes, but for the purpose of this opportunity your hub must *at least* include a physical drop in space.
6. **What kind of services qualify?**Hubs offer many services, which all play a role in supporting young people and preventing distress. These could include career advice, benefits advice or sexual health support. This range of services is important, as the hub should be a stigma free place. However, the Prudence Trust will only consider funding hubs that count mental health support among their services.
7. **Do you have a preferred outcome measurement tool used for evaluating young peoples mental health / improvements in mental health?**We don’t have a preferred scale, organisations should use a scale that works for them, but you may find it helpful to use existing standard scales that allow for comparison.
8. **Can we apply for capital funding for a hub?**Yes.
9. **Are there minimum hours a hub must be open for ‘drop-in’ to be eligible?**No, we have not set any minimum hours for this opportunity. But we are seeking spaces that are welcoming and accessible for young people.
10. **Do you have a preference for funding an external evaluation versus an internal team?**Whichever makes sense for your organisation.

**FINANCIAL**

1. **Can we ask for overheads?** Yes.
2. **What counts as match-funding?** Match funding can be from any source – other funders or your own reserves. Please note match funding is not a requirement, however, it will be viewed favourably.
3. **Are there limits on how much you can apply for as a percentage of our annual income?** Yes, we won’t consider requests for an annual grant amount that is more than 20% of your annual income. For example, if your income is £1 million, you can apply for a maximum of £200k per year. i.e. a maximum grant of £400k over 24 months.



1. **When do funds have to be fully spent?**
Within 24 months of the grant period starting.
2. **Can we include cost of leadership time in application?**
Yes.
3. **Can we apply for some costs towards the development of monitoring and evaluation tools and systems?**
Yes.

**FUTURE FUNDING**

1. **If our application to this round is unsuccessful, will we still be able to apply to future funding rounds this year / next year?**Yes.
2. **If we are not eligible for this round, how can we find out more about future rounds, and/or, can we send you an expression of interest if we fit your other aims?**
Sign up to our mailing list. We send emails very infrequently.
3. **Will you be funding preventative / early intervention work?**
Yes, we will.
4. **Will you provide funding beyond the UK in the future?**No. We are only able to offer grants to projects in the UK.

If your query has not answered above, please read the opportunity webpage or get in touch at grants@theprudencetrust.org.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN APPLYING TO OUR FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:**  **‘EARLY SUPPORT HUBS 2024’**