

Grant Programme Guidelines

ICB Gloucestershire Communities Against Cancer

1. About the Programme

ICB Gloucestershire Communities Against Cancer

The Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board (ICB) Cancer Team would like to work more closely with Gloucestershire voluntary organisations with the aim of improving early cancer diagnosis in underserved communities.

The ICB are partnering with Gloucestershire Community Foundation to run a programme of funding over 2025 and 2026 to support projects in this area.

This collaborative programme aims to improve awareness around early cancer diagnosis and reduce health inequalities across Gloucestershire by working in close partnership with charitable, voluntary, community and faith organisations. It will focus on underserved communities including asylum seekers, refugees, migrants, travellers, sex workers, LGBTQ+, veterans, farmers, and those experiencing homelessness.

Vision: To improve early cancer diagnosis and address health inequalities among underserved populations in Gloucestershire, ensuring that everyone has equitable access to life-saving cancer screening and diagnostic services.

Mission: To enhance awareness, access, and trust in cancer screening services by collaborating with community-based organisations. The project aims to increase cancer screening uptake, ensure earlier diagnosis, and reduce health disparities through culturally competent communication and sustainable partnerships.

Importance of Early Diagnosis

The below infographics from Cancer Research UK demonstrate the value and importance of early diagnosis for improving health outcomes and survival rates for different types of cancer as well as the likelihood of different types of cancer being diagnosed early:

SURVIVAL AND STAGE OF DIAGNOSIS

TEN-YEAR SURVIVAL FOR EIGHT TYPES OF CANCER COMBINED

DIAGNOSED EARLY
(STAGE I + STAGE II)



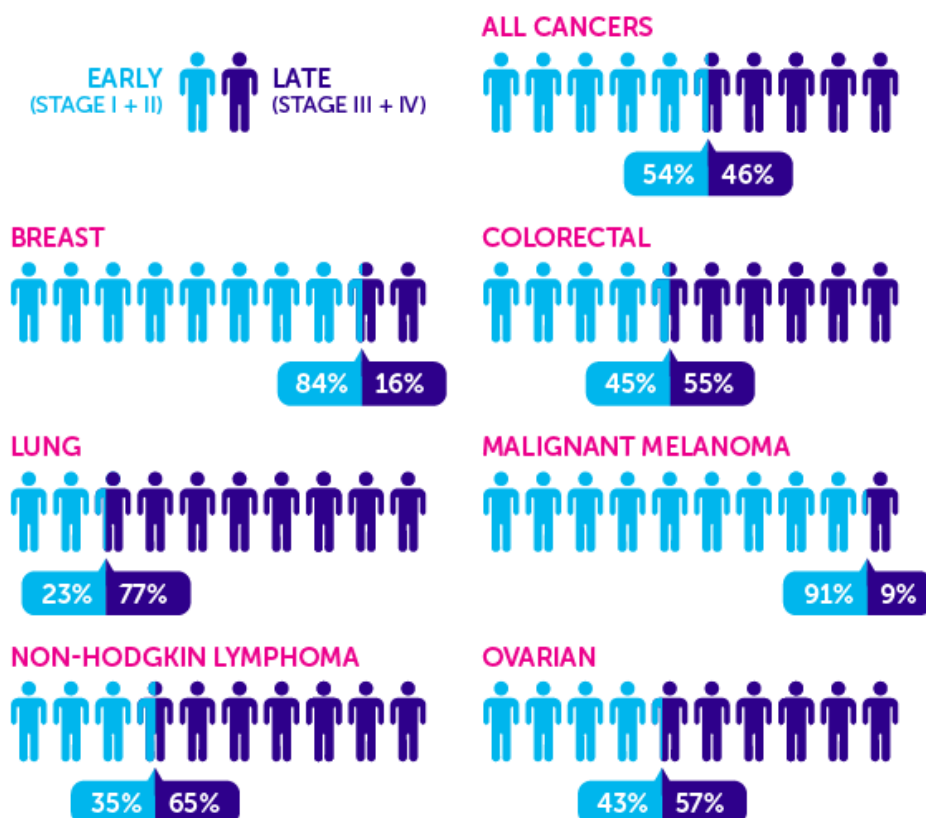
**SURVIVAL IS
MORE THAN
THREE TIMES
HIGHER WHEN
CANCER IS
DIAGNOSED
EARLY**

DIAGNOSED LATE
(STAGE III + STAGE IV)



EARLY AND LATE CANCER DIAGNOSIS

STAGE OF CANCER WHEN DIAGNOSED, ENGLAND 2013



Gloucestershire Community Foundation

Gloucestershire's local funding partner, our aim is to help Gloucestershire to become a place where people and communities thrive and are empowered to become resilient and strong.

Gloucestershire Community Foundation (GCF) manages a portfolio of funds on behalf of individuals, companies, charitable trusts and statutory agencies. Out of these funds GCF makes grants to good causes in the County of Gloucestershire.

We build knowledge of our local communities' needs through our annual Vital Signs research as well as our work to support grassroots community groups. We work with key partners who can deliver solutions locally and we act as a trusted broker between donors and the voluntary and community sector in Gloucestershire.

2. What is the funding for?

This collaborative programme will support activities that improve awareness around early cancer diagnosis and help to reduce health inequalities across Gloucestershire.

It will focus on underserved communities including asylum seekers, refugees, migrants, travellers, sex workers, LGBTQ+, veterans, farmers, and those experiencing homelessness.

Examples of the type of work that could be funded include:

- Sharing information and resources about how to access cancer screening services
- Open up conversations about screening services
- Deliver information regarding cancer risk factors, signs and symptoms
- Training to ensure that staff and volunteers are equipped to encourage clients to attend medical/screening appointments and how these can be accessed by vulnerable people.

3. Who can apply?

This programme is for voluntary and community groups with charitable aims. These can include:

- Registered Charities or Charitable Incorporated Organisations
- Community Interest Companies
- Constituted Associations
- Sports Clubs
- Faith-based groups
- PTAs

Applicant organisations should have at least three unrelated Committee Members, Trustees or Board Members and a bank account in the name of the organisation with at least two unrelated signatories, or must be working in partnership with an organisation that can meet these criteria, to receive a grant payment.

Applicants must be based and working in Gloucestershire.

Applicants must be available to attend a half day training session on Thursday 5th of November.

Year 2 (2026) will be delivered as a second year of funding available to the successful applicants from the 2025 round of funding and will be by invitation only.

Please see below for additional notes about the organisations we support:

Community Interest Companies (CICs)

We will consider applications from Community Interest Companies (CICs) that:

- Demonstrate they have clear charitable purposes and that their work has a defined social benefit.
- Are registered with Companies House
- Have three or more unrelated directors
- Have an appropriate 'asset lock' clause in the Articles of Association showing that your organisation's assets will be distributed to a named not-for-profit organisation with similar charitable aims in the event of closure
- Are Companies Limited by Guarantee, as opposed to Companies Limited by Shares
- The salaries and benefits of any paid directors are approved by a majority of non-executive directors and are reasonable and proportionate to the work they do and

- the financial position of the organisation
- In addition to the above, to be eligible, non-charity social enterprises must provide a plan explaining how the organisation is or aims to be financially resilient with trading as a core part of its income. If we agree the plan is appropriate for the social enterprise's age and size, we can consider applications for: reasonable direct costs of services that address a new or unmet community need, or which provide new ways of addressing issues; building the organisation's capacity to develop and run such services.

Here are links to some useful information from the Office of the Regulator of Community Interest Companies:

- [How to form a CIC](#)
- [Community Interest Companies: Guides](#)

Statutory Organisations

The focus of this project is to develop partnership working between the NHS and voluntary, community, charitable and faith groups. Therefore, we won't fund work that statutory bodies (such as schools, GPs, hospitals or local authorities) have a duty to provide. We do not fund work that duplicates or substitutes these activities. This programme has been established

Reserves/Organisation Size

There is no limit to the size of organisation that may apply to Gloucestershire Communities Against Cancer Programme and no limit on the level of reserves held as this programme is about finding the most suitable organisation/s to deliver the programme activities.

The focus of this project is to develop and improve partnership working between the NHS and voluntary, community, charitable and faith groups so the panel may prioritise groups and applications working towards this goal or where strong relationships do not already exist.

4. How much do we award?

In the first year of the project, we have a total of £75,000 of funding to use for the project (including administration costs)

Grant applications can be between £10,000 and £15,000.

Applications may be as partnerships between other invited organisations who participated in the 2025 round but must have a lead applicant for the application who will be responsible for receipt of the grant.

6. Exclusions (what the funds cannot be used for)

- Activities or projects for the benefit of people outside Gloucestershire
- Activities or work that are not linked to improving health inequalities for early cancer diagnosis
- Political groups or activities promoting political beliefs.
- Activities promoting religious beliefs
- Projects that take place before an application can be processed
- Grants to individuals applying for personal benefit or sole traders
- Grants to statutory groups including healthcare providers, councils, parish councils, schools, colleges and universities

7. How to apply

The 2026 round is by invitation only and invitees will be provided with the following link to complete an online application process:

<https://gloucestershirecf.my.site.com/fundseekerportal/a0uTw000007C1CP>

The link can also be shared with colleagues, or other parties, if more than one person needs to contribute to the form.

As part of the online application process, you will be asked to attach the following supporting documents:

- A constitution/governing document/set of rules, that sets out the purpose of your organisation and how it is managed.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records (if not already publicly available). If you do not have financial records that cover a full year, then you can provide us with a summary of the information you do have.
- A safeguarding policy including a process for reporting concerns, guidance for identifying risks/definitions of abuse and the name and contact details of a designated safeguarding lead within your organisation.
- A copy of a recent bank statement or other evidence of a bank account in the name of your organisation. The bank account must have at least 2 signatories.

Gloucestershire Community Foundation introduced their new online application portal in Jan 2026 – first time users will need to register as a new user. If you experience any difficulty or would like to explore other ways of making your application, please contact:

GCF Grants Manager, Faye Hennessy

E-mail grantsmanager@gloucestershirecf.org.uk

Tel **07444 124390**.

8. What will happen next?

Once we have received a full application it will be assessed by a member of GCF staff. They may contact you for further information or to arrange to meet to discuss the application in more detail. Applications will be considered by a Grants Panel comprising Members of the ICB Cancer Team, A GCF Trustee, community representatives and Cancer Patient Reference Group representatives.

The 2026 timeline for selection is as follows:

- Monday 24th of August - launch of the 2026 round (by invitation).
- Tuesday 15th of September – deadline for online applications
- Wednesday 7th October – ICB Grant Panel Meeting
- Thursday 21st October – all applicants to be notified of the panel decisions, grant offers sent to successful applicants and feedback provided to unsuccessful applicants
- Thursday 5th of November (TBC/1pm) - mandatory group training session for all successful applicants to learn about the early signs of cancer, available screening services and receive resources available to support the project.
- 6 month (May 27) drop in webinars for grantees share feedback on how the funded projects are progressing

Please note, the decision of the Grants Panel is final, and there is no right to appeal (please refer to sections 9 and 10 of our [Grant Making Policy](#)).

9. Monitoring and evaluation

As part of the full application which forms part of the funding agreement, a set of outputs will be agreed to monitor progress of the project and activities. A schedule of review meetings/calls will be agreed as well as opportunities to feedback to the group at our 6th webinar.

At the end of the grant a report on the outcomes and impact of the funding will be requested, this will be an online form with opportunities for grantees to provide their own additional information in a format that suits them.

The project steering group may also request participation in a small and simple set of survey that can be used across the project organisations to try to gather some universal data about how the programme has supported people to better understand the support available to them and how to access it.

10. How we collect and hold your data

The personal information collected via the application form is collected to solicit and process applications for grants from GCF. All information is collected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA), and the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR). By completing an application form, you are giving consent for the information to be collected and for GCF to communicate with you/your organisation. We hold all personal information on our secure Customer Relationship Management database; grant related information is disclosed to grant panel members and to donors. We publish lists of grants awarded, and we use data in our publicity, but we anonymise details of any individual grantees. If you feel that any other information about your application or project should not be made publicly available, please contact us to discuss this.

Please refer to our Privacy Policy at <https://www.gloucestershirecf.org.uk/privacy-policy>

13. Need more information?

If you need more information about the Grants Programme please contact:

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Post: The Manor, Boddington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 0TJ

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