



Big Issue Invest: brief for Inclusion Partners for the *Social Enterprise Support Fund* for social entrepreneurs

The Social Enterprise Support Fund launched in 2021 is delivered by a consortium of 5 partners (Big Issue Invest, UnLtd, Resonance, School for Social Entrepreneurs and The Key Fund) working across the social enterprise sector to support entrepreneurs to rebuild and recover their businesses following the Covid-19 pandemic.

The fund will provide grants and non-financial support to social enterprises and charities within England. The fund aims to support approximately 500 social enterprises, for 12 months, focused on ensuring equitable and inclusive delivery of support.

Big Issue Invest is looking for 4 Inclusion Partners to help us reach the most impactful social entrepreneurs in your field or area. You would be supporting us with outreach efforts during a period before the SESF Application Portal opens for the second round of application submissions.

Our priority areas are London, North West, South East and East of England.

We are looking for partners with diverse-led Boards and senior management teams to reflect our ambition to ensure our outreach is equitable, diverse and reaches organisations that face barriers in applying for grant funding. We also welcome partners who reach communities who are using their lived experience of a social issue to lead change.

To do this, we want to connect with the enterprises you work with, especially those working with marginalised communities (ie Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic, LGBTQIA+, disabled) and those who have the best solutions to loneliness, community resilience and long term economic, social and cultural health. The new fund's priority areas for communities are:

- Managing poverty, debt management (e.g., tackling inequality, homelessness)
- Enabling routes back to employment (e.g., skills and job training, access to vacancies, job creation)
- Overcoming educational disadvantage (e.g., helping disadvantaged children and young people catch up)
- Improving physical health (e.g. working with sufferers of long COVID, or existing health conditions worsened by COVID)
- Improving mental health (e.g., young and older people, bereavement, domestic and child abuse, addiction)

We are offering Inclusion Partners a fee of up to £1,200 for their time for signposting social entrepreneurs operating in London, North West, South East and East of England to the online portal.

We are inviting expressions of interest briefly outlining:



- Your role in building resilience in your geography, focusing on your track record of working with marginalised communities;
- Your ideas for developing an inclusive pipeline for social enterprises and charities to access the funding and support;
- Your approach to identifying the key needs of marginalised communities to restart and recover from the effects of the pandemic;
- How you are representative of and embedded in one or more marginalised communities.
- An outline of your timeline and budget for the fee.

If you are interested in applying for this role, please complete a short Expression of Interest form accessible through [this link](#) at latest by noon on

7th of February 2022.

(Please copy-paste this link into your browser if the link above does not work:

<https://zfrmz.eu/GS9hq9vaxeI5KSaiXZgH>)

In case you have any questions that you would like to discuss with us, please contact Stepan Zelinger at Stepan.Zelinger@bigissueinvest.com

Requirements

Expressions of interest will be assessed using the following criteria, using a scale of 1 (excellent level of evidence) to 5 (little or no evidence):

1. Existing networks across multiple communities, and relationships with relevant social enterprises that would benefit from financial and non-financial support, in the context of the ongoing pandemic and broader financial turbulence
2. Existing networks of social entrepreneurs and charities who represent the most marginalised communities in England, specifically in **London, North West, South East and East of England**
3. Proven track record of developing and/or working with social organisations in line with our Inclusion Targets (see below)
4. Demonstrable understanding of the economic landscape and impact of the pandemic on the most marginalised communities, specifically in **London, North West, South East and East of England**



NOTES

SESF Inclusion Targets

Recognising the additional barriers that many organisations face in terms of accessing support, the project's diversity and inclusion goals will enable the Fund to focus on providing funding as well as non-financial support to diverse-led social enterprises.

National targets

We will endeavour to meet the following goals at national level:

- Award more than 50% of grants to organisations led by people who are from a Black, Asian, minority ethnic background and/or are disabled.
- Award more than 6.6% of grants to organisations led by people identifying as LGBTQIA+ based on national estimates of representation.
- Award at least 50% of grants to organisations led by people who are women and/or non-binary gendered or intersex.
- Award at least 60% of grants to organisations working in the 40% most deprived communities
- Prioritise proposals that demonstrate the leadership's lived experience of the issues they are seeking to address.
- Seek to ensure fair regional distribution of the grants, so the people from across England benefit from the funding.

Regional targets

We will also endeavour to meet the following goals at regional level:

- Make awards to organisations led by people living with a disability or long-term health condition in proportion to estimates of regional representation.
- Make awards to organisations led by people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds at 1.5 times the estimates of regional representation.
- Make awards to organisations led by people who have personal experience of the social issue that the organisation is seeking to address, at double the rate of regional socio-economic disadvantage.

