

Tampon Tax Q&A – September 2019

What is the Tampon Tax Community Fund?

The Tampon Tax Fund allocates funds generated from the VAT on sanitary products to projects to improve the lives of disadvantaged women and girls. DCMS manages the overall allocation of this funding and the policy on how it is used.

UK Community Foundations (UKCF) applied to DCMS for a large grant to set up the Tampon Tax Community Fund, working with its network of Community Foundations to support projects and services run by local groups specifically benefitting women and girls. This is the second time UKCF has secured this funding and we have again received the largest allocation in this round.

Groups anywhere across the UK can apply, and they should refer to the UKCF website to see which Community Foundation nearest to them is managing applications.

Why was UKCF chosen to manage this funding?

Our network covers the whole of the UK and has an unparalleled reach into local communities. Each Community Foundation has an in-depth understanding of their local area, what the priority needs are and how best to address these issues, so they can ensure the funding goes where it is most needed and can make the most impact.

How will the applications be assessed?

Groups will be asked to submit a project plan setting out what they will do with the funding to meet local need and how it would make a difference to women and girls in their community. The groups that best met the criteria and priorities of the programme will be awarded funding.

Does the Fund provide core costs funding?

This funding is for projects only. If groups are looking for core costs funding specifically they should speak to their local Community Foundation as many do provide this through their own funding programmes.

Will groups that have previously received funding be eligible to apply?

Successful and unsuccessful organisations from the 2018 round are welcome to apply again. Applications for continuation funding will be considered, those applicants should be able to demonstrate the impact the previous grant and highlight challenges and learning. However, due to oversubscription rates we expect to prioritise applicants that are new to the fund.

Why aren't more women-only charities being given this funding?

Overall distribution of the Tampon Tax and policy decisions on how it will be used are decisions for government. For the Tampon Tax Community Fund, grants can only be used for projects and services directly benefitting women and girls. In addition, our unparalleled reach into local communities means this funding will reach smaller charities and groups who couldn't apply directly to government.