

Achieve Together

Community Anchor Organisation Funding – Malton & Norton

Invitation to Bid Guidance



People | Places | Power

Building Stronger Communities in North Yorkshire



- Building on the success of the Covid-19 model of community support, North Yorkshire Council has provided foundational investment to 27 Community Anchor Organisations based primarily in the principal towns.
- Investment is available to principal towns where grants have not been previously awarded
- We are looking for an empowered organisation in Malton & Norton who are proactive and who have a track record of responding to the needs of the local community.
- A grant of up to £15,000 a year for 3 years is available from March 2026 for a place-rooted organisation, based in Malton & Norton and who are also able to serve a wider hinterland.

History & Background

- The intention to try and establish a Community Anchor model across North Yorkshire started in 2019 as part of our emerging People, Places & Power strategy
- Work was put on hold during the pandemic however our experience of working with local place-based community support organisations during that time has really helped to inform the model
- We have worked with a range of partners from the public and voluntary sector to co-design this programme of funding over the past 3 years.
- There are currently 27 local Community Anchor Organisations across North Yorkshire who are recognised as valued 'system partners' aligned to our core aims and who are committed to contributing to system-wide challenges and initiatives

Core Aims for this Investment

This investment will help us to deliver against the core aims of the wider North Yorkshire Council Stronger Communities Programme

Prevention and reducing health inequalities

- Supporting people to live longer, healthier and independent lives within their community

Community resilience

- Supporting communities to become more resilient and able to respond to and be prepared for local challenges

Social Regeneration

- Ensuring that the places where people live, now and in the future, create new opportunities, promote wellbeing and reduce inequalities so that people have better lives, in stronger communities and achieve their potential
- Supporting community development, social action and the creation of community wealth



Characteristics of Community Anchor Organisations



We have identified a number of characteristics and activities which we would hope to see in a Community Anchor Organisation.



We have developed these by gathering insight from other local authorities and community development programmes and from feedback from many of our voluntary and community sector organisations, including those involved in the community response to covid-19 as “Community Support Organisations”.



The review and evaluation of the model with the existing Community Anchor Organisations continues to influence how the model develops.

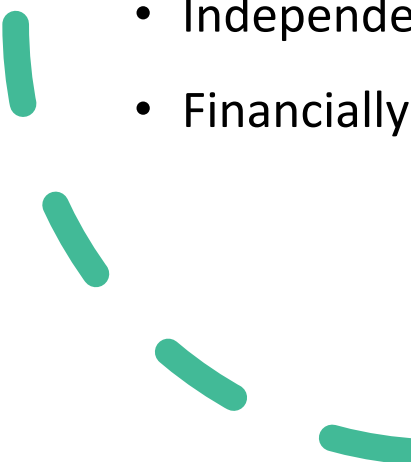


However, because we see this as a development process, we do not expect to see any organisation demonstrating all of the characteristics or delivering all the activities at the point of application.



Characteristics of Community Anchors

Below are common characteristics of place-based Community Anchor Organisations.

- Crucial to the place and community where it is based
 - A voice for local people
 - Collaborative, open and encouraging of other contributions
 - Proactive with a 'can-do' mindset
 - Already delivering services
 - Independent and community led
 - Financially resilient
- 

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A Community Anchor Organisation is...

...crucial to the place and community where it is based

- You will have a physical base in the place you provide services to.
- You will have the support and backing of other community groups in your place and be valued by your peers in the voluntary and community sector. Having a good understanding of the needs of your local community you will be the “spark” that brings people and organisations together to address local needs.
- Making a positive difference to your community and the people who live there is what makes your organisation tick. You will have stories to tell about how you support people and the community despite economic and other challenges.

...a voice for local people

- Your organisation will hear and amplify the voices of residents to help them shape and obtain the community services they need.

...collaborative, open and encouraging of other contributions

- You will know your strengths and play to them whilst supporting others in the community to meet needs which fall within their area of expertise.
- You'll be a great partner and will involve other local groups and organisations so that the community benefits from the most appropriate support and the collective strength of the local community assets.

...proactive with a 'can-do' mindset

- Your can-do mind-set will allow you to move outside your comfort zone to see what you can do to respond to unmet needs if no other local organisation has the skills, knowledge, confidence or capacity to take the lead in helping find a local solution.

...already delivering services

- Your organisation will already be delivering a range of services & activities to tackle some local challenges, you may also be acting as a gateway to help people access other services. You will be committed to helping make your local community better with a focus on social, economic or environmental wellbeing. Your organisational structure will enable you to do things. This is likely to include managing community assets - like buildings, employing staff, and managing and using volunteers effectively to benefit both local residents who use your services, the volunteers themselves and your organisation.

...independent and community led

- We think you will be an independent local organisation, rather than part of a bigger, national set-up, and local people will be involved in the running of your organisation, for example as trustees, directors, staff and volunteers.

...financially resilient

- Your organisation will be financially resilient with a range of income streams. We would anticipate these might include trading goods and services in the future if not already. We'd also expect your structure to mean that you will re-invest any surplus funds which you generate into providing your services and into projects which make the community better.

Community Anchors Typical Activities

Community Anchors will already be delivering services that contribute to two or more of the areas listed below. It is likely that they will be doing this through a mixed economy of funding which may include grants and charitable donations, service level agreements, contracts and earned income.

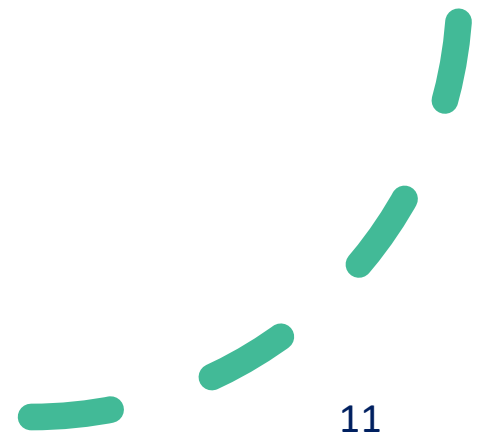
- **Building local partnerships and alliances to deliver services** – this could include providing local customer access points for a range of partners such as police, council, libraries, health or local businesses e.g. post offices and banks
- **Improving physical and mental wellbeing and reducing health inequalities** – this could include delivering health, wellbeing & prevention activities that help to reduce pressure on health and social care systems, digital inclusion & helping people to get online, improving outcomes for children and families
- **Regeneration of their communities** – this could include creating opportunities for more people to be involved in place based social action, providing community transport services, running a social enterprise or community business, delivering education and skills services and creating work opportunities, net zero and environmental projects
- **Building community resilience** – such as being part of the local community emergency response arrangements
- **Improving people's financial resilience** – such as supporting people experiencing food & fuel insecurity



Where are we now?

There are currently 27 Community Anchor Organisations within the network, and on a developmental journey with us.

We are currently exploring opportunities in places where we don't have a Community Anchor Organisation.





Invitation to bid for

- Our approach is about building stronger strategic and operational relationships with a network of Community Anchor Organisations across North Yorkshire in order to work together to achieve shared ambitions.
- This opportunity is not a contract for specific services. You will already be delivering a range of services which will be funded in a variety of ways.
- This investment is intended to support your capacity to further develop your role as a trusted, place based 'system partner', who is well placed to further strengthen local relationships and who routinely works with other local partners to improve community well-being and resilience.
- We are seeking applications from voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations, rooted in Malton & Norton to work with us over the next three years to establish a supportive, collaborative and enabling resource that delivers improved partnership working across and between sectors.

The outcomes we are seeking from you are to:

- increase community resilience for both good times and in emergency situations
- increase local capacity to deliver services by utilising local partnerships and alliances
- create or support opportunities for more residents to be involved in place based social action which contributes to the five ways to wellbeing (Connect; Be Active; Take Notice; Keep Learning; Give).

Malton & Norton - Place-Based Community Anchor Organisation Grants

Context	Our model assumes a single Community Anchor Organisation for Malton & Norton. If we receive applications from more than one suitable organisation, we will work with those organisations to find a way forward.
Investment amount	Up to £15,000 per annum for three years, funding will reflect the size and scope of the organisation.
Process	Submission of applications evidencing how you meet the criteria. Bids will be evaluated against criteria. Applicants will be notified if they have been successful or not. We anticipate that some successful organisations will be more established in the role of a community anchor organisation than others. As one of the aims of this investment is to support the capacity of organisations to further develop their role as a trusted, place based 'system partner', following the offer of grant we will work with you to carry out a diagnostic assessment of further development priorities and needs
Deadline for applications	Friday 16 January 2026, 12noon – <u>Please use Application Form CAO-04 Community Anchor Organisation Grant</u>
Decision date	End of February 2026



How to apply

- If you would like to apply, please complete the Application Form CAO-04.
- When submitting your form please send it as a **word document**.
- Completed application forms should be emailed to:
stronger.communities@northyorks.gov.uk
- Deadline for applications – 16th January 2026