

# Funded Partner Programme: Expression of Interest Guidance

To apply for multi-year funding (Unrestricted or Project) from Barnwood Trust, organisations must first submit an Expression of Interest (EoI). This form is designed to support you in completing your EoI. Please read the **Funded Partner Information Pack** before applying, as it sets out our funding streams, eligibility criteria and processes.

Completed EoIs should be emailed to [orgfunding@barnwoodtrust.org](mailto:orgfunding@barnwoodtrust.org) by the published deadline. Where possible, please submit your EoI as a Word document. **Any content over the stated word limits will not be assessed.**

Following the deadline, the Funding Team will shortlist EoIs. You will be contacted by a Funding Relationship Manager to confirm whether your application will progress to the next stage.

The Expression of Interest has four sections:

## 1. Demographic information (not scored)

This section is for monitoring purposes only and will not be used to assess your application. As part of our commitment to addressing inequality in the UK funding sector, this information helps us understand where Barnwood Trust — and the wider sector — can improve.

## 2. Your organisation

This section should be completed by a representative of the organisation applying for funding, who will act as our main point of contact. Please provide general information about your organisation. There are four text boxes in this section, each with a maximum of 100 words. At this stage, we are not looking for detailed information about the funding request.

### 3. Your funding request

In this section, we ask three questions to help us understand what you want to achieve through the funding, and whether Barnwood Trust is a good fit for your request. Each question has a maximum word count, and guidance is provided to indicate the type of information we are looking for.

You must also submit the following documents as email attachments:

- A recent bank statement, or a redacted statement header showing the organisation name, account number and sort code
- Your current safeguarding policy, updated within the last two years

### 4. Declaration

Please sign and date the Expression of Interest. Digital signatures are accepted.

### Scoring and shortlisting

All Eols will be assessed after the published deadline. Shortlisting is used to identify applications that are best suited to the funding opportunity. The scoring table that follows sets out:

- Which questions are scored
- What assessors are looking for
- The maximum points available for each question

At Eol stage, assessment focuses on clarity of intent, and alignment with Barnwood Trust, and how well the proposal is suited to the organisation's context, rather than detailed delivery plans or full supporting evidence.

### Threshold requirements at Eol stage

To ensure a fair and consistent assessment process, there are a small number of minimum requirements that all Expressions of Interest must meet in order to be progressed.

An application will not be taken forward if:

- It receives a score of zero from all assessors in any one scored section;  
or
- It does not achieve an average score of at least 3 in the Alignment section.

This may occur where an application, for example:

- Does not primarily benefit disabled people and/or people with mental health conditions, such as where:
  - The intended population is vague, general, or unrelated
  - Disabled people and/or people with mental health conditions are referenced only incidentally or as a small subset
  - The proposed benefits are indirect or speculative
- Does not demonstrate meaningful involvement of people with lived experience, for example where:
  - Consultation is implied but not described
  - Lived experience involvement is deferred to a future stage without a clear approach
  - Involvement is tokenistic or advisory, with no influence on decisions
- Does not show clear relevance to Gloucestershire
- Conflicts with Barnwood Trust's values or ways of working, including approaches that are:
  - Deficit-based, stigmatizing or paternalistic
  - Coercive, exclusionary, or restrictive of people's rights

These thresholds help us focus funding on proposals that are clearly aligned with Barnwood Trust's purpose and values, and where there is a strong basis for progressing to the next stage.

## Scoring Criteria

Question	What assessors are looking for	Total Possible Score:
<p><b>Vision:</b></p> <p><b>What would you like to achieve with the proposed funding? What is the need you are trying to address?</b></p> <p><i>Word Count:</i> 350</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clearly identified need in Gloucestershire, with a coherent proposal for activities that respond to that need</li> <li>• A clear and credible explanation of how the proposed activities are expected to lead to the intended outcomes</li> <li>• Outcomes that are realistic, proportionate, and achievable within the funding period and request</li> <li>• A credible approach to understanding whether the work is contributing to change</li> <li>• Potential for the work to generate meaningful impact for disabled people and/or people with mental health conditions</li> </ul>	<p>5 - Excellent 4 - Strong 3 – Adequate 2 – Below expectations 1 – Poor or unclear 0-Not evident</p>
<p><b>Alignment:</b></p> <p><b>How do your proposed outcomes and ways of working align with Barnwood Trust’s strategic goals?</b></p> <p><i>Word Count:</i> 200</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed work and outcomes should align with Barnwood Trust’s vision and goals. (We want to see change happen so that disabled people and people with mental health conditions have <u>choice of opportunities</u>, <u>access their rights</u>, and are <u>included where they live</u>.)</li> <li>• Population served is clearly aligned with Barnwood’s service group: disabled people and people with mental health conditions.</li> <li>• Disabled people and people with mental health conditions are meaningfully involved in the development of and/or delivery of the work through, for example: co-design, lived experience leadership, or decision making.</li> </ul>	<p>5 – Excellent 4 - Strong 3 – Adequate 2 – Below Expectations 1 – Poor or unclear 0-Not evident</p>

<p><b>Knowledge and Expertise:</b></p> <p><b>Why is your organisation well-placed to deliver this work?</b></p> <p><i>Word Count:</i> 200</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation is well-positioned-- through experience, relationships, or mandate --to achieve the proposed outcomes.</li> <li>• Org has a demonstrated connection to the individuals/groups that they work with and a track record of successful delivery.</li> <li>• Essential connections needed for this work to occur are in place.</li> <li>• Key staff or project leads have appropriate lived or learned experience, and skills, relevant to the work.</li> </ul>	<p>5 – Excellent 4 - Strong 3 – Adequate 2 – Below Expectations 1 – Poor or unclear 0-Not evident</p>
<p><b>Learning:</b></p> <p><b>What are you hoping to learn from this work during the funding period, and how will that be shared with Barnwood Trust and/ or others?</b></p> <p><i>Word Count:</i> 150</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A commitment to building an active learning partnership with the Trust for mutual benefit and longer-term impacts.</li> <li>• There is plausible potential for learning from the work and outcomes to extend impact beyond the life of the grant.</li> <li>• Identified methods of sharing learning from activities and outcomes with BT and others (eg; networks, partners, stakeholders, sector) that show potential to influence practice and strategy within a wider scope.</li> <li>• Identified opportunities for internal learning or organisational development within the context of the proposal.</li> </ul>	<p>3 – Strong 2 - Adequate 1– Partially met 0- Not evident</p>