



Under embargo until 1pm on 30 November 2016

New funding available for local groups in Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight

Local groups and organisations with great ideas to make their communities an even better place to live are now invited to apply for funding to turn their ideas into reality.

People's Health Trust has just launched Active Communities in Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight - a funding programme for local people wanting to create fairer places to grow, live, work and age.

Using money raised by HealthShape through The Health Lottery, People's Health Trust is looking to invest in projects that support people living in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods of Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight.

Active Communities is a funding programme for not-for-profit groups with an income of less than £350,000 a year, or an average of £350,000 over two years, seeking investment of between £5,000 and £50,000 for projects lasting up to two years.

Projects could be almost anything that encourages strong connections between people, and that help people to make their communities or neighbourhoods even better places to grow, live, work and age. We're looking for small and local projects, genuinely designed and run by local people. By small, we mean just a small group of people on an estate, in a few streets or villages. We're also looking for great ideas from communities of interest. By this we mean a group of people who have something in common and wish to come together to address something that is important to them. These ideas could be based in one neighbourhood, or cover a wider area.

John Hume, Chief Executive, People's Health Trust, says: "We're looking to support ideas designed and run by local people which help create even stronger links and ties within communities. Whether it's a women's volunteering group run by and for Bengali women; a computer skills support group run for and by older people; support for local people to become community organisers; or young people living with mental ill-health wishing to address access to work issues or discrimination, we're interested to hear about it.

"Applying couldn't be easier - it's about local people telling us what would make their local community an even better place grow, live, work and age."

The closing date for applications is 1pm on Friday, 6 January 2017. To apply for funding, visit www.peopleshealthtrust.org.uk.

ENDS

Media enquiries

For media enquiries about People's Health Trust and Active Communities, please contact Anna Mauremootoo - 020 7749 9105

anna.mauremootoo@peopleshealthtrust.org.uk

Notes to editors

People's Health Trust is an independent charity investing in local communities to help create a society without health inequalities. It works closely with each Community Interest Company, distributing grants. www.peopleshealthtrust.org.uk

People living in the poorest neighbourhoods in Britain die, on average, seven years younger than people living in the richest neighbourhoods. What's more, they will spend 17 years more of their shortened lives with an extra disability and have a lower quality of life. We believe that where people live should not unfairly reduce the length or the quality of their lives.

Active Communities is a funding programme for local people with great ideas about how to help create fairer places to grow, live, work and age well.

HealthShape is a Community Interest Company committed to prioritising and raising money for health inequalities in Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. www.healthshapecic.org.uk

The Health Lottery is operated for and on behalf of 51 Community Interest Companies across England, Scotland and Wales, all holding society lottery licenses granted by the Gambling Commission. www.healthlottery.co.uk