

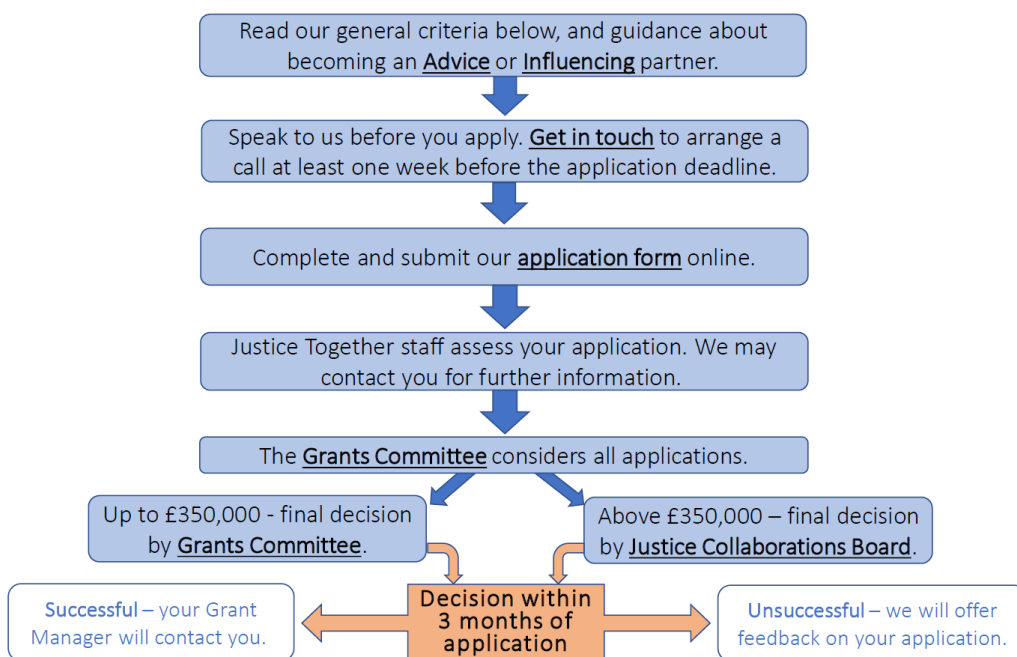
Local Influencing grants: Application criteria and guidance

Become a grant partner

A core part of Justice Together will be the organisations that we fund, who we will work with to achieve shared goals. To reflect our approach, we use the term ‘grant partner’.

Partnership application process

The initiative is guided by our values and intends to be open and transparent with applicants and grant partners, striving to make the grants process as straightforward as possible.



Before applying, please read:

- our [strategy](#)
- this application criteria and guidance
- [frequently asked questions](#)

If you are interested in making an application:

1. book a place and join one of our [virtual Q&A sessions](#)
2. [contact us](#) to arrange an initial phone call
3. complete an online [application form](#)

General criteria

We particularly welcome applications that demonstrate some of the following:

- Work that is led by and/or informed by people with lived experience of the immigration system, which is properly resourced, equitable and inclusive. We encourage funding applications from migrant-led organisations.
- Recruitment processes that encourage candidates with lived experience to apply to posts funded by the initiative.
- Anti-racism embedded in the organisation and the work. As anti-racism is very important to Justice Together, the Grants Committee will review organisations' approach to anti-racism in terms of their external work and internal structures and processes. We define anti-racism as:
 - "an active and conscious effort to work against multidimensional aspects of racism."
-Robert J. Patterson, Professor of African American Studies at Georgetown University.
- Partnership applications.
- Plans for sharing knowledge, learning and evidence to support and inform the wider immigration sector.
- Links between frontline advice and influencing work (locally or nationally).
- The skills and knowledge to undertake the proposed work including expertise by experience.

Influencing grants general guidance

We want to work with influencing partners in every part of the UK to develop a shared strategy for transforming access to justice in the immigration system. 'Access to justice' means people's ability to secure their immigration rights and move forward with their lives. This encompasses dismantling systemic barriers and simplifying laws as well as provision of timely, high quality, affordable legal advice.

We are interested in a wide range of approaches by different types of organisations towards achieving these change goals:

1. A fair, timely and accessible immigration system.
2. A more sustainably resourced immigration advice and legal system.

Please see the [Local Influencing grants](#) page on our website for details of where in the local influencing grants are available and our [grants timetable](#) for the next application deadlines.

We anticipate making grants in the range of £90,000 – £300,000 for individual applications and £90,000 – £400,000 for multiple organisation partnerships/collaborations, for an initial 3-year grant period.

Please see the [Grant Partners](#) page on our website for descriptions of grants awarded in previous rounds.

See this map of [English regions](#) to understand the region boundaries we refer to on our open regions/countries.

What do we mean by influencing?

By 'influencing' we mean work that is focused on changing systems or structures. The target may be local or national government, statutory agencies, legal services and/or the public. It may be focused on changing draft legislation, regulations or guidance, government practice, public opinion and/or to improve the quality of advice and representation.

We recognise there are many different ways to change the world. We want to fund a range of approaches to transforming the immigration system, but with an emphasis on people with lived experience leading the change.

Some examples of what we might fund include:

- Community lawyering, which builds power and develops leadership of those with lived experience of the immigration system and where priority and direction for legal work are set by people with lived experience rather than directed by lawyers or policy professionals removed from the direct experience.
- Community organising that is led, developed and delivered by people with lived and learned experience of the immigration system and/or which coordinate with movement lawyering strategies.
- Strategic legal action including pre litigation research, interventions and implementation of wins in the courts.
- Strategic communications that build public support to ensure a fair and lawful functioning of the immigration system.
- Policy and public affairs work including with parliaments and assemblies, the Home Office, Ministry of Justice, Department of Justice, Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner, the Legal Aid Agency, Scottish Legal Aid Board and the Legal Services Agency Northern Ireland.
- Development and embedding of anti-racism within organisations and influencing strategies.
- Analysis and research to increase knowledge and understanding of barriers to justice in the immigration system and to identify solutions.
- Alliance building between national organisations, advice providers and grassroots groups including to track emerging patterns, identify areas for system change and use evidence from legal casework to develop influencing work.
- Influencing work that targets local council, local MPs, metro mayors, regional bodies and legal services, including to increase local funding for immigration legal advice.

We are also open to new tools – please [contact us](#) with your ideas.

We particularly welcome applications from organisations that are led and/or informed by people with lived and learned experience of the UK immigration system.

Please also see our [general criteria](#) above.

Local influencing grants

We welcome applications from organisations who plan to undertake local influencing work for local, regional or national change. In the local influencing strand, we will fund activities that seek to influence local authorities, metro mayors or regional bodies on issues of migration and funding, as well as activities that include local community organising and campaigning, e.g.

work with the local authority to secure commitment to long-term funding of immigration advice; influencing a Mayor to embed immigration advice within strategies to reduce homelessness and poverty; building local solidarity and power of people with lived experience to feed into wider movements for national change.

What we will fund:

- Increased influencing capacity including through staffing costs, consultancy, volunteer expenses and direct costs.
- Proposals from organisations led and/or informed by people with lived experience of the immigration system.
- Approaches that build solidarity, work together to understand systemic issues and coming come together to raise the voices of those with lived experience.
- Development and testing of new approaches to influencing with particular focus on community and movement lawyering models that build power and develop leadership of those with lived experience of the immigration system.
- Local co-ordination across different approaches to influence and/or with advice providers. We would like to support new structures as well as strengthening existing co-ordination.
- Training or skill development in campaigning, policy influencing, research or other relevant areas that connects grassroots organisations, individuals and organising with the Justice Together change goals.
- Where activities meet the [Justice Together change goals](#), flexible core-type funding will be considered.
- We can only fund work that is charitable, but applicants do not need to be registered charities.

We are interested in seeing applications that include both specialist advice and local influencing. We believe they go hand in hand. We recognise that not all applications will look the same: some will be exclusively specialist advice focused, some will include advice and local influencing, and some just local influencing. We want to hear from all the different ways this work comes together. With regard to choosing an online application to submit: where the work proposed leans more towards advice, please fill out the advice application but include in your answers the activities you will be doing with regard to influencing, and vice versa. Read more about this in our [FAQs](#).

What we will not fund

- Work that operates in isolation from other stakeholders within the area.
- Work that does not contribute to [Justice Together change goals](#).
- Work whose main focus is influencing around access to or provision of housing, healthcare, destitution, the right to work or challenges to the existence of detention or conditions in detention. We will consider applications that focus on influencing around access to legal advice in detention.
- Work that is not legally charitable including work that falls outside the Charity Commission guidance on campaigning.

If you are interested in making an application, please join one of our [virtual Q&A sessions](#) and then [contact us](#) to arrange an initial phone call.

Please see our [grants timetable](#) for the next application deadlines.

Application form guidance

Below are all sections and questions from the application form with some additional guidance on how to complete it. You do not need to cover all the bullet points under each question, these are meant as a guide to help your thinking.

The purpose of this document is to support you in planning your application, however it is not the application form itself. Please submit your application using the online form [here](#).

All questions marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the application.

You

Your Details

This section is about the person completing the application form. We will use these contact details to ask any further questions and contact you with updates on your application.

First Name:*

Last Name:*

Phone Number:

Mobile Number:

Email Address:*

Job Title:*

Q: How did you first hear about us?*

This question is for our own internal monitoring and will not affect your grant assessment.

Your Proposal

Type of Grant

Q: What is the main kind of work you would like Justice Together to fund? *

Justice Together makes grants for Advice and Influencing. Please choose which you are applying for now, as this will tailor the questions in the rest of the form.

We recognise that many organisations will do a mix of both advice and influencing. If the proposed work you would like Justice Together to fund includes significant delivery of advice at OISC Level 2 or above, please choose 'Advice and Representation' here.

E.g. Influencing

Description

This section is about what you would like Justice Together to fund. In completing this section, you may find it helpful to consider our [general grant criteria](#).

Application Title: * (120 characters)

Please note: This is so we see at-a-glance what the funding is for, it does not need to be an exciting or catchy title.

E.g. Model of Strategic Litigation

Q: Short Summary of work you would like funded: * (350 characters)

E.g. Work with parliamentarians to raise awareness of young migrants coming into contact with the immigration system.

Q: Geographical Area of Impact: * (multiple choice)

Please tell us the main geographical focus of the work you are proposing. Refer to the [website](#) to check area eligibility.

For national influencing, select United Kingdom or the relevant devolved nation where your influencing activity will take place.

E.g. Scotland

Q: If you are applying in a formal partnership, provide the name of the organisation(s) here (3500 Characters)

We encourage partnership applications, but it is not necessary to be working in a formal partnership. Please include here the names of organisations that will receive funds through this proposal. There is an opportunity below to mention other partnerships.

Communities

Q: Which communities are you working with? Tell us about their strengths and the challenges they face. * (3500 Characters)

We use the word 'communities' in its broadest sense and understand that a community can take different forms.

In this section we want to hear about:

- who the communities are that you will directly engage with. The following ideas may or may not fit your proposed way of working
 - groups linked by nationality / ethnicity / language
 - age groups, e.g. under 18s
 - other groups, e.g. LGBTQ+ focused groups, or groups for people who are disabled
 - immigration status e.g. those affected by NRPf or EU pre-settled status
- your understanding of the strengths these communities have
- challenges that are specific to these communities and their location
- potential barriers that these communities face
- brief reference to your connection, if any, or history of collaborating with the community

Change Goals

Q: Which of the Justice Together change goals would your work contribute to? * [pick up to 2] (multiple choice)

Select from the below which JTI goals contribute to work:

- A fair, timely and accessible immigration system
- A more sustainably resourced immigration advice and legal system

- **A more accessible, sustainable, collaborative and co-ordinated sector to strengthen and increase access to immigration advice and legal provision**

Q: What do you plan to do to contribute to these change goals? * (3500 Characters)

Please outline activities you plan to undertake with our funding. Feel free to provide your answer in bullet points.

In this section we want to hear about:

- What specific access to justice issues have you identified
- what your planned activities are to prioritise and influence those identified access to justice issues
- specific detail about how you will undertake the proposed activities
- an outline of the timeline
- how this proposed work will contribute to the change goal(s) selected above

If you would like to also include specialist advice services in your planned work, please include those plans here.

Q: Why do you think this approach would be effective? * (3500 Characters)

In this section we want to hear about:

- the thinking behind your planned approach
- any experience you have of using similar approaches
- why you think this approach will be effective in improving access to justice and influencing for the organisations/people you wish to influence
- why you think this approach will be effective in the region/local area you will be working in

Q: How many new posts would this funding support? *

Q: What will your organisation bring to this planned work, including skills, experience and/or network? * (3500 Characters)

Please tell us about the skills, experience and/or networks that are relevant to *this* application.

In this section we want to hear about:

- why your organisation and your formal partners are equipped to undertake the planned work
- what skills and resources your organisation and its people have that will be used in this planned work
- any relevant past/present work or projects that have given relevant experience
- any networks that you may belong to, whether they are formal or informal, that are related to this area of work

Working with others

Q: How will you work with others as part of this grant? * (3500 Characters)

This is an opportunity for you to talk in more detail about your formal partnerships and also include information about informal partnerships and collaborations.

In this section we want to hear about:

- if you have formal partners, why do you think this partnership will be effective and what will those organisations bring to the partnership to improve access to justice in the nation
- if you are a national organisation, how you will work with local grassroots community groups and/or frontline service delivery groups. If you are a grassroots/local community group how you will work with other organisations to feed into wider influencing work

- as a national org, any plans to work with local grassroots community/frontline service delivery groups
- how will you connect with these groups/ organisations
- who the groups are that you will cooperate or work with informally (outside of any formal partnerships listed above)
- what your cooperation will look like in practice

Q: How will your work involve people who have lived experience of the UK immigration system? * (3500 Characters)

In this section we encourage applicants to include any of the following:

- plans to involve people with lived experience of the UK immigration system.
- how your planned work will interact with those who have gone through or are going through the UK immigration system
- examples of how you will work with these individuals or people at different stages of the planned activities
- a demonstrable commitment to lived experience leadership
- how you will reach/prioritise people with lived experience in your recruitment, outreach and plans

Please note: We also plan to support applicants with this.

Q: What opportunities do you see for influencing and who will you be targeting? * (3500 Characters)

In this section we want to hear about:

- long-term strategies for change, e.g. we think there is an opportunity to build the case for publicly funded immigration advice by building stronger connections between our advocacy work and groups representing people with lived experience, or we would be trying to influence MPs and officials both directly and through building relationships with mainstream media.
- events, moments or opportunities that could be used for influencing, for example local elections, a notable anniversary or new draft legislation.
- individual groups, organisations or institutions that you will be targeting and the reason behind targeting them

Funding Request

Q: How much are you requesting from Justice Together? * You will be asked to attach a full budget for the proposed work at the end of this form.

Please tell us the total amount you are requesting over the grant period. For example, if you would like £30,000 a year for 3 years, please enter £90,000 in this field.

E.g. £45,000

Q: Duration (months) *

E.g. 36m

Q: Does this grant application allow for paying all contributors the Living Wage? * We expect staff or contractors supported through Justice Together funding to be paid at least a Living Wage.

Yes/ No

Your Organisation

Contact Details:

This section is about the organisation which would hold the grant if the application is successful.

Name of organisation:

Q: Provide here any other current or previous name(s) used for this organisation: Please include names previously used.

Address:*

City:*

County:*

Region:*

Email:

Phone Number:

Please provide general contact details if your organisation has them. If not, please leave blank.

Website:

Legal Status

Legal Status: * (multiple choice)

Charity Number: *

Year of Formation: *

Number of Trustees: *

Number of Trustees with lived experience of immigration system: *

Average number of employees: * This should be the figure included in your latest accounts. If you have part-time staff, please add up the total days per week. For example, if you have 3 staff who work 2.5 days/week, please enter 1.5 here.

Q: Number of staff or volunteers delivering immigration advice. Enter the number of *full-time equivalent* people at each of the following levels. *

Please do not include pro bono capacity or occasional volunteers. Please enter 0 if you do not have any staff/volunteers in any of the categories.

OISC Level:

Trainee Solicitor:

Qualified Solicitor:

Trainee Solicitor:

Legal Executive:

Barrister:

Organisation Details

Background:

This section asks more detail about the organisation which would be the grant-holder if the application is successful.

If you are applying in a formal partnership, this section only needs to be filled out by the lead organisation.

Organisational summary - tell us about the work your organisation does and the communities you support. * (3500 Characters)

In this section we want to hear about the overall picture of your organisation, including:

- background information about your organisation
- the kind of work your organisation does
- who you support, provide services to or work with
- the communities you serve

Q: If you do immigration casework, how many legal cases do you open per year?

Please note that this is for our baseline. You do not need to undertake casework to apply for funding.

E.g. 15

Q: What geographical area does the organisation cover? *

Please tell us here your organisation's main area of operation. If you mainly work in one region/nation, please choose this even if you occasionally do wider work.

E.g. North East

Q: Which boroughs or counties does your organisation cover? (multiple choice)

If you only work in part of a region, please choose which local areas here. This is so we can track the initiative's reach within regions.

Q: What areas of law does your organisation practise? * (multiple choice)

Please only tick the areas where you provide legal advice. This question is to help us understand your organisation. Your application is not more likely to be successful if you choose more categories.

- **Actions against public authorities**
- **Community Care**
- **Constitutional law**
- **Criminal law**
- **Data and digital rights**
- **Debt**
- **Discrimination**
- **Education**
- **Employment**
- **Family**
- **Housing**
- **Immigration**
- **Inquests**
- **Mental Health**
- **Prison law**
- **Public & administrative law**
- **Welfare Benefits**
- **Other**

If you selected Immigration law, which are the main areas of immigration law that your organisation practises? (multiple choice)

- Asylum and International Protection
- Detention, Deportation and Removal
- Domestic Violence - SET (DV)
- EU Settlement Scheme
- Indefinite Leave to Remain
- Nationality
- NRPF/Change of conditions
- Private and family life
- Refugee family reunification
- Trafficking/Modern Slavery

Please note here, we are interested in the whole organisation, even if this work will not be funded by Justice Together.

Q: How do your board and staff reflect the communities that you support, including lived experience of the UK immigration system? * (3500 Characters)

We are interested in diversity and geography as well as lived experience.

In this section we want to hear about (if it applies):

- how your staff and board reflect the communities you serve
- any with lived experience of the UK immigration system
- any plans to include this, if not currently

Q: What have you done so far to become an anti-racist organisation internally, and in the work you do externally? What do you plan to do next, and what support (if any) do you need to implement this? * (3500 characters)

In this section we encourage applicants to be as open and honest as possible: it may be that you have not done anything yet, but have plans to do so.

You may include the following:

- How anti-racism is core to your organisation and/or its purpose
- Any surveys, information gathering or working groups that you have implemented internally
- Any external groups you are engaged with
- Any training provided to staff, senior leadership and/or Trustees
- Any consultants engaged and for what purpose
- How anti-racism is part of your strategic decision-making
- Any action plans - please focus on concrete steps and actions you have taken or will do, including any
- Particular steps and actions you have taken or intend to take to in your recruitment for Justice Together positions and others at your organisation

Q: Describe how your organisation currently makes use of data and evidence? * (3500 Characters)

There is no preferred answer here, but we are interested in learning about how developed your organisation is in how they collect and use data and evidence. If we make a grant, we may be able to offer support in this if you need it.

Examples in this section include how and why your organisation collects data such as:

- to give monitoring to funders
- using a dashboard to track our work

- to provide to partner academics or data analysts
- collecting feedback forms from people who use our service to improve the way we deliver our service
- to monitor what the impact of government policy has on the people we support

Q: Name of any trustee or employee who is related or connected to a Governor/Trustee or employee of Justice Collaborations or The Legal Education Foundation (1400 Characters/200 Words)

Please answer this question if applicable. This does not stop you applying to Justice Together but means we can manage any conflicts of interest properly so the process is fair for all applicants.

Finances

Q: This section relates to your most recent annual accounts (either draft or signed off).

Latest Financial Year End *

Income in Latest Financial Year *

Expenditure in Latest Financial Year *

Unrestricted Reserves in Latest Financial Year *

Cash at end of Latest Financial Year *

Q: This section relates to your current financial year

Current Financial Year End *

Projected income for current financial year (committed) *

Projected income for current financial year (planned) *

Q: State the main sources of funding of your Organisation * (1400 Characters)

In this section please include:

- the names of key funders and/or
- the main ways you generate income e.g. training, Legal Aid income

Q: Does your organisation pay the Living Wage? *

Yes/No

Q: Is your organisation accredited with the Living Wage Foundation? *

Yes/No

Your answer to these questions will not affect your chances of a successful application. But as a Living Wage Friendly Funder, we want to encourage others to pay the Living Wage and gain accreditation with the Living Wage Foundation.

Attachments

Please upload any additional files

- [project budget documents](#)
- [supplementary information documents \(optional\)](#)

Please ensure that you only use Supplementary Information documents to provide additional information; please do not use them to provide information instead of, or as a continuation to, your answers entered in the body of the form.

Up to 5 documents can be attached in each section. We can accept these documents in any of the following formats: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel or PDF.

The maximum file size for upload is 5Mb, so if your document is very large you may need to break it into sections.

Contact us for more information: Enquiries@justice-collaborations.org.uk



Justice Together is hosted by Justice Collaborations, a registered charity and subsidiary of The Legal Education Foundation



Follow Justice Together



Join the discussion [@justice_tog](#)

Justice Collaborations is a Registered Charity, number 1187441 and Company Limited by Guarantee, number 12328192.

It is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Legal Education Foundation, a Royal Charter body, number RC000126, and a Registered Charity, number 271297. VAT registration number 342 8239 00.

Registered Office: Suite 2 Ground Floor, River House, Broadford Park, Shalford, Guildford, Surrey GU4 8EP, United Kingdom