

**Small grant programme to combat isolation and loneliness of older military veterans  
in Wales**  
***Application and Delivery Guidelines***

**About these guidelines**

Read these notes carefully before you complete the online 'GIFTS Request Form'. Should you have any queries about any aspects of the delivery, please contact Heather Ferguson on [heather.ferguson@agecymru.org.uk](mailto:heather.ferguson@agecymru.org.uk)

Separately, more technical guidelines on using the GIFTS system can be found on the Age Cymru website. If you require assistance with the GIFTS system, please email [grants@ageuk.org.uk](mailto:grants@ageuk.org.uk)

The deadline for submitting your application is Monday 26 October 2020 at 5pm. The system will not accept late applications so please ensure you submit your application on time.

**Contents**

Section 1:	Background to the funding	2
Section 2:	Aims, objectives and outputs	2
Section 3:	Funding available	3
Section 4:	Who can apply?	3
Section 5:	How we will assess your bid	3
Section 6:	If you are awarded funding	4

## **1. Background to the funding**

Loneliness and social isolation are a daily reality for many older people in Wales, with 220,000 older people in Wales reporting that they have felt lonely during later life. The detrimental effects that loneliness and social isolation have on older people are well documented.

Isolation and loneliness have been an area of key activity for Age Cymru. Our campaign activity has raised public awareness of the causes and solutions to tackling loneliness amongst older people in Wales and encourages communities and individuals to take action.

In Wales there is an estimated 210,000 Veterans, with 50% aged 75 or over. In addition to the large numbers of older veterans who may need support directly, through research by Project 360, our partnership project with Age Alliance Wales and Woody's Lodge, we found that one third of those older veterans we spoke to had caring responsibilities, and our research also focussed on those caring for older veterans. Caring is indicated to be a significant factor in triggering of social isolation and loneliness.

We have also seen that isolation and loneliness has been significantly further compounded by the Coronavirus pandemic.

We know the importance of local voluntary sector groups and organisations in providing activities, particularly when accessing those who may be most vulnerable or isolated, further demonstrated by the support provided by local communities throughout the pandemic. However, it is noted that there are often complexities and difficulties in accessing funding at this level, so this funding is aimed at this local level.

The funding for this grant programme is provided by Welsh Government.

## **2. Aim of the programme**

We are offering small grants of up to £1000 to provide funding for activities in local communities to alleviate loneliness and social isolation for any of the following groups:

- Armed Forces veterans aged 50 or over
- Armed Forces veterans aged 50 or over who have caring responsibilities or carers of Armed Forces veterans aged 50 or over
- Armed Forces veterans aged 50 or over living with limb loss / use of a limb / loss of sight

We want to help kick start activities that will help alleviate isolation and loneliness amongst older veterans and carers of older veterans.

All activities would need to be in line with the current Welsh Government, and Local Authority coronavirus guidance.

Each successful applicant will be required to:

- Demonstrate how the grant will support new or additional activity and must not be used for business as usual or to cover costs of existing activity / groups.
- Create a programme of activity, or a one off activity that will alleviate loneliness and social isolation at a community level amongst any of the target groups
- It must be identifiable as a discreet programme of work or activity; it should have a name that can be used by the implementer and the funder to describe the project.
- Record, monitor and report on progress using the programme monitoring forms, keeping reporting deadlines and maintaining contact with the programme manager

- It must have an objective that is achievable within the period of funding requested which can be for up to end of March 2021.
- Ensure that any activity is in line with the current Welsh Government, and Local Authority coronavirus guidance

Organisations and groups do not need to be charities to be eligible but they will need to be properly established, with a clear set of rules, constitution or terms of reference and bank account.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
28 September 2020	Applications open
26 October 2020 at 5pm	Close
November 2020	Delivery commences
31 March 2021	All delivery ends

### **3. Funding Available**

Grants will be awarded of up to £1000.

The funding awarded could include

- Volunteer expenses
- Training costs
- Resources or equipment
- Transport costs
- Outreach work
- Publicity and marketing

#### **This grant programme will not fund the following:**

- Activities not taking place between November 2020 and end of March 2021
- Grants must be for specific items or activity, and not a contribution to general funds
- Activities must be for the benefit of older veterans or carers in Wales
- Activities organised by national organisations
- Activities that do not benefit one of the specified groups

### **4. Who can apply?**

We welcome applications from local older people's forums, older people's groups, local Armed Forces groups or organisations for older veterans, and community groups.

Organisations and groups do not need to be charities to be eligible but they will need to be properly established, with a clear set of rules, constitution or terms of reference and bank account.

### **5. Funding stipulations**

If you are awarded funding you will be required to

- Acknowledge the support of Age Cymru
- Track and record progress and report progress through the project monitoring tools.
- Acknowledge the grant programme funders Welsh Government
- Complete all activity by 31 March 2021

### **6. How we will assess your application**

Within the application form, we will ask for the following information which will be scored and used to assess your ability to deliver the activity.

- Why you are applying for the grant
- What you intend to do to alleviate isolation and loneliness in your community
- The impact this will have on older veterans in your community
- The number of older veterans you will assist
- Who (if anyone) you intend to work in partnership with
- How you will reach potential beneficiaries

### **If you are awarded funding**

If your application leads to an award of funding, we will notify you of the amount and payment schedule by Friday 30 October 2020. We will also provide you with a grant agreement that will need to be signed and returned to us within two weeks.

Following receipt of your signed acknowledgement, we will process the payment of your grant.

Please note that if no monitoring information is received, or it demonstrates that you are significantly behind your target we reserve the right to request funds be repaid.