

Your Questions Answered

A guide for tenants and community groups thinking about applying for support

Arawak Walton wants to support the people and groups making a difference in Manchester, Stockport and Trafford. We offer two kinds of support, depending on the size and length of your project. This guide explains both, in plain terms, so you can work out what's right for you and what to expect.

AT A GLANCE

	Small Grants	Strategic Partnerships
Best for	One-off events or short projects	Bigger, longer-term work with lasting impact
How much	£100 to £1,000	Larger amounts, agreed year by year
How long	Single event or project	Multiple years (typically 2–5)
Decided by	Arawak Walton staff panel	Staff panel, then the Board
How to apply	Application Form	Strategic Partnership Application Form

Not sure which one fits? See 'Which one should I apply for?' towards the end of this guide, or just get in touch — we're happy to talk it through.

SMALL GRANTS (DONATIONS FUND)

What is the Donations Fund?

It's a small grants pot for one-off events, initiatives or short projects that benefit Arawak Walton tenants and communities in Manchester, Stockport or Trafford.

How much can I apply for?

Between £100 and £1,000. We ask for a realistic, itemised budget rather than a single lump sum.

What can it be used for?

Anything that fits one or more of our six core themes and benefits our tenants and communities — see the theme list towards the end of this guide. Examples include community events, workshops, small equipment, or a short series of sessions.

Who can apply?

Registered charities, CICs, constituted voluntary groups, and individuals or informal groups who can show how they're accountable (for example, a constitution or a bank account with two signatories).

Which areas do you cover?

Manchester, Stockport and Trafford, with a particular focus on neighbourhoods where Arawak Walton tenants live.

How do I apply?

Complete the Application Form and send it to communityinvestment@arawakwalton.com. It asks about your organisation, your project, who will benefit, your budget, and how you'll recognise Arawak Walton's support.

How are decisions made?

We check your application meets the basic criteria, then two members of staff score it independently against a standard set of criteria — things like how well it fits our priorities, how many people it will reach, and value for money. They meet to agree a recommended amount, which is confirmed by the panel.

How long will it take?

We aim to confirm a decision within a few weeks of receiving a complete application. If anything is missing, we'll come back to you, which may take a little longer.

What happens if I'm successful?

You'll be asked to sign a short Terms of Donation agreement confirming the amount, what it's for, and what we both expect — then funds are released.

What's expected of me afterwards?

Once your project is complete, we ask you to fill in a short Impact Evaluation Form telling us how it went — who it reached, what difference it made, and any photos or feedback you can share. This helps us support more people in future.

What if I'm not successful?

We'll let you know why, and where possible suggest how you might strengthen a future application.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (MULTI-YEAR SUPPORT)

What is a Strategic Partnership?

It's larger-scale, longer-term support — funding and sometimes staff time — for organisations whose work has a strong, lasting link to Arawak Walton's aims and to issues that matter to our tenants right now.

How is it different from a small grant?

It's for work that needs sustained support over more than one year, rather than a single event or short project. The amounts are typically larger, the assessment is more thorough, and the final decision is made by our Board rather than a staff panel alone.

How much funding is available, and for how long?

This varies by proposal — typically from a few thousand pounds a year up to more for flagship partnerships, over two to five years. There isn't a fixed ceiling; each proposal is assessed on its own merits and agreed with the Board.

Who is this for?

Organisations with a track record of delivery, a clear strategic fit with Arawak Walton's priorities, and a project with real scale — reaching a wide area or addressing a significant, ongoing issue.

How do I apply?

Complete the Strategic Partnership Application Form. It asks for more detail than the small grants form — a year-by-year delivery plan and budget, your organisation's track record, and how you'll sustain the work once our support ends.

How are decisions made?

Your proposal is scored by staff against a weighted set of criteria — strategic fit counts for the most, alongside impact, delivery capacity, value for money, and visibility. A recommendation then goes to our Senior Management Team and, for a final decision, to the Board or a delegated Committee.

What happens each year?

Funding for the first year is confirmed when you sign the Terms of Partnership Agreement. Every year after that, continued funding depends on a satisfactory annual review — you'll complete a short Annual Review & Impact Evaluation Form and meet with us to look at progress before the next year's funding is confirmed. It isn't automatic, but it's a conversation, not a test.

Can Arawak Walton approach us directly, rather than us applying?

Occasionally, yes — our Chief Executive or Board Chair may identify an organisation whose work strongly matches our aims and invite a proposal. The same assessment and Board approval steps still apply.

What if we need to make changes partway through?

Tell us as soon as possible. We'd rather agree a change with you in writing than find out after the fact. Either side can end the partnership with three months' notice if needed.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Which one should I apply for?

As a rule of thumb: if you need £1,000 or less for a single event or short project, apply to the Donations Fund. If you're looking for sustained, multi-year support for something bigger, a Strategic Partnership is likely the better fit. If you're not sure, get in touch and we'll help you work out which route makes sense — or whether a small grant now could be a first step towards a bigger partnership later.

What are the six core themes?

Both funding routes support projects linked to one or more of these:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Financial Inclusion / Cost of Living
- Community Facilities and Infrastructure
- Employment, Skills and Training
- Environment
- Community Safety and Cohesion

What if my project doesn't fit neatly into one theme?

That's fine — many good projects touch more than one theme. Tell us about all the ones that apply.

Will you use our information for anything else?

We handle any personal information you share with us in line with our Privacy Notice, available on request, and only use it to administer, monitor and report on the funding you've applied for.

Who can I talk to before applying?

We're happy to have an informal chat before you apply — it can save time on both sides. Contact us at communityinvestment@arawakwalton.com.