



Website: <https://www.stjamesbiglocal.co.uk/>

Plan: <https://www.stjamesbiglocal.co.uk/the-plan>

St James Street Big Local are really passionate about providing the best services and opportunities for the local area and its residents. We are particularly aware of the disparity that many people in our area are facing as the cost of living continues to widen gaps and we are very keen to support those who would benefit most with the opportunity to have the support and services they need as part of the legacy of the partnership's work in the area.

BACKGROUND TO THE LEGACY PROJECT:

This document has been produced by the St James Street Big Local (SJSBL) partnership for the purpose of ensuring that the £200,000 ring-fenced within the overall grant from Local Trust, can be invested in projects to provide a legacy beyond the life of the Big Local in March 2026.

The St. James Street Big Local (SJSBL) partnership seeks to address the challenges of disability, social isolation, and poverty within the community.

We have identified the challenges in the area using local insight data [OCS] and our local knowledge as residents of the area:

Disability:

Currently, there is minimal provision for disability support in the St. James Street Big Local area. We aim to bridge this gap by working to provide comprehensive support to individuals and families with disabilities. Currently there is very little to no provision, hence why this is our **first priority**.

Social Isolation:

A significant portion of our community, particularly the elderly and young people leaving care, face social isolation. Our goal is to combat this issue by working to implement initiatives that foster community connection and support networks in the area.

Poverty:

In the St. James Street Big Local area, a significant challenge arises from the prevalence of residents living in deprived conditions. Local Insight Data reveals that 2899 individuals reside in neighbourhoods ranked among the most deprived 20% in England, with 540 children coming from low-income families. This challenge is compounded by factors such as high rents, which disproportionately affect lone parents and lower-wage workers. Food and fuel poverty are pervasive issues, exacerbating disparities within the community. Addressing these challenges requires targeted support and resources, especially for children and young people who are particularly vulnerable in such circumstances.

THE COMMISSION:

We are seeking to commission groups committed to working with local residents, with at least 75% of beneficiaries residing in the SJSBL area (1.1 shown above). The funding awarded should address one or more of the **identified priorities: disability, poverty, or social isolation**.

A total grant of up to £100,000 is available to each successful organisation. There is £200,000 available in total (including VAT). We anticipate awarding 2 contracts for this. We encourage partnerships and



consortiums/smaller grassroots groups to spread the work amongst them (with one applicant taking the lead) if this is appropriate.

Commission objectives:

We are looking for projects of scale that are long-term and have a lifespan beyond 2026. We are preferably looking at supporting organisations that already have a track record of quality service delivery to capacity build to ensure they can widen and deepen their support for residents in the local community.

While we are able to provide a list of key contacts and services in the area, our capacity is limited so we would be seeking organisations that can take a lead and build the necessary relationships. We can signpost and support through our social media and community networks. Our ambition is to invest in people rather than physical assets.

We are looking for sustainable, regular and trusted services such as drop ins, community support groups etc to be put in place so we can ensure people in the community feel heard and can access other services and support (via signposting) that would benefit their lives.

The 3 areas we identified above are the priorities that we would like organisations to apply to support the area with. This is a hyper-local grant scheme so we advise that applicants work to understand and connect with the designated area and the communities in it for the lead up and duration of the project and beyond.

The outcomes we hope to achieve within each area from the Reachout St James Street Scheme is as follows:

A Lasting Legacy

We expect the projects we fund to have a lasting legacy by significantly impacting the lives of individuals in our community. This funding is intended to strengthen organisations operating in the area, making them more financially sustainable to continue delivering essential services beyond the project's timeline.

Disability

We want to enhance provision for disabled individuals and their families in the St. James Street Big Local Area.

Social Isolation

Engage with socially isolated residents of the St. James Street Big Local Area, facilitating inclusive and accessible activities while ensuring diverse and focused engagement throughout the community.

Poverty

Address the needs of those living in poverty, striving to improve their situation and wellbeing.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A developed project plan against outcomes and timescales (created at the start of the project) that we can monitor performance (and staged payments) against.
- Develop a comprehensive evaluation and impact plan and report (to be agreed with the Big Local partnership).
- Ensure active and inclusive advertisement and engagement of activities to the whole community.
- Ensure any spaces used for any events or workshops are inclusive and accessible to all.
- Implement relevant safeguarding and health and safety policies.

We will use the work plan and agreed outputs as a means to monitor the contracted services throughout the project and be able to share successes and opportunities with the SJSBL community as a whole.



APPLICANT EXPERIENCE:

Applicants must preferably demonstrate a proven track record of effectively working with target community groups, emphasising community engagement and diversity. Relevant skills, and compliance with statutory requirements are essential.

TIMESCALES AND BUDGETS:

The projects must be underway by September 2024 and the final payment will be released by September 2025.

Application Schedule:

- Expressions of Interest with proposal returned by **14th June 2024 by 17:00pm**
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview where they will be expected to make a presentation. We will share interview questions in advance of the interview. We are keen to support access so do let us know at the time of application if you have any requests in terms of accessibility.
- Decision is expected to be made by **mid July**.

For an informal chat or questions about the commission please contact **Georgia Bonfield** at **St James Street Big Local** by email : stjamesbiglocal@gmail.com

TO APPLY:

Please provide a written outline proposal no longer than 4 sides of A4 including:

- Project rationale, aims and objectives explaining how the priorities will be met and a lasting legacy provided.
- Proposed schedule and budget.
- Outline of how you will ensure that you will support 75% of our local community with your project.
- Examples of previous work
 - Evidencing impact and outcome,
- 2 x References (Financial, character reference, past funding)

to

Legacy@stjamesstreetbiglocal.co.uk by 14th June 2024 by 17:00pm

Please be aware that the following additional information will be needed if you are successfully awarded a grant:

- Delivery team structure and background.
- Evaluation and monitoring plan.
- Details of relevant policies (Safeguarding).
- Audited accounts.

We reserve the right to make changes to this document if challenges arise.