



These are your neighbours, this is your Hammersmith & Fulham.

A Better H&F Panel Recruitment Pack

2026



Welcome, from H&F Giving

Thank you for your interest in becoming a community panellist with H&F Giving.

H&F Giving is a small charity rooted in Hammersmith & Fulham. We believe that local people understand their communities best, and that funding decisions are stronger when they are shaped by the people and places they are intended to support. We are looking for residents of Hammersmith & Fulham to join our A Better H&F community panel, and have the opportunity to participate on a range of projects primarily our A Better Hammersmith & Fulham Fund over the next three years.

Through our Better Hammersmith & Fulham campaign, we are raising local money to support grassroots organisations tackling poverty, isolation and inequality across the borough. We want local residents, volunteers, community members and people with lived experience to help us decide where this funding can make the biggest difference.

You do not need to have been on a grants panel before. What matters is your local knowledge, your values, and your commitment to helping make Hammersmith & Fulham a fairer, kinder place for everyone.

We would be delighted to hear from you.

H&F Giving

About H&F Giving

H&F Giving is the local giving scheme for Hammersmith & Fulham.

We connect people, resources and ideas to tackle inequality and support the borough's diverse communities. We raise and distribute funds to support local charities, community groups and resident-led initiatives.

We believe that communities know best what they need, and our role is to help resources reach where they will have the biggest impact.



Our Impact

H&F Giving is the go-to organisation for funders and donors to understand and meet the needs of local people.

We've already achieved a lot in a short time! But this is just the start for us!

1.8 Million +

Of grants distributed

10,000+

People in need reached via 50+ community partners annually

1,500+

digital devices distributed



Our work is guided by our values:

Innovative

We find new ways to support local people, share expertise and nurture ideas.

1

Inclusive

We act on diverse perspectives and involve residents directly in funding decisions.

2

Collaborative

We multiply impact by working in strong partnerships and networks.

3



Integrity

We are open, ethical and accountable, with careful stewardship of resources.

4

Passionate

We believe in the power of helping others and champion the well-being of our community.

5



About the Better H&F Fund

A Better Hammersmith & Fulham is H&F Giving's campaign to raise local money for local people.

Hammersmith & Fulham is an amazing borough, but we know that many residents are facing serious challenges, including poverty, isolation, inequality, food insecurity, digital exclusion, poor health, housing pressures and barriers to opportunity.

The Better Hammersmith & Fulham Fund will support local charities, grassroots groups and community organisations working to make life better for people across the borough.

We want this fund to be shaped by local insight. That is why we are recruiting community panellists to help review applications and make funding recommendations.



Other H&F Giving Funds

In recent years, H&F Giving has also run a range of funding rounds including the Winter Support Fund (in partnership with the Council) and our Digital Support Fund, which you can read more about on our website. You may also have the opportunity to participate on other panels like these as A Better H&F Community Panellist for H&F Giving.



What is a community panellist?

Community panellists will help H&F Giving decide which local projects should receive funding

You will read funding applications, discuss them with other panellists, and help make recommendations about where funding should go.

You do not need to be a professional grant-maker. We are looking for people who understand Hammersmith & Fulham, care about their community, and want local funding to reach the people and organisations who need it most.

What's involved?

As a community panellist, you will:

- Bring local voice and community insight into funding decisions.
- Help us understand which projects respond most strongly to local need.
- Read and discuss applications from local charities and community groups.
- Use agreed criteria to help assess applications fairly.
- Help make recommendations about which projects should receive funding.
- Champion fairness, inclusion and community-led decision-making.
- Share learning with H&F Giving so we can improve future funding rounds.

You will not be expected to make decisions on your own. You will be part of a supported group process, with training and guidance from H&F Giving.

In practice this means:

As a community panellist, you will be asked to:

Attend two paid in-person induction and training sessions.

For each specific panel you participate on, you will be asked to:

- Attend meeting(s) to help design priorities for funds as needed
- Read a number of funding applications.
- Use a simple scoring or feedback form.
- Attend panel meeting(s) to discuss applications.
- Declare any conflicts of interest.
- Respect confidentiality.
- Help us reflect on what worked and what could be improved.

We will provide training, clear guidance and ongoing support so you feel confident in the role.

We will also cover reasonable travel, childcare, caring or access costs so that taking part is open to as many people as possible.

A Better H&F Community Panellist Role Description

This is a paid community role.

Community panellists will help H&F Giving make fair, thoughtful and community-informed funding decisions. Panellists will bring local knowledge, lived experience, professional experience, voluntary experience or community insight into the grants process. H&F Giving will remain responsible for checking eligibility, carrying out due diligence, managing grant agreements and making sure funding is distributed responsibly. The community panel will help review eligible applications and make recommendations.

Each community panellist term is three years, with the opportunity to extend after this time. A panellist can sit for a maximum of two terms and a total of 6 years.

Meetings will be held in Hammersmith & Fulham, with online options where possible.



What we're looking for

Essential:

- A connection to Hammersmith & Fulham. This could mean you live, work, study, volunteer or have strong community links here.
- A commitment to H&F Giving's values of innovation, collaboration, inclusion, integrity and passion.
- An interest in making funding fairer and more community-led.
- A willingness to listen to others and take part in respectful discussion.
- An understanding of, or interest in, the challenges facing local people.
- The ability to keep information confidential.

You do not need previous panel, trustee or grant-making experience. We welcome people from all walks of life and will provide support and training.

Desirable:

We are committed to creating a panel that reflects the diversity of our borough and would particularly welcome applications from people with personal, professional, voluntary or community experience of:

- Poverty or financial insecurity.
- Disability, long-term health conditions or caring responsibilities.
- Housing pressures.
- Racial injustice, inequality or experiences of being part of a minoritised community.
- Food insecurity.
- Digital exclusion.
- Youth work, young people's experiences (including young adults aged 18–25) or older people's experiences and services.
- Refugee, migrant and asylum-seeking communities.
- Community organising, volunteering, mutual aid, peer support, faith-based activities, resident associations or community champion roles.

We are also keen to ensure representation from across all areas of the borough, different age groups and communities, so that a broad range of perspectives informs funding decisions.



Community Panellist Commitments

- An estimated 2 to 5 days per grant round over a period of time. Time expectations and pay will be confirmed in advance of each grant round.
- Two paid in-person induction and training sessions
- At least one community panel meeting

Term

Up to 3 years, renewable once (max 6 years)

Review

Review a number of applications

Reflection

Attend one short feedback or learning session

Location

Hybrid (mix of in-person in H&F and online).

Expenses

All reasonable expenses reimbursed; access costs supported.



Payment and expenses

We believe people should be recognised for their time and expertise.

Community panellists will receive a payment or honorarium for taking part in the process. We understand that receiving payments can sometimes affect benefits or other personal circumstances, and we do not want this to prevent anyone from applying. We will discuss individual needs with successful applicants and, where possible, offer flexible payment options to support participation.

We are a London Living Wage employer, so you can expect to be paid a minimum of £14.80* an hour for your work. We will also support reasonable expenses, including travel, childcare, caring responsibilities and access needs.

We do not want cost to be a barrier to taking part.

*As of June 2026

Benefits of becoming a Community Panellist

Being a Community Panellist can help you:

- Build your confidence in meetings, discussions, and decision-making.
- Develop valuable skills that can support work, volunteering, and community leadership opportunities.
- Strengthen your experience and prepare for future advisory, steering group, or paid roles.
- Gain practical experience that can support your progression into volunteering, leadership positions, education, or employment.



Support Available

We want this process to be welcoming and accessible. H&F Giving will provide:

- A clear induction.
- Training on how to review applications.
- Plain English guidance.
- Support before and during the panel meeting.
- Accessible meeting formats where possible.
- A named H&F Giving contact throughout the process.
- Help with travel, childcare, caring or access costs where needed.

You do not need to know anything about grant-making before applying.





Confidentiality and conflicts of interest

As a community panellist, you may see information about local organisations, projects, budgets and people they support. This information must be treated confidentially.

We will also ask you to declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest. For example, if you work or volunteer for an organisation that applies to the fund, or if you have a close personal connection to an applicant.

Having a conflict of interest does not automatically mean you cannot be a panellist. It just means we need to manage it fairly and openly. H&F Giving will provide guidance and support on this.

Examples of Conflicts of Interest

Panellists will be asked to declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest. Where appropriate, arrangements will be made to manage conflicts fairly, which may include stepping out of particular discussions or decision-making processes. Here are some examples of actual, potential, and perceived conflicts of interest:

Actual conflict of interest

A direct connection that could affect, or be seen to affect, your judgement.

Example: *you work for an organisation whose application is being assessed.*

Potential conflict of interest

A connection that may become relevant or create a conflict in the future.

Example: *a close family member has recently applied for a role with an organisation whose application is being assessed.*

Perceived conflict of interest

A connection that may not affect your judgement, but could reasonably be seen by others as doing so.

Example: *you previously volunteered for an organisation whose application is being assessed.*

How to Apply

We want this process to be welcoming and accessible. You can apply in a format that suits you:

Ways to Apply	How	To Note:
Apply online via a quick form	Via our website / Email us	Get in touch if you need assistance, we're here to help.
To download a Word Document	Via our website / Email us	Email finished word doc to team@hfgiving.org.uk (you can send us pictures if you decide to print and hand write it) No more than 150 words per question.
To Send Us a Video or Voice note	Email: team@hfgiving.org.uk Send to us via mobile/Whatsapp: 07881 103827	No more than 2 minutes per question.
Apply via phone call/landline	Give H&F Giving a call and we'll fill out the form with you.	Call us on 07881 103827

For any support or further guidance for your application please get in touch with us.



[07881 103827](tel:07881103827)



team@hfgiving.org.uk



What's Next?

After the deadline, H&F Giving will review expressions of interest and select a balanced panel.

We will aim to bring together people with different connections, experiences and perspectives from across Hammersmith & Fulham. If you are selected, we will invite you to two half-day in-person induction and training sessions in September and October 2026. You will be paid the London Living Wage for taking part in these sessions.

After these training sessions, you will officially join our pool of A Better H&F Community Panellists and we will share further opportunities to participate with you. A number of panellists will be asked to help us shape our A Better Hammersmith & Fulham Fund.

If we are not able to offer you a panellist place this time, we would still love to keep in touch about future opportunities to get involved with H&F Giving.

Deadline: Monday the 17th of August 2026

Key dates

- Applications open: 18/06/26
- Q&A sessions :1-2 dates TBC
- Deadline to apply: 17/08/26

- Two induction and training sessions TBC*:
 - Session One:
28/09/26 or
02/10/26
 - Session Two:
13/10/26 or
16/10/26

If you are interested in applying but unable to make the induction or training session dates, please let us know.



Questions or informal chat

If you would like a chat before applying, please contact:

Mary Lord
Charity Administrator

Mary works on grant administration and with the local H&F community as part of her role and will support the community panellist recruitment process.

We would be very happy to talk through the role, answer any questions, and share more about what being a community panellist involves.



These are your neighbours.
This is your Hammersmith and Fulham.

By becoming a community panellist, you can help make sure local funding is shaped by local people and reaches the organisations working closest to community need.

We hope you will consider joining us.

