



International Day
of Older Persons



International Day of Older People 2024

International Day of Older People (IDOP) on 1st October is celebrated annually in Leeds, focusing on a different theme each year. The theme for 2024 is:

“The part we play”

Celebrating the integral role of older people in our communities

Community Grants of up to £250 are available to help groups and organisations in Leeds run events celebrating the integral role of older people in our communities.

See details of grants below:

“The part we play”: Celebrating the integral role of older people in our communities

Older people play an integral part in strengthening our communities and neighbourhoods as workers, carers, volunteers, activists and community connectors. However, these vital contributions are often overlooked or limited by ageism and other societal and physical barriers.

In addition to helping others, volunteering has been shown to improve our social connections and enhance our sense of purpose and self-esteem. Paid work can have a positive impact on well-being and finances. Despite this, many older people encounter barriers to getting involved in all the ways they would like to.

We all have a part to play in making our communities and neighbourhoods better places to age and in celebrating and enabling the contributions of older people.

On this International Day of Older People, we are celebrating older people and the vital part they play—and have the potential to play—in making our community a better place.

Community Event Grants

Community Grants of up to £250 are available to help run IDOP events centred on the theme “The part we play,” which celebrates the integral role of older people in our communities.

Unfortunately, we have a limited budget. We usually get far more applications than we can fund, so **we only have funding for approximately ten grants.**

Who can apply for a grant?

We are keen to fund a range of diverse events and welcome applications from all communities of the city, including those focusing on intergenerational work or specific issues affecting older people, such as people living with dementia.

We particularly welcome applications from small and medium-sized groups and organisations.

We encourage applications from organisations who want to expand their service/activities to include older people.

Types of organisations that may apply include:

- Voluntary and statutory sector organisations
- Neighbourhood Network Schemes
- Theatres & theatre groups
- Faith groups (though we can't fund anything promoting a particular religion/faith)
- Art groups/organisations
- Community groups
- Care homes (private and local authority)
- Day centres
- Lunch clubs
- Libraries
- Museums and art galleries

If you are unsure whether you are eligible to apply, please contact Jo Volpe (Leeds Older People's Forum) by phone (0113) 244 1697 or email: jo@opforum.org.uk.

What kind of events can you get a grant for?

We encourage groups and organisations to devise creative and interesting ways to celebrate IDOP in Leeds. Ideally, the application should be for a new idea or opportunity that ties in with the theme of “The part we play”: Celebrating the integral role of older people in our communities.

Here are a few examples of what you might want to do:

- Provide opportunities for older people to tell their stories and reflect on the importance of their roles in shaping their community. This may be through art, dance, poetry, food or other forms of expression
- Organise a walk celebrating the art, culture and heritage of older people in their area

- Create opportunities to share memories and stories of activism.

The event should also reflect the ethos of IDOP:

- To promote and celebrate the contribution of older people* to the city
- To highlight the barriers which still exist to older people's full participation

* By older, we typically mean people aged 60+ (younger for communities with a lower life expectancy).

What can you get funding for?

Items that can be funded include:

- Facilitators, artists
- Room hire
- Equipment (where it is used as part of the event)
- Refreshments
- Transport to attend an event or activity or to deliver resources to people's homes.
- Accessibility requirements, such as virtual or online events for people with sight and hearing loss

What won't we fund?

We won't fund:

- Activities that you usually run or work you currently receive funding or money towards.
- Commercial organisations/companies
- Political events/organisations
- Anything promoting a particular religion/faith

Who can attend IDOP events?

The audience can be the public, your service users, or staff/volunteers. We encourage the community events to be open to all.

When do events need to take place?

We ask that IDOP 2024 events be held between the 1st and 7th of October 2024, where possible.

Schedule for grant applications

- Deadline for applications – **5:00 pm 19th September 2024**
- Applicants will be informed as to whether they have been successful or otherwise by email on **Friday 20th September 2024**
- LOPF produces a calendar of IDOP events to promote IDOP in Leeds. Successful applicants must supply details of their event no later than **25th September 2024**.
- Events held **1st - 7th October 2024** (where possible)

How to apply for a grant

- If possible, please [use the online form](#).
- If you cannot complete the form online or need support to do so, please call Leeds Older People's Forum - 0113 244 1697 - to ask for a paper copy to be posted.

Please note that you can [get help with digital support at Digital Inclusion Leeds](#).

Evaluation form

Completing an evaluation form is a requirement of receiving an IDOP events grant. We do not ask for receipts, so this form is the only evidence we have to show funders how the money has been spent.

Spreading the IDOP message via social media



We promote and highlight IDOP events on social media like Twitter and Facebook. Please support us by using your own social media to report on events as they happen, where appropriate.

Please use #IDOPLeeds in all your posts.

Please ask if you would like any support on using social media.

Your application will not be affected if your organisation or group doesn't use social media.

If you have any positive images which you can let us use, please email them to:

jo@opforum.org.uk (Please ensure the subjects have given approval for the images to be used)