



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

London Communities Human Rights Programme

justfair

The British Institute
of Human Rights 

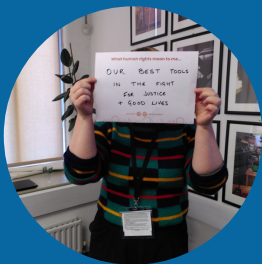
<https://www.bihhr.org.uk/>

<https://justfair.org.uk/>

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

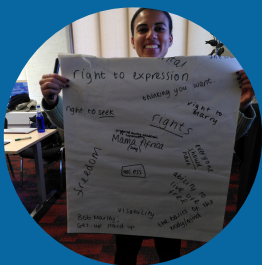
The London Community Human Rights Programme is a new programme led by The British Institute of Human Rights and Just Fair, funded by the Baring Foundation and City Bridge Trust. The project aims to promote and develop the use of human rights-based approaches (HRBAs) for London-based civil society organisations, using international and domestic human rights laws to support practical, real-world protections for individuals and communities facing discrimination and disadvantage. We want to work with applicants to find human rights-based solution to the problems your community is facing.

ABOUT JUST FAIR AND BIHR



JUST FAIR

works to bring social justice and human rights together by championing economic, social, and cultural rights in the UK. Our vision is for a fairer and more just society for all. Our mission is to lead and inspire work to respect, protect and fulfil economic, social, and cultural rights in the UK.



BIHR

has been promoting and upholding human rights in the UK since it was founded in 1970. BIHR's mission is to enable positive social change in the UK through the practical use of our Human Rights Act. To achieve this mission, BIHR works with people and community groups supporting them to use human rights advocacy; with organisations that have public power to ensure they live up to their legal duties and with policy and law makers, so that people's legally protected rights and their lived experience is centred.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does the programme run?

The programme is funded for five years and started in July 2023. We are currently in year one of the project.

Who is this programme for?

As leading human rights charities, we want to work with London-based groups who are making real differences in their communities. You could work across London, a single borough, or in a single block of flats: if you and your organisation are working to build change, we want to hear from you. You do not need to be human rights experts; we are looking for groups responding to issues in their communities that could benefit from using human rights and a rights-based approach in their work.

To ensure our work is as impactful as possible, we are looking for:

- Organisations with an annual income of less than £750,000.
- Organisations that work closely with people in their communities (this could include staff, volunteers, people accessing services) to design your work.
- Organisations that have a demonstrable track record of delivering community activity, with the infrastructure to join a multi-year programme.
- Organisations tackling social inequalities and empowering communities.

- Organisations who work on issues under the Human Rights Act, and/or the International Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights.

How do I get involved?

If you want to learn more about how this support can help your organisation to respond to the needs of your communities, you can join us at our free Human Rights Open Day in Hammersmith on Thursday 22 February 2024 from 09:30 – 12:30 (with lunch to follow).

This in person session will include:

- An introduction to human rights and taking a human rights-based approach.
- An opportunity to meet other community groups.
- Information on the programme and how to apply to be a community partner.

You can [register for our Hammersmith session here](#), and [sign up to the Project mailing list](#) to hear more about upcoming capacity-building workshops.

What human rights knowledge do I need to apply to the programme?

You do not need to have any human rights expertise to apply to this programme. Our aim is to work with organisations across London over the 4 years to build their knowledge and expertise and help them to find human rights solutions to the problems their community faces.

What is a human rights-based approach?

Taking a human rights-based approach means using the principles of human rights to guide our policies, programmes and practices and to advocate when these aren't rights-based.

Taking a human rights-based approach means:

- Shifting our campaigns and programmes from simply plugging gaps, towards fixing the holes.
- Encouraging people to know and claim their rights – and making sure they have a say in decisions that affect them.
- Prioritising those in our community who face the biggest barriers to realising their rights.
- Holding authorities to account when they fall behind what is legally expected of them.
- Supporting people to make the changes that matter.

Integrating a rights-based approach into policymaking, as well as the day to day running of organisations, ensures that standards are met for everyone: so that rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled.

FUNDED SUPPORT

What is the funded support programme?

Just Fair and BIHR want to hear from groups who would like to work intensively with us over the next 4 years to develop the use of a human rights-based approach within their organisations.

We are offering dedicated support is offered to 4 selected organisations for 4 years (June 2024 – July 2028). This includes funding of around £50,000 per organisation per year, rising each year to account for inflation.

This could be used to fund (for example):

- A human rights training and support plan.
- Support to build up your processes for involving lived experience and ensuring co-production.
- Resources that help make human rights accessible to your community – such as artistic projects, weekly outreach activities, or a new campaign.
- A new post – such as a Human Rights Officer of your own.

APPLY NOW

How do I apply?

To apply, please [fill in our application form](#) by 25 March 2024. Further information [can be found in our application pack](#). To request an Easy Read application, if you would like to apply in video format rather than written, or if you require any other reasonable adjustments to apply, please email info@bihr.org.uk.

What support is available to apply?

During the application period, we will run 2 open meetings for those seeking further information or support. These will be held online on 29 February 2024 from 12:30pm – 1:30pm, and on 6 March 2024 from 5 – 6pm.

- [**Join us on 29th February 2024 from 12:30 – 1:30pm**](#)
- [**Join us on 6th March 2024 from 5 – 6pm**](#)
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Those who attend one of these sessions who have further questions will be able to book a 1:1 support call with the team.

What is the timeline for applications?

Applications close 25 March 2024 (5pm).

What happens after the application process closes?

We will invite 10 shortlisted applicants for interview in person on 22 and 23 April 2024. Those shortlisted will be notified of the outcome of the process by 30 April.

The 4 successful applicants will work with the BIHR and Just Fair staff teams to co-produce a proposal for their proposed project by 17 May 2024, with the outcome of the grants application (and so commencement of the project) to be confirmed by 21 June 2024.

Who will be providing the grant?

The grant agreement will be between each selected community group and the Baring Foundation, but you will work with BIHR and Just Fair from day to day.

Who will I be working with?

Successful applicants will work closely with Human Rights Officers embedded within Just Fair and the British Institute of Human Rights.

What happens if my application is unsuccessful?

We will be organising 4 free human rights capacity building workshops to run from May – August 2024. Bursaries of £150 will be available for up to 20 organisations who were unsuccessful in the application process and would like to attend a workshop, smaller organisations will be prioritised.