

PRESS RELEASE

AGMA launches new-look grant scheme

The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) is re-launching its grants scheme for the not-for-profit sector and inviting applications.

The fund, known as the section 48 scheme, has been reviewed to give it a clear focus on the priorities of AGMA's Greater Manchester Strategy – in particular contributing to economic growth for the region.

The purpose of the scheme is to support properly constituted, not-for-profit voluntary sector groups who provide services across Greater Manchester.

The new scheme will be shaped around funding activities and organisations which meet three main objectives:

- Contribute to the recognition of Greater Manchester locally, nationally and internationally – helping create the conditions to attract new investment, new visitors and new talent
- Contribute to improving the skills and employability of Greater Manchester residents, encouraging people to fulfil their full potential.
- Play a strong role in developing strong and inclusive communities, contributing to an improved quality of life and well-being for all residents

AGMA vice chair Sir Richard Leese said: "In the current economic climate, it is even more important than ever that we ensure that grant funding allocated by AGMA helps promote the economic growth of the area.

"We believe this new scheme will ensure our grants are focused on that goal, while still ensuring that smaller, welfare-focused organisations are able to benefit."

The deadline to apply for grants under the new scheme is Thursday 10 November.

Grants awarded will be for three years – 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/5. The total budget available for the fund from 2012/13 will be decided by AGMA's Executive Committee when it meets in December.

For further information, please contact AGMA Grants staff on 0161 234 3364/5 or via email to <mailto:agma.grants@manchester.gov.uk>

The application pack can be downloaded via the AGMA website at <http://www.agma.gov.uk>

Ends.