**Grant Funding for Building Informal ESOL Capacity**

**Application Form**

**August 2025**

## Introduction

East Midlands Councils (EMC) is launching a grant programme for Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) groups, to support capacity-building in the informal English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) sector, and is inviting bids from qualifying providers for grants of up to £10,000, supporting projects to be completed by 31st March 2026.

For the purpose of this fund, the ‘informal ESOL sector’ describes VCSE-run English classes delivered in community venues, prioritising social integration, and which do not lead to official qualifications.

Beneficiaries of projects funded by this grant must be migrants or displaced people, with an emphasis on those who are Hong Kong BN(O) or Homes for Ukraine visa holders, or resettled refugees under the Communities for Afghans initiative, and their dependents, residing in the East Midlands region (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, and Rutland).

EMC will support projects which align with the high-level objectives of the fund by:

* Enabling relevant migrant cohorts (as defined above) to feel fully part of and positively contribute to life in the UK, both economically and socially, enriching our society.
* Increasing and/or improving informal and community-based ESOL capacity.
* Developing awareness of trauma-informed teaching practice in the informal and community-based ESOL sector (including secondary or vicarious trauma).

Please refer to the Guidance for VCSE Applicants document to develop your application.

If you have questions or require additional information or support to complete this form, please contact us at [smp@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:smp@emcouncils.gov.uk).

## Deadlines

Your completed application must be received by EMC no later than 1700 on Friday 12th September 2025.

## Privacy Notice

Information provided in this application form will be used by EMC and shared with panel members for the purpose of assessing your application, as well as providing ongoing support during delivery, and to support monitoring and evaluation. Your information will not be used to determine any other grant funding decisions.

## Your Contact Details

1. What is your full name? (Include first name and last name)    
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
2. What is your contact telephone number?    
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
3. What is your email address?    
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
4. What is your role?     
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.

## Second Contact

Please provide details of a second contact in case we need to get in touch and you are unavailable. The second contact should work for the same organisation as the first contact.

1. What is their full name? (Include first name and last name)    
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
2. What is their contact telephone number?     
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
3. What is their email address?    
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
4. What is their role?    
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.

## About your organisation

1. What is the name of your group or organisation? Is your organisation a registered charity? If so, please also provide your charity commission number.

​ Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What is the full address of your group or organisation?

​ Click or tap here to enter text.  
 

1. Organisation website (if applicable)     
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Please select your type of organisation (Please provide evidence such as a governing document or constitution.)    
      
   ​ Choose an item.
3. Provide a brief description of what your organisation does, where you usually work and who you usually work with.  (250 words)   
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.
4. Please click or tap to tick the box below to confirm the organisation / group has three or more Trustees or Directors. (If successful we may ask you to provide evidence of this.)

1. Provide your organisation’s bank account details. DO NOT supply personal bank details through this form. We cannot fund organisations that do not have an organisation or group bank account. (If successful we may ask you to provide a recent bank statement.)    
      
   Account name: ​ Click or tap here to enter text.  
   Bank / building society name: Click or tap here to enter text.  
   Bank / building society address: ​ Click or tap here to enter text.  
   Account number: ​ Click or tap here to enter text.

Sort code: ​ Click or tap here to enter text.

## About Your Activities

1. Which of the Grant Funding for Informal ESOL Capacity objectives will your proposal help to address? Select all that apply.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Enabling relevant migrant cohorts (see guidance for details) to fully contribute to life in the UK, both economically and socially, enriching our society. | ​​ |
| Increasing and/or improving informal and community-based ESOL capacity | ​​ |
| Developing awareness of trauma-informed teaching practice in the informal English language training sector | ​​ |

1. Which of the EMC priorities for proposed activities will your project help to achieve? Select all that apply.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Projects supporting the specific English language training needs of relevant migrant cohorts (see guidance for details). | ​​ |
| Projects to improve or develop the capacity of VCSE organisations delivering ESOL to relevant migrant cohorts (see guidance for details). | ​​​ |
| Projects to support the upskilling of volunteer ESOL tutors working with relevant migrant cohorts (see guidance for details), with an emphasis on trauma-informed practice and secondary/vicarious trauma. | ​​ |

1. Tell us what you want to do, and which cohorts your provision is targeted towards. Include the name and location of your project, how your activities will help address the programme objectives you selected and why you have chosen your approach (max 800 words). Please check the Application Guidance document for more help with this.

​ Click or tap here to enter text.  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
   
19. When do you expect to deliver your project or activities? Dates can be approximate but need to take into account the delivery and reporting timeline in the guidance. 

Start date: ​ Click or tap to enter a date.​ 

End date: ​ Click or tap to enter a date.

20. How many people do you think your project will benefit?

​​ Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How will you measure the impact of your work? (250 words maximum)

​ Click or tap here to enter text.  
  
  
  
  
   
   
​

## Costs

1. What is the total cost of your project and what percentage of the costs will be covered by this grant? Applications which include match funding from other sources will be prioritised.

​ Click or tap here to enter text.

1. What will you spend the money on? Please provide a **detailed** breakdown of the proposed spending e.g., staffing, volunteer expenses, venues, equipment. If you wish, you can use the comments box to further explain what terms mean e.g., "management costs" . *The more detail you provide here, the quicker the funding decision will be made.*   
      
   ​ Click or tap here to enter text.  
      
   ​ Click or tap here to add supporting comments

## Safeguarding

1. Please confirm that you have a safeguarding policy in place and provide a copy alongside your application.

## Insurance

1. Please confirm that your organisation has public liability insurance to cover the proposed activity, and provide evidence of this alongside your application.

**Apart from evidence of your group’s governance or constitution, no additional information, such as appendices or other attachments, will be considered.**