



Springboard & Starting Blocks Fund – Terms of Reference

What is the Springboard Fund?

Red Kite will invest £100,000 a year over 5 years across to be spent on applications of which the criteria is set out below, we are inviting members of the community to put in bids for a share of the funding.

We also have '**Starting Blocks**' funded from the same money above, which is there to help those who need funding, quickly & consciously. Throughout the year, 'Starting Blocks' grants (requests below £2000) are able to be instantly granted via an internal panel consisting of the Community Investment Manager and one member of our Customer and Community Insight Group.

“Local funding for individuals, communities, enterprise and businesses”

Applications we will support:

- Funding is available to anyone who lives in an area where Red Kite Community Housing operates
- Courses, accreditations, further learning and education to drive the applicant's potential to work or drive a business or business idea forward
- The funding amount requested is used in line with our vision, mission and values
- Funding requests around creating or furthering a business in the local community where Red Kite operates are encouraged
- Projects which require funding are able to deliver a tangible output within the first 12 months of investment being granted
- Projects have the support of local people (relative to the projects audience)
- Funding bids which will eventually increase enterprise and employment in the areas Red Kite operate are encouraged
- Social Enterprises are encouraged to apply for funding, trading or profit making organisations may apply if they are able to demonstrate evidence of substantial community benefit i.e. jobs creation
- Applications in which projects or businesses are accessible to all

Partnership • Respect • Pride • Creativity
Realising the potential in our communities



Applications we will not support:

- Projects will not be funded where beneficiaries are connected to Red Kite Community Housing Employees or Board Members and this has not been declared first
- We will not support bids for activities which will further promote religious or political organisations, or capital investment in assets owned by religious or political organisations
- The fund will not support a 'funding gap' (for a project/facility/improvement that another body has a duty or obligation to support e.g. everyday resources for nurseries or schools it will also not support Red Kite Community Housing funding gaps, individual home improvements to a Red Kite or private home, or other central or gaps created in local Government funded services.

How do I apply?

You can apply for a share of the funding by filling in a simple application form online with details of your funding request (for either the Springboard Fund or Starting Blocks fund). You will be asked to give as much information as possible to support your funding bid and show how it meets the criteria above.

What happens next – Starting Blocks

There are two stages to the Starting Blocks application process:

- 1) Once a 'Starting Blocks' application is received, it will be reviewed against the criteria above and considered within **three days** of confirmation of receipt of your application.
- 2) You will be informed as soon as the decision is made, as to whether your funding request was successful and we will arrange payment to be made as soon as we can.



What happens next – Springboard Fund

There are four stages to the Springboard Fund application process:

- 1) Download and fill in the 'Springboard Fund' application form, email it back to volunteering@redkitehousing.org.uk
- 2) Our Community Investment Team will contact you and make an appointment to discuss your application in more detail once received. The application will then be presented to the Springboard Fund Panel made up of Tenants, Board members and Red Kite staff.
- 3) The panel meets quarterly to consider proposals, and our Members will be asked that same quarter to vote on the projects the panel approved. You may be asked to come along to talk about your project or facility so that we are fully informed about the proposal, you will also be asked for a short 'blurb' about your proposal, to be used should it get to the Members voting stage.
- 4) If the panel has approved your application, it will go out to our Red Kite Membership for an online vote, the projects which receive the most votes will receive funding, and those that don't will get another chance to apply after three months. We will inform you whether you were successful in the Members vote, at the end of the voting period.

We will keep you informed about the progress of your application throughout, from receiving your application to letting you know if the panel approves it and how it's getting on with the Membership vote.

If you need any help or advice, please contact the Community Investment Team on 01494 476276/294/288 or email volunteering@redkitehousing.org.uk