



Community Partner Engagement Grants

Grants of £6,000 for local organisations to help shape the future of Matson and Robinswood.

About Pride in Place in Matson & Robinswood

Matson and Robinswood is one of the neighbourhoods chosen for the Government's Pride in Place programme. Over the next decade, the area will receive £20 million of long-term investment, directed by local people, to make a lasting difference to the place we live and work in.

The programme is led by a Neighbourhood Board made up mainly of residents and people who work in the area. The Board will listen to the community, agree the area's priorities, and put together a plan that turns local ambitions into reality. Matson and Robinswood already has real strengths and a long history of organisations working brilliantly together – Pride in Place is a chance to build on that.

This is the very start of the journey. Over the rest of 2026 we are setting up the Board, talking with the community, and shaping our first plan. We can only do that with the help of the organisations already trusted and active in the neighbourhood – which is where these grants come in.

The grants – what's on offer

We are offering grants of £6,000 each to up to fourteen local organisations, to help us reach across the whole community during this crucial first phase of Pride in Place.

This is deliberately not a prescriptive grant. We want to build on the exceptional strengths of organisations like yours, the brilliant work you already do, and the people you are already connected with. You know your community best – we are asking you to use that knowledge and those relationships on behalf of Pride in Place.

The grant covers work running this year, with community engagement continuing through to December 2026. It can cover staff time and costs related to running engagement events and activities. In return for the grant, we ask each partner organisation to take on two commitments.

Commitment one: spread the word and sign people up

First, we ask you to promote Pride in Place through your networks and to the people you already work with. That means encouraging people to get involved in three ways:

- **Apply to the Board** – encouraging residents and people who work in the area to apply to join the Matson & Robinswood Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board during July 2026.
- **Sign up to stay involved** – encouraging residents to sign up to be kept *in the loop*. This is two things: joining our mailing list to receive updates, and registering interest in taking part in future working groups, events and activities – without the commitment that comes with being a Board member.

- **Connect your organisation** – helping us make sure organisations, which includes employers, schools, and both constituted and unconstituted groups, local businesses such as trades and caterers, across the area are signed up to receive official communications from Matson & Robinswood Pride in Place.

Commitment two: engage your community

Second, we ask you to organise and arrange engagement with the community over the next four months, using your own networks and the ways of working that suit you best.

In these first few months the aim is broad: gathering people's interests and the initial ideas they have for the area. A more detailed plan, with specific asks focusing on particular themes, will follow later in the year once the Board has been formed. For now, we simply want to capture what matters to people.

How you do this is up to you, and can build on what you already do. For example, you can use the grant to:

- Support an existing group you already bring together – such as a youth forum or peer group – to share their views on Pride in Place.
- Putting on, or adding a Pride in Place element to, an event you are already planning, such as a community event this summer.
- A more general commitment to taking the time and building in capacity to talk with the people who come through your spaces and services already, telling them about the opportunity Pride in Place offers, and capturing their opinions and ideas.

Whatever shape it takes, the goal is the same: to gather the views and ideas that will become the data on which the Board makes its decisions as the year goes on. The richer that picture, the better the plan will be. Training will be arranged to support with data collected and taking a strengths first approach to identifying opportunities.

Who can apply

To apply for a grant, your organisation must meet our definition of a local organisation:

- **A local organisation** – a charity or not-for-profit organisation (such as a registered charity, CIC, community benefit society, charitable incorporated organisation, school, community amateur sports club, or other constituted community group) that is either registered at an address within the Pride in Place programme boundary for Matson and Robinswood, or, while registered elsewhere, has a demonstrable track record of delivering services or activities for residents within that boundary.

Already putting someone forward for a project team role? That's fine – organisations can both apply for an engagement grant and put a member of staff forward for one of the paid support roles (advertised separately). Holding one does not prevent you from applying for the other.

Due diligence

As we will be awarding public funding, successful applicants will be asked to provide the following before a grant is confirmed:

- A copy of your governing document.
- Confirmation of a bank account in the organisation's name.
- A copy of your most recent accounts or financial statement.
- Your safeguarding policy and a named lead.

- Appropriate insurance (for example public liability) for any activities or events you run.
- A named accountable contact.

How to apply

To apply for a community partner engagement grant, email us at:

chair@mrprideinplace.co.uk

Please tell us:

1. **About your organisation:** A short summary of your organisation and the work you do in the area.
2. **Your approach:** How you would use the grant to promote Pride in Place and sign people up, and how you would engage your community to gather views and ideas – building on what you already do.
3. **Confirmation:** That you can meet the two commitments above, and that you can provide the due-diligence documents listed.

Deadline for applications: Midnight Sunday 2nd August 2026

If more than fourteen eligible organisations apply, decisions will be made to ensure the funding reaches organisations across the whole of Matson and Robinswood, and that will reach a diverse range of groups across the community.

Applications will be considered by the Chair. Any application from an organisation connected to the Chair will be handled openly and transparently and the decision made in conjunction with colleagues from the office of Alex McIntyre MP and Gloucester City Council.

If you have any questions before applying, please get in touch at chair@mrprideinplace.co.uk.