



Refugee Week



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Refugee Resettlement Service
SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Refugee Week 2024 Grants

Application Guidance

Refugee Week is a UK-wide festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. It takes place every year around International Refugee Day (20 June). It includes a programme of arts, cultural, sports and educational events alongside media and creative campaigns. It also encompasses Simple Acts, which is a campaign aiming to highlight refugee and asylum issues in everyday activities such as walking, reading, conversations, etc.

Refugee Week's vision is for refugees and asylum seekers to be able to live safely within inclusive and resilient communities, where they can continue to make a valuable contribution.

Refugee Week in 2024 will be on 17th-23rd June, and the theme for 2024 is **Our Home**. Home can be a place of refuge, a feeling or a state of mind. It can be found in smells, tastes and sounds. From the clothes we wear to the words we grew up with. It's in food, music and arts. It's in our cultures and in our landscapes. For more information about Refugee Week and its 2024 theme, please visit: <https://refugeeweek.org.uk/>.

In St Helens, the council and its local partners have been celebrating Refugee Week for the last few years through a range of events and activities delivered by various organisations and services. In 2024, the council's Refugee Resettlement Service is facilitating more contributions from the community, and for that purpose we created the Refugee Week 2024 Grants. These Grants will enable organisations and local groups from the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) to organise suitable events and activities for Refugee Week

This scheme is operated by the council's Refugee Resettlement Service and is fully funded by central government grants that support refugee and similar programmes in St Helens, including the Homes for Ukraine, Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy, and the UK Resettlement Scheme.



Who can apply?

You can apply for Refugee Week 2024 Grants if you satisfy the following criteria:

- You are a constituted group or organisation in the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector (e.g. registered charity; charitable trust; community interest company; unincorporated association; company limited by guarantee; charitable incorporated organisation; community benefit society).
- You have an active business bank account in the organisation or group's name.
- You are based and/or operate in St Helens (exemptions from this condition may be given in exceptional circumstances; please contact us before applying).
- You are able to submit your organisation's governing document or constitution if requested.

Scope of the grant scheme

The Refugee Week 2024 Grants will enable events, activities, etc. that meet the aims of Refugee Week. It is primarily concerned with arts, cultural, sports and educational events and activities, alongside media and creative campaigns. But it may also involve social, leisure and other related activities. The key aim of Refugee Week is to celebrate the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.

Refugee Week is an umbrella festival, and anyone can get involved by holding or joining an event or activity. Refugee Week events and activities happen in all kinds of different spaces and range from arts festivals, exhibitions, film screenings and museum tours to football tournaments, public talks, and activities in schools.

The participation of refugee, asylum seekers, and other people who have experienced forced migration is welcome, as is that of people and communities from different backgrounds.

We particularly welcome applications for events and activities that highlight the Refugee Week 2024 theme, **Our Home**.

How much money is available?

The Refugee Resettlement Service has set aside £10,000 for the Refugee Week 2024 Grants. The maximum funding available for individual grants is £1,000.



Individual organisations and groups may submit as many bids as they wish. Only one award will be allowed per organisation or group when they are the sole bidder. However, an organisation or group may be awarded up to two grants if at least one of the bids was submitted, and the proposed project is delivered, in partnership with another organisation or group (or more than one). We encourage collaborations and partnerships.

The application process

We encourage bidders to contact us to discuss ideas and proposals informally before submitting their bids by emailing AnastasiaKulaeva@sthelens.gov.uk.

The deadline for applications is 30th April 2024 at 17:00. Applications will be assessed, and Grants awarded (following decisions) as soon as possible after this date.

Please complete all the sections of the Application Form as thoroughly as possible, but please do not exceed the maximum number of words given for each relevant field.

Once your bid is submitted, we may contact you to discuss it before deciding on whether to make an award. We may ask you for clarifications or further information, and we may make suggestions if we feel that the proposal can be improved. We may also request changes to proposed dates and/or times in order spread events and activities across Refugee Week and prevent unwanted clashes, etc.

All bids will be assessed by a Refugee Week 2024 Grants Assessment Panel set up by the Refugee Resettlement Service. The Panel's decisions are final and there is no process to appeal against decisions. We will endeavour to provide feedback to all unsuccessful bidders, including the reasons why their applications were unsuccessful.

Grant award decisions will be communicated to successful bidders as soon as a decision is made by the Grants Assessment Panel.

Refugee Resettlement Service

March 2024