



WHO Healthy City Explorer 2023 Bursary Criteria

Would you like the opportunity to travel to a WHO European Healthy City to learn more about your area of work?

One of the major benefits of being a member of WHO European Healthy Cities Network is the opportunity to learn how other cities address health and well-being in its widest sense. It provides new insights, knowledge and best practice, which can then be applied to work in Belfast.

Belfast Healthy Cities is offering an annual bursary throughout Phase VII (2019-2026). The bursary will support a study visit to a Phase VII World Health Organization (WHO) European Healthy City, where the Explorer/s will learn from their chosen city.

The successful applicant will clearly demonstrate the added value of the visit to their area of work. Applicants should outline clearly what they hope to gain from the experience and how they will share information on the study visit.

The bursary is open to applicants living or working in Belfast from the community, voluntary, public and business sectors. A supporting statement from your manager/employer must be included.

Previous Explorer Bursary city visits have included Stockholm, Copenhagen, Utrecht, Hannover, Barcelona, Glasgow and Oslo. Study areas have included Food & Fuel Poverty, Alcohol & Drug Strategies, Dementia Friendly Communities, Child Friendly Planning and Disability Sports.

Explorer Information Session

The Explorer Bursary may be different from the opportunities your organisation usually considers, but it is an exciting chance to gain experience on your area of work within another European city.

We are holding an online information session, with previous successful Explorers to provide more detail and answer any questions you may have about the application process, the visit and the reporting Wednesday 19 April at 3.00pm. [Zoom link here.](#)

Bursary criteria

The following criteria will be applied to the successful application:

Clear demonstration of how the study visit will contribute to the delivery of the Phase VII (2019 - 2026) goals and core themes of Belfast as a member of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network.

Phase VII Goal:

- Fostering health and well-being for all and reducing health inequalities

Phase VII Core Themes:

- Investing in the **PEOPLE** who make up our cities
(Early Years; Older People; Vulnerability; Mental health and well-being; Revitalising and strengthening public health capacity; Diet and obesity; Alcohol; Tobacco)
- Designing urban **PLACES** that improve health and well-being
(Healthy places and settings; Healthy urban planning and design; Healthy transport)
- Greater **PARTICIPATION** and partnerships for health and well-being
(Older People; Vulnerability; Physical activity; Transforming city services delivery; Health literacy)
- Improved community **PROSPERITY** and access to common goods and services
(Community resilience; Older People; Mental well-being; Housing and regeneration; Healthy urban planning and design)
- Promoting **PEACE** and security through inclusive services
(Peace through healthy places; Health as a bridge to peace; Violence prevention; Human security; Health security; Mental health)
- Protect the **PLANET** from degradation, leading by example, including through sustainable consumption and production
(Climate change; Biodiversity and transformation of urban places; Health-promoting and sustainable policies; Waste, water and sanitation)

Guidance Notes

The bursary is limited to a study visit of up to a maximum of 5 nights to a town or city within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network. Cities within WHO Healthy Cities National Networks will also be considered. Should more than 1 person from an organisation wish to travel, this is permissible within the budget

- a) The applicant may identify a city of interest and present a programme for the study visit to Belfast Healthy Cities' office for approval.

or

- b) Belfast Healthy Cities will assist in identifying a host city within the Network on the chosen area of work

The awardee will be required to provide daily updates during the trip, either

- a) Using Twitter

or

- b) Writing a short blog for Belfast Healthy Cities' website.

The awardee is required to provide a presentation at a Belfast Healthy Cities event in December 2023. Further opportunities for reporting on the study visit should be outlined within the application.

The maximum value of the bursary will not exceed £2,000 and will cover travel, accommodation, subsistence and travel insurance costs.

Political party representatives, academic staff and students, members of Belfast Healthy Cities' Board of Directors or members of Belfast Healthy Cities' staff and families are not eligible to apply.

Timescale:

Closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday 19 May 2023**. An application form is available at [Belfast Healthy Cities Website](#) or by emailing Caroline Scott: caroline@belfasthealthycities.com

The study visit must be conducted by **Friday 3rd November** and the follow up presentation received by a date to be agreed with Belfast Healthy Cities.

Further information:

[WHO European Healthy Cities Network maps](#)

[WHO European Healthy Cities Network](#)