



Who can apply, what for and how?

Constituted, Un-constituted and grassroots community groups can apply to the fund to support activity that will enable their community to carry out localised activities, such as cultural events, sports & recreational activities, street parties, picnics and community celebrations.

Projects will need to show alignment with one or more of the following themes:

- **Getting Active** – encouraging communities to get out and get active by participating in sports and recreational activities.
- **Ready, Steady, Fun** – delivering community projects to ensure your local area is Games ready, and hosting community celebrations to develop active citizenship and reduce loneliness and social isolation.
- **Celebrating Culture** – developing community led cultural events and initiatives that encourage intergenerational activities. Proposed schemes must harness the power of culture to bring people together, celebrate their identities, and the culture, heritage and stories of their communities.

Financial Criteria

Bids will be accepted between £100 and £10,000.

All funding must be committed by August 2022. However, if Covid 19 restrictions adversely impact the delivery of projects, and the subsequent commitment of funds, then BCC must be informed, and due consideration will be given to how the project and its funding can be given an extension.

Small and new groups which are not constituted may apply under the umbrella of a constituted group which will act as a fund holder for the grant. All applications need a statement from a sponsor. A sponsor could be one of the Neighbourhood Network Schemes, Early Help Voluntary Sector Leads or a local formally constituted community organisation.

The constituted organisation will be able to purchase items or services on a group or collective's behalf. This means that groups do not need a bank account in order to apply to the fund.

Funding can be used to cover most types of community activity or including:

- Core costs / essential running costs - Funding must be used to provide additionality or to supplement 'business as usual' activities
- Revenue costs
- New and existing projects
- One-off initiatives

We cannot support:

- For profit businesses
- National programmes without a specific benefit to Birmingham
- Projects that are based outside of Birmingham
- Projects within a ward that doesn't have a Ward Plan
- Projects which have already taken place or items purchased prior to or during a grant application



- Unspecified expenditure for general appeals or fund-raising events/activities
- Requests to build reserves
- Funding for Statutory obligations
- Political activities

Applications

Applications for **round one** will be accepted until **1st June 2021**.

Applications will be subject to an initial 'due diligence' review in July 2021. All projects that pass this stage will be asked to submit a written or video summary/overview of their project. These will be reviewed at your local Ward Forum where a recommendation will be made about which projects receive funding. This recommendation will undergo a final stage review by BCC Delegated Officers. Successful projects will be notified in October 2021.

The fund panel reserves the right to decline funding requests.

A second round will be held, starting in October 2021.

Key Dates for rounds 1 and 2

| Activity | Round 1 Dates | Round 2 Dates |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Funding information & application packs available | March 2021 | October 2021 |
| Closing date for submission of funding applications | 1 st June 2021 | January 2022 |
| Internal due diligence processes & review of funding applications | July 2021 | February 2022 |
| Facilitated ward forums, community voting & submission of applications | July - September 2021 | February - March 2022 |
| Approvals by Delegated Officers | September 2021 | March 2022 |
| Confirmation letters & COGA forms are sent to successful applicants | September 2021 | March 2022 |
| Projects commence | October 2021 | April 2022 |

Further information

Further details and access to the application forms can be found online:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50257/celebrating_communities