

# Financial Assistance Scheme

A wide range of activities can be funded through revenue and capital grants, and need to meet at least one of the following outcomes:

- **Improved understanding of different people and cultures in our local community**  
For example, reminiscence and oral history projects, local history exhibitions, parish surveys, projects to bring together different cultures or generations.
- **Increased involvement from people who face barriers to participation in community life**  
For example, involving people in learning activities, integrated sports activities for disabled and non-disabled people, school holiday activities for families on low income, activities in rural areas where access to public transport is limited.
- **Greater use of community buildings or outdoor community spaces particularly in rural areas**  
For example, refurbishing buildings to support new activities, equipment for village film clubs/ luncheon clubs/ drama clubs etc., children's play areas, multi-use games areas, wildlife/ community gardens, environmental improvements.
- **Healthier and safer lifestyles for the whole community**  
For example, promoting healthier eating, running self help groups, sports projects, walking and cycling projects and well-being classes
- **Increased participation in arts and cultural activities which are accessible to the whole community**  
For example, developing music skills, events that attract new audiences, taster sessions to introduce people to the arts, using new venues, community theatre or music productions.

## **Who can apply:**

Funding is available to charities, constituted voluntary and community groups, social enterprises and community interest companies.

## **Exclusions:**

Other statutory organisations (eg. schools), are not eligible for grants. Town and Parish Councils are not eligible to apply.

Organisations in receipt of a Service Level Agreement from the Borough Council are not eligible to apply for capital or revenue support from this Fund, even if your project is separate to your core business funded by the SLA.

**Revenue grants:**

Revenue grants are available up to a maximum of **£2,500**.

Revenue grants can cover running costs and activity/ operational costs.

**Please note:** Revenue grants are for 1 year only. Any one organisation applying for revenue funding will only receive funds for a maximum of 3 consecutive years for the same or similar activity. After this time no further award will be made for a period of 2 years, unless it is for a completely new and unrelated project.

**Capital grants:**

Capital grants can cover equipment, building, and refurbishment costs. Grants up to **1/3 of costs up to a maximum grant of £10,000** are available. Your application will need to show how the remainder of your costs will be raised. All capital projects need to adhere to the relevant Building Regulations and Planning Requirements.

**Please note:** Capital applications for £1,000 or less, may, at the discretion of the panel, be 100% funded without the need for matched funding from other organisations. However the panel would normally expect the applicant to make a contribution.

Grants will not cover VAT costs where organisations are registered to claim this expenditure back.

Grants will not be awarded retrospectively for expenditure already undertaken. Please ensure you apply to the appropriate deadline to ensure funds will be released before your project/ activity begins.

Revenue grants will normally be paid upfront in one instalment. Capital grants may be paid in instalments depending on the size of the grant – you will be advised of the timing of payments if your application is successful.

**Please note: Applications are not expected to request funds for a mix of revenue and capital funds.**

**How to apply:**

(link to our online application form)

**When to apply:**

Deadlines will be published here when the Fund is open – the next deadline is XXXXXXXX.

For Fund enquires please contact **Jenny Bevan**, Grants Officer by [email](#) or Tel **01603 623958**