

West Sussex Community Initiative Fund (Crowdfunding)

Purpose of the Fund	<p>This fund of £330k is designed to enable West Sussex County Councillors to support local community projects that improve the wellbeing of their local areas. The fund will be administered through the County Local Committee (CLC) for the relevant area.</p> <p>There are eleven CLCs that cover the County and your proposal for funding will go to the meeting that is geographically covered by your project. If your project covers a wider area than one committee your pitch will go to more than one meeting.</p>
Are you Eligible?	<p>To be eligible for this grant your organisation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently be crowdfunding on the West Sussex County Council’s Spacehive page. • Be a not-for-profit group based in West Sussex. <p>What projects won't we pledge to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects with political aims, campaigns and lobbies • Projects that promote religious interests and objectives • Projects which fund schools (although associated, supporting or connected organisations may be eligible) • Organisations' on-going running costs such as business rates • Projects run by an individual <p>Additional information can be found by viewing this document: Community Initiative Fund Eligibility</p>
What kinds of projects are we interested in funding?	<p>Our West Sussex County Councillors are interested in projects that aim to improve the wellbeing of local areas. Your local councillors want to get behind projects that have the support of the community. Ideas may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing group membership and widening participation • Starting-up new activities and expanding existing services for members of the community • Organising community events and activities • Providing specific items for community spaces • Organising one-off events to increase visitors to the local area • Activities aimed at developing skills for residents to benefit them and the area • Providing improvements to community infrastructure and developing communally held assets • Helping groups and organisations to develop their assets and/or resources to support future financial independence • Helping Communities influence the planning and delivery of local services • Protecting the environment and promoting sustainable local development

<p>What are the criteria?</p>	<p>Your pitch to the Community Initiative fund should show evidence of supporting one or more of The Five Ways to Wellbeing - a set of evidence-based actions which promote people’s wellbeing:</p> <p>Connect How your project encourages connections between people and brings together families, friends, colleagues and neighbours to contribute to the local community</p> <p>Be active How your project encourages individuals or groups to discover a physical activity that can be enjoyed and can be tailored to levels of mobility and fitness.</p> <p>Take notice How your project encourages communities or individuals to become more aware of the world around them and to reflect on their experiences to appreciate what matters to them.</p> <p>Keep learning How your project encourages individuals to try something new or rediscover an old interest or hobby and improve confidence levels, take a new approach to something, share ideas with others.</p> <p>Give How your project will encourage individuals to volunteer their time, join a community group, share their skills and experiences and support others. This can include sharing resources and materials, skills and equipment.</p>
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<p>Awarding Funds</p>	<p>The amount of funding available to each committee varies, depending on its local population size.</p> <p>This is not a grant application. You do not apply for a specific amount of funding. The maximum pledge size is £5,000.</p> <p>Any award over £2,500 would need to show considerable additional funding and strong community support for the initiative.</p>
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<p>Pitch Process</p>	<p>CIF funding will be accessible to projects running crowdfunding campaigns on Spacehive.</p> <p>When you set up your crowdfunding campaign you will have the option to pitch to the CIF fund through Spacehive.</p> <p>Pitches for projects that are running campaigns will be considered at the regular CLC meetings and it is your responsibility to make sure your application is submitted within the committee's schedule of meetings. A link to the meeting dates can be found here.</p> <p>When we receive your pitch via Spacehive we will confirm receipt, let you know if you need to provide further information, and give an indication of the estimated timeframe for a decision</p> <p>Once the final decision has been made regarding your pitch we will add our pledge to your page.</p> <p>Ideally we should receive your pitch six weeks before the relevant committee meeting. However we know this can be confusing so use the</p>
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	<p>contact details below to discuss this with one of our helpful officer as each committee may have its own timescale.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure they meet this deadline. If we receive your application after the deadline, it will be held over until the next relevant meeting.</p>
<p>Assessing your pitch</p>	<p>The assessment process will consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the applicant organisation meets the eligibility criteria. • Establishing if the application for which funding is sought is suitable to be funded under this programme and is consistent with the expressed purpose of the fund. • Considering if the application is clear as to what is being asked for and testing that costings are accurate, appropriate and represent value for money. • Determining if the demand for the activity or project has been adequately and accurately demonstrated. • Considering the difference the activity will make within the context of the local community as a whole.
<p>Payment arrangements</p>	<p>Payment will be made by BACS transfer into your nominated bank account within ten working days of the meeting.</p>
<p>Monitoring requirements</p>	<p>You will be required to provide evidence to demonstrate the successful delivery or completion of your funded project via Spacehive.</p>
<p>Further information or clarification</p>	<p>If you require any further information or clarification with regard to any of the items contained within this Factsheet, please contact us on: talkwithus@westsussex.gov.uk or phone 0330 222 2527</p>