

Community Transitions Fund (Crowdfund)

FACTSHEET

Sefton Council is offering a funding grants scheme for crowdfunded projects

Purpose of the fund	<p>#SeftonCrowd seeks to support activity that brings people together behind good ideas that community groups and organisations want to see happen. The fund has been developed to provide a one-off contribution of up to £5,000 (or a maximum of 40% of the crowdfunding target, whichever is lowest) to projects and activities based in and benefitting the residents of Sefton. Projects need to crowdfund through Spacehive for the remainder of their target.</p> <p>Projects for Round 6 of the Fund should be pitched by 8th September 2021. Projects should help to deliver the priorities of the Council's Core Purpose and demonstrate significant local support for their project in the form of backers towards their crowdfunding campaign prior to assessment.</p> <p>We are also interested in supporting projects that answer our call for ideas which put local people at the heart of the efforts to help Sefton recover from the pandemic.</p> <p>The Core Purpose outlines the Council's role in delivering the 2030 Vision.</p>
Are you eligible?	<p>To be eligible for consideration, your project must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You must be currently crowdfunding on the Sefton Council Spacehive page• You must be based in Sefton and your project must promote civic pride by enabling Sefton residents to take a more active role in transforming their local area and/or help to develop resilience within Sefton's communities.• You must be able to deliver the proposal past the idea stage and make it sustainable.• Your project should deliver outcomes that align to the Council's priorities (please see the sections on what is likely to be supported and unlikely to be supported) <p>Please note that if you have had a Sefton Crowd successful bid previously you can apply to main Community Transitions Fund after 6 months from the date of the award and can be considered for a Sefton Crowd award again after 12 months.</p> <p>If you have been successful with a main Community Transitions Fund award you can apply to main Community Transitions Fund again after 24 months from the date of award and can be considered for a Sefton Crowd award after 12 months.</p>
Things that are likely to be supported	<p>We welcome new and innovative ways of addressing the Council's priorities. Projects and activities that we would be interested in supporting that are aligned to our Council Priorities, as follows:</p> <p>Protecting the most vulnerable: Projects and activities that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve the health and wellbeing of people in Sefton• Keep vulnerable children safe and help them live life to the full• Enable more vulnerable adults to live independently of social care

	<p>Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Projects and activities that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make communities a safe place for all residents ● Bring people together and make connections ● Improve and protect the environment ● Create the capacity and motivation for people to get involved in activity that benefits local people <p>Commission, broker and provide core services: Projects and activities that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide person-centred approaches to meet the needs of Sefton's communities <p>Place leadership and influencer: Projects and activities that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work with others towards a common goal to build pride in the borough <p>Drivers of change and reform: Projects and activities that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use new and emerging technologies including social media as a way of achieving outcomes <p>Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity Projects and activities that seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve educational attainment by helping people to prosper by increasing their skills
<p>Things that are unlikely to be supported</p>	<p>The Community Transitions Fund (Crowdfund) will not normally support the activities, services and functions outlined below. Please note this list is not exhaustive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Activities which promote a political party or are of a religious nature ● A project/initiative that is part of the applicant's day-to-day work, including staffing costs related to such work ● Projects by individual applicants ● Any costs incurred in putting together an application for this fund ● Day-to-day running costs of your organisation (i.e. utility bill, rent, for example) ● Work associated with land or building projects where the ownership or lease is not in place ● Projects/initiatives that cannot demonstrate sustainability after the ideas stage ● Projects which cannot demonstrate sufficient local support for their crowdfunding campaign in the form of pledges towards their target ● Items that are purchased on behalf of another organisation ● A project/initiative that has already received funding from the Community Transitions Fund within the last 12 months, even if it was for another project.

<p>Funding and Payment</p>	<p>The maximum funding that can be awarded is £5,000 (or a maximum of 40 % of the crowdfunding target, whichever is lowest)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your group or organisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Should have a formal constitution with identifiable aims and objectives and that your management committee accepts and can meet all appropriate statutory and other responsibilities concerning the employment of staff, use of premises, public liabilities, insurance etc ● Keeps proper records and books of accounts, together with minutes of meetings and other information, which may be requested and may be required to be submitted to Sefton MBC ● Should have the relevant policies in place. 2. Application should demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Costs that would reasonably be expected and justified ● Sound judgement and financial management ● Good value for money 3. All costs associated with the project or activity must be justified, broken down and explained in satisfactory detail for applications to be properly evaluated 4. Capital items purchased must remain within the Project Premises. If the project is dispersed, or the building sold within 5 years from the date of the pledge, Sefton Council holds the right to reclaim such items and relocate them. 5. Sefton Council require that any publicity regarding the project refers to Sefton's Council support 6. Any project expenditure incurred prior to accepting a pledge from the Fund will not be eligible to be claimed as part of the pledge 7. Funding will only be released once there is evidence that the organisation has met its crowdfunding target
<p>Application process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applications must be pitched through the Spacehive platform - create a Spacehive project and you'll be matched to the fund where you can complete your pitch online. https://www.spacehive.com/ ● The fund is distributed in funding rounds with specific deadlines associated with each round – please see the link above for a breakdown of the dates associated with the current funding round ● When we receive your pitch, we will confirm receipt via email ● Any pledge from the Council is dependent on both the extent to which the project both meets the fund criteria and can showcase local support through pledges by the assessment date (typically 6 weeks after the fund deadline) ● Should we decide that your project is not suitable for the Fund we will email you to advise your application to the Fund has not been successful, otherwise, we will wait to see if your project receives support from the community and decide whether to pledge to your project

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once a decision has been made to pledge to your project you will receive an email to confirm the amount and the terms and conditions of the pledge
Assessing your application	<p>The process for assessing your project for funding will include:</p> <p>The Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the project meet the eligibility criteria of the Community Transitions Fund (Crowdfund)? Does the application clearly outline what is being asked for and are costings accurate, appropriate and represent good value for money? Does the project demonstrate an alignment to the priorities of Sefton Council? Will the project make a difference to the community? <p>Public Support</p> <p>It is very important that you can demonstrate support for your project from the start and that you have sufficient time before and after the assessment to enable you to reach your target.</p> <p>At the assessment the following will be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the need/demand for the project been adequately demonstrated? The number of unique pledges from the community and organisations The average size of the pledges The comments and replies on the campaign page The comments/messages, posts and replies on social media The level of interaction with backers – how many updates have been sent? The number of known events organised in relation to the campaign
Payment Arrangements	The Council's pledge will be released via BACS to the Project Delivery Manager alongside the pledges of the crowd, once the overall project target has been reached.
Monitoring Requirements	All projects that Sefton Council pledge to will be required to submit an Impact Report via the Spacehive platform.
Further Clarification or information	If you require any further information or clarification with regard to any of the items contained within this Factsheet, or want to discuss your project, please contact: support@spacehive.com .