

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY GRANT FUNDING FROM HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Grants Available:

The Isle of Wight Council Adult Social Care and Housing Needs Directorate invites applications for grants to seed fund new Community Pantry provisions and for top-up funding from the existing community pantry network.

The period of the grant shall cover expenditure from 1st April 2024 – 30th September 2024

Who Can Apply for a Community Grant?

Applications can be made by any community or voluntary sector organisation including:

- Town, Parish, and Community Councils
- Education establishments
- Community Interest Companies
- Charities
- Registered Community or Voluntary Organisations.
- Faith groups

What are we looking for?

Funded projects must be delivering support to vulnerable Island households with schemes related to food, reducing energy costs or wider essentials. Examples of the types of support that we could fund with the Household Support Fund Community Grant include, but are not limited to:

- Funding to enable an existing support group (either in an area of deprivation and/or targeting a vulnerable group) to provide meals or create food parcels/hampers.
- Funding to enable an existing support group (either in an area of deprivation and/or targeting a vulnerable group) to provide weather appropriate clothes, shoes, and other essentials to households with children, households with pensioners and other households in need.
- Funding to enable an existing support group provide essentials such as soap, blankets, draught excluders, boiler service/repair, purchase of energy-efficient white goods equipment including fridges, freezers, ovens, etc.
- A contribution towards additional activities/staffing to support an organisation to deliver cookery classes where families take the meal and / or ingredients home with them.

Criteria

Applicants can request consideration of any spend that meets the identified criteria from 28th May 2024

Applicants will need to have appropriate measures in place to ensure that the measures identified do not compromise the safety of the people accessing support throughout the project.

What expenditure is not covered by this grant?

The grant cannot be used for:

- Expenditure incurred prior to 1st April or after 30th September 2024
- Applications for schemes that duplicate provision already in place.
- ICT related purchases.
- Activities which do not support the primary purpose of the Department for Work and Pensions' Household Support Fund.
- Cash awards / bank transfers to residents

How to apply for funding:

1. Complete all sections of the **Application form** (attached) together with any supporting documentation you wish to submit. Do not change the original format of the application form.
2. Make sure that the form is fully signed by the applicant.
3. Return the form and any other supporting documents by email to:

hsf@iow.gov.uk

You MUST ensure that the email title reads: “**APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY GRANT FUNDING – HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND** ” and also states the name of the person/organisation applying for the funding. A copy of the signed guidance must also be attached.

Application Process and Timescales:

- Applications windows will be open 28th May – 3rd June 2024, 24th – 28th June 2024, 22nd – 26th July 2024 and 27th August – 2nd September 2024.
- All funding awarded must be spent within 6 months and evidence of that spend provided to the council – a reporting document will be provided.
- Any amount of the grant not spent or allocated by the end of the grant window must be returned to the council
- Panel meetings to consider applications will take place 1 week after the closure of the grant window. Applicants will need to ensure that forms are received by the deadline for their application to be considered.
- Applicants will be contacted within one week of Panel meeting to inform them of the outcome. Some applicants may be asked to provide more detail or amend aspects of their project in order to meet the funding criteria.
- Successful applicants will be required to sign a Funding Agreement which outlines the terms and conditions of the grant. This will usually be within one week of the final decision
- Grants will be paid in full upon completion of Funding Agreement

How will the applications be assessed?

Each application will be assessed on its own merit.

Each application will be acknowledged upon receipt, and then checked by a member of the Panel to ensure that it is complete, and suitable to be scored by the Grants Panel.

At this stage we may come back to the applicant(s) to request further information. If the application meets the basic requirements it will then be considered at the Grant Panel meeting.

If there are insufficient monies remain in the fund to meet the applications submitted, grants will be awarded according to need; value for money and proposed impact.

The Panel reserves the right to consider reducing the value of awards offered in order to support a larger number of applications

Other Important Information:

How payments will be made?

Payments will be made directly into the organisation's bank account.

How projects will be monitored?

The Isle of Wight Council's Adult Social care and Housing Needs directorate is committed to supporting the delivery of high quality experiences and outcomes for those we serve. To do this we will monitor the quality of the activities we fund, using a range of means which are appropriate to the individual projects.

Following award all successful applicants will need to:

- evidence the expenditure and provide original receipts
- evidence the impact/outcomes achieved
- Submit quarterly returns as to the number and form of support provided, as required by the Department for Work and Pensions. These returns are due on 9th July 2024 (for the period 1st April – 30th June) and 10th October 2024 (for the period 1st April – 30th September) and will take the form of a completed spreadsheet detailing:
 - How much will be used to provide direct support to households with children
 - How much will be used to provide direct support to households with pensioners
 - How much will be used to provide direct support to households with a Disabled person
 - How much will be used to provide direct support to other types of households, including individuals.

The information must be completed as figures and not percentages.

For more information about the funding available, or if you have any queries or concerns about requirements, please contact:

Laura Hales – Household Support Fund Project Manager

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