

Hertfordshire Covid-19 Winter Grants Scheme

Fund Criteria and Guidance for Applicants

Grants Available: Up to £5,000

When to apply: Grants will be considered on a rolling basis up until a final application deadline of 8th February 2021.

Grants spend deadline: All awarded grants must be spent within three months of receipt

About the grants:

This funding has been made available by Hertfordshire County Council as a part of the Government's £170m National Covid-19 Winter Grants Scheme to support vulnerable people over the winter.

Grants are available to groups working in areas of deprivation in Hertfordshire that support vulnerable adults by providing access to food and/or support with bills such as fuel and water.

Funding criteria:

Applications from charities, groups and non-profit organisations supporting vulnerable adults that fall into any of the following categories are eligible to apply for funding:

- Individuals in crisis (eg people facing poverty, experiencing or at risk of homelessness, poor mental health, domestic violence, drug and alcohol addiction etc) and their families, with or without children
- Those facing food poverty
- Those facing fuel poverty
- Minority and marginalised groups who have been particularly impacted by Covid-19

Applications from groups who employ benefit advisors wishing to distribute food and fuel vouchers to vulnerable adults will also be welcome.

Who can apply?

In order to apply to the Winter Grant Scheme, your organisation must fulfil the following criteria:

- The group must be a not for profit, charity, community or voluntary group with a written constitution or governing document
- The governing document must include the groups aims or purpose, objectives and a dissolution clause or asset lock which states what would happen to any funds should the group have to close.
- The group must be governed by a voluntary trustee or management committee with a minimum of three members, at least two of whom must be unrelated.
- The group must have a bank account in its own name, with at least two unrelated signatories

- The group must have all the relevant policies in place for its work, including Equality and Diversity and Safeguarding.
- The group must be working to meet the needs of the local community in Hertfordshire
- The group must be based in Hertfordshire or be able to show specifically how the funding they are applying for will benefit people in the county.
- Faith groups will be considered as long as their project does not include proselytising

Applications are welcome from charities, community and voluntary groups and not for profits of all sizes. However priority will be given to local groups with an in depth knowledge of the issues they are dealing with and the communities they serve.

Who can't apply?

- Groups and organisations that are already in receipt of Covid-19 Winter Grants Scheme funding via Hertfordshire County Council or their local council eg CABs and major food banks.
- National Charities without a Hertfordshire focus
- Business or profit-making enterprises
- Organisations where any one person has significant control
- Statutory organisations including schools, parish councils and CCGs
- Organisations that cannot demonstrate public benefit as defined by the Charity Commission (for more information visit www.charitycommission.gov.uk)
- Individuals

Monitoring and evaluation requirements:

All successful grant recipients will be required to complete a simple online monitoring form to report back on how the money has been used and what difference it has made. Monitoring forms will be sent shortly after the grant has been awarded so you are aware of the information we require. Failure to submit appropriate monitoring will affect the likelihood of future funding from HCF.

Grant value

Grants of up to £5,000 are available but larger grants (up to £10,000) may be considered where a group can demonstrate an ability to work across a larger geography or support significant numbers of local residents. If you would like to apply for a grant in excess of £5,000 please contact grants@hertsf.org.uk before making an online application.

How to apply:

Organisations can apply through the HCF website [here](#) and will need to:

- Complete the online application form
- Attach or send the required supporting documents which include:
 - A copy of the group's constitution or governing documents
 - A copy of the groups most recent annual accounts
 - A list of the names and addresses of your trustee or management committee
 - Copies of any relevant equality or safeguarding policies

Further information:

If you have read the above criteria but still have questions regarding your eligibility please email grants@hertsf.org.uk detailing your question.