

Bracknell Forest Council

Adult Social Care Small Grants 2015/16

The council has made a positive decision to exercise certain powers given to it under the Local Government Act 2000 to fund community based initiatives through grant funding.

The council supports the funding of voluntary and community groups through grants because it recognises that it can be difficult for organisations, especially smaller or less well-known groups, to secure financial support or sponsorship and that sometimes, it may be these very same community based organisations that are best placed to deliver services or run projects directly to and within communities.

The council's objectives in relation to grant funding are to:

- get more people actively involved in their communities
- enable people to identify their own needs, priorities and responses
- help improve the quality of life for local people
- to help to keep people as independent as possible and, where possible, to prevent them needing ongoing support funded by the council
- foster community involvement and
- help people create a connection with the broader community in which people live.

The funding can only be awarded to organisations that help the council to achieve its key objectives and priorities in improving outcomes for vulnerable adults in Bracknell Forest.

These outcomes, from the Government's Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework are:

- Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs
- Delaying and reducing the need for care and support
- Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care and support
- Safeguarding people whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm.

The council is committed to ensuring that support and services for people who need them are personalised – this means that they are tailored to suit the individual, and are what people actually want. All people, who have support funded by the council, will receive a Personal Budget to meet the cost of meeting their needs. The budget can be taken as a Direct Payment or arranged by the council.

Part of this work is to identify gaps in provision and to work with partners to create capacity in the community not only for people who are supported by adult social care but to those who fund their own support and those who need low level support. We would particularly welcome applications from organisations who can demonstrate that their project or activity meets an unmet need in the community and can be flexible and tailored to suit the individual.

Funding Levels

Adult Social Care small grants are available to a maximum of £5,000.

Revenue grants are to be spent on running costs for your organisation – this can include specific projects e.g. staff costs, rent on buildings/rooms, outings etc.

Capital grants must be used to acquire or upgrade physical assets including IT and software e.g. buying new computers, repairing or extending a building, buying furniture and vehicles etc.

If you wish to discuss your application before you make an application please call Alison Cronin on 01344 351601 or Lynne Lidster on 01344 351610

Organisations should be aware that funding may not be available in subsequent years.

Deadlines

Completed applications should be returned by Friday 15th May 2015.

Criteria

In addition to improving outcomes for vulnerable people, the following criteria apply.

An organisation must:

1. Be voluntary or not for profit organisations which are local in nature and which provide benefits to Bracknell Forest Council and its communities.
2. Clearly identify a need for money and how it will be used.
3. Show how members are involved in running the organisation.
4. Demonstrate fit with the key values of the Council (as detailed below).
5. Show the degree to which the proposal is innovative in nature, or demonstrates new ways of working/new types of service delivery.
6. Demonstrate value for money of the proposal, e.g. costs of administration/management overheads against direct service, plus evaluation of outcome benefits.
7. Show that vulnerable adults in Bracknell Forest will benefit from the proposal.
8. Show how funding or resources have been sourced from elsewhere and how the proposal enhances the mix of opportunities already available in Bracknell Forest.
9. Show the degree to which the proposal will enhance partnerships between agencies.
10. Outline the expected outcomes of the proposal supported by the grant and/or demonstrate sustainability beyond the grant period.
11. Show that well developed mechanisms are in place to monitor delivery of and evaluate the outcomes within the grant period.

Bracknell Forest Council - Values and Visions

- Promoting equality
- Promoting social inclusion
- Providing quality
- Providing choice
- Promoting independence
- Being efficient
- Being open and transparent about what is possible or not possible
- Commitment to a healthy organisation
- Protecting the environment
- Free flowing communication without barriers
- Commitment to being a learning organisation
- Commitment to listening to people
- Commitment to best value

Who is not eligible?

Groups or organisations cannot be considered for a grant if:

- The organisation profits from their activities, in the sense of distributing funds to shareholders/members.
- They seek to cover expenditure that has already been incurred.
- The Council feels that membership fees are set so high that they effectively restrict access to a limited number in the community.

Successful applicants will be subject to legally binding agreements between the organisation and Bracknell Forest Council. These will detail the amount of grant aid given, the purpose for which it is to be used and any additional terms and conditions that may apply.

Contacts

For an informal discussion about small grant funding or assistance with the application procedure please contact:

Alison Cronin
Contracts Manager
Adult Social Care, Health and Housing
Bracknell Forest Council
Time Square
Market Street
Bracknell
Berkshire
RG12 1JD

Telephone: 01344 351601
E-mail: alison.cronin@bracknell-forest.gov.uk