

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #34

Fundraising

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

13th May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

The unprecedented impact of COVID-19 has meant many fundraising events and appeals have been cancelled or postponed resulting in charities and small organisations having to find alternative ways to generate awareness, attract new donors, and raise money during the pandemic.

When you spot a suitable funding opportunity, move quickly or you could miss out. We're sharing a reminder in today's briefing about two grant funds from Buckinghamshire Council which we know are being spent rapidly – if you think you're eligible and you haven't applied yet, get your applications in soon.

Have a look at the funding opportunities below as well as our [funding support guidance](#) and, if you have launched a fundraising appeal, let us know and we'll share it on our [Bucks fundraising appeals page](#) and promote it on social media: email comms@communityimpactbucks.org.uk.

WEBINAR ON EMERGENCY FINANCE OPTIONS

Good Finance is hosting a webinar on 27th May to discuss new emergency finance options available for social enterprises and charities. This webinar will discuss the range of repayable finance options available, including the Government's Bounce Back Loans, the new Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund, as well as other options available for VCSE organisations. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

VIRTUAL FUNDING

Giving Day is an innovative one day (24 hours) fundraising programme allowing supporters to engage and unite in fun and unique challenges virtually rather than at a physical location. Any competitive activity is welcome, fitness apps can be used to help connect supporters with how the challenges are progressing.

Blackbaud and Just Giving have teamed up to offer a toolkit to help you launch your Giving Day, including creating fully branded microsites which allow you to create and launch online appeals to promote and publicise your virtual event. To find out more about creating your own Giving Day, go to [Blackbaud's virtual fundraising](#).

#FundAlert: BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S FUND

Set up from the 16 Community Boards to allow councillors to support their local voluntary and community groups where it is needed the most, [Buckinghamshire Council's coronavirus Councillor Fund](#) is still open though you are encouraged to apply now before funding is used up.

Groups and charities can apply for grants of up to £2000 to meet the needs of vulnerable residents affected by the COVID-19 crisis. All applications must be made through your local councillor and will take around four working days to turnaround. Some suggestions as to how the funds might be used include:

- Purchase of food and/or other essential items for individuals and families who are self-isolating and in financial difficulty
- Petrol expenses
- Community transport initiatives to support local deliveries
- Set and communication of local support and delivery schemes
- Emergency repairs
- Online initiatives to reduce social isolation and/or increase community cohesion.

This emergency fund of £250k is split between the [16 areas](#) to ensure consistency and a fair distribution.

#FundAlert: SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY BUILDINGS AND OTHER SMALL CHARITY RETAIL, HOSPITALITY AND LEISURE SPACES

In our [COVID-19 Briefing #21](#), we highlighted that the [Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant](#) has provision to support charities including village halls and community buildings. We are hearing that some village halls in the county have received grants through this fund and would highly recommend other community buildings and eligible charity retail, hospitality and leisure spaces apply quickly as there is cap on how much total grant funding is available to Buckinghamshire.

You can apply directly to Buckinghamshire Council via their [website](#). When completing the online application form we suggest you include your charity rates number, in place of a business rates account number.

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