

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #35

Reaching the most vulnerable

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

14th May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected society at many levels but it is clear that the impact of the virus has been felt more greatly in some communities than others. It is now clear that some groups, such as the elderly, BAME and lower income, are known to be at higher risk from COVID-19.

In Buckinghamshire we are a county of contrasts with some areas of high affluence sitting alongside some of the poorest areas in the country. The VCSE sector is key to not just helping those in need but also addressing this inequality. Today we're sharing some tools to help you identify groups and communities most at risk and plan your next steps, and don't forget to read our blogs on [Diversity and Inclusion](#) and [Beyond the crisis: how VSCE can plan for recovery](#).

REACHING THE MOST VULNERABLE

If you are planning how best to target those most in need of support, have a look at [COVID-19 Vulnerability Index](#) which the British Red Cross has produced to help ensure the most vulnerable communities are receiving the support they need.

With some data already available and with more being considered, you can find information on:

- Clinical vulnerability
- Other health/ wellbeing needs
- Economic/financial vulnerability
- Social vulnerability (including physical/geographical isolation).

If you are thinking about adapting your services to ensure your services reach those who need them most, read Nicola Hannam's [Diversity and Inclusion blog](#) which outlines some questions your organisation should be thinking about.

NPC'S INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD FOR CHARITIES AND FUNDERS

NPC has updated its interactive dashboard to highlight areas hit hardest by COVID-19. The dashboard breaks down ONS data into categories such as health, age, ethnicity and economic factors which can be used to show areas where people are vulnerable or at high risk from COVID-19. Data is released weekly and could potentially be used to support requests for funding as well as for any service planning. To find out more and to access the dashboard, go to [NPC's resource hub](#).

GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR FOOD AID CHARITIES

If you run a front-line food aid charity, you can apply for a grant of up to £100,000 to help you continue to provide food to the vulnerable. You can apply for the grant to provide for people:

- Unable to afford food
- Who have moved into temporary accommodation as a result of the pandemics, for example those who have left home due to domestic abuse, newly released prisoners, the newly homeless.

To find out if you are eligible and how to apply, visit the [Food Charities Grant Fund](#).

GRANTS ON OFFER TO HELP MUSEUMS BRING COLLECTIONS VIRTUALLY

Esmee Fairbairn is offering grants of up to £30,000 to help organisations look into different ways of engaging with their collections while physical access is not possible or severely limited. Its Sustaining Engagement with Collection grants will provide support to between 12 and 15 organisations to enable them to exhibit their collections online.

In particular Esmee Fairbairn would like to hear about any experimental or innovative ideas about online collections and plans which will put the museum in a stronger position when it is able to reopen. The closing date for applications is the 26 May; to find out more and to apply, click [here](#).

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