



Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #13

£750m package announced

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

9th April 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Yesterday the Chancellor announced a £750m package to provide financial support to charities during the coronavirus pandemic. The support is intended to help charities to continue their vital work during the pandemic; as Rishi Sunak acknowledged, the voluntary sector has “never been more needed” as now.

FACTS ABOUT THE £750M PACKAGE

- A total of £750 million will be made available for frontline charities across the UK.
- Out this pot, £360 million will go to charities directly, including St John’s Ambulance, Citizens Advice, hospices and organisations helping victims of domestic abuse.
- £370 million of the funding has been designated for smaller charities working with vulnerable people. This will be distributed through the National Lottery Community Fund.
- The Government will match donations to the National Emergencies Trust as part of the BBC’s Big Night In fundraiser later this month, pledging a minimum of £20 million.

We welcome the fact that the Government has finally made an announcement, after weeks of pressure from MPs and representations from experts who understand the massive amount of work smaller charity and voluntary organisations across the country are doing to help in their local communities, alongside the efforts of national organisations.

However, we are aware of the significant financial impact the pandemic has had on the sector: we are facing lost income of over £4bn in 12 weeks which has huge repercussions for everyone in our society who relies on the services and support charities and voluntary organisations provide.

NEXT STEPS

We are looking in detail at the announcement to see if and how it will help organisations in our area to continue working for local people and meeting needs which would otherwise go unmet. When further details are available, we will advise on eligibility and the application process.

In the meantime, we’re going to be getting some much-needed rest over the bank holiday and will be back on Tuesday when we hope to be able to help you understand how the government’s announcement could affect you #EveryDayCounts.

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