

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #40

Lottery administered Government Fund opens tomorrow

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

21st May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Government fund, part of the £750m package of support for charities announced by the Chancellor on 8th April, is going live tomorrow. Administered by the National Lottery Community Fund, it offers financial support to organisations which need help to cover service costs and/ or adapt their services to meet the needs of those affected by COVID (see Coronavirus Community Support Fund below). Other funding opportunities are highlighted below; you can also find a list of the most recent COVID-19 funds on our [COVID-19 Funding page](#) and all available funding on [Bucks Funding Search](#).

Other news: The Bucks Funding Strategy Group – a partnership of funding organisations consisting of Buckinghamshire Council, Heart of Bucks, Leap, The Clare Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, and The Rothschild Foundation – has distributed more than £500,000 to charities in the county since March. Over 200 small grants have been given to support a range of initiatives including food bank provision, support for the elderly and isolated, increased mental health care, and support for victims of domestic violence.

£200M FUND TO HELP LIMIT TEMPORARY CHARITY CLOSURES

The Government's new [Coronavirus Community Support Fund](#), which is being administered by the National Lottery Community Fund, will open for applications from tomorrow (22nd May). The £200m fund will help organisations **meet service costs** if they are experiencing increased demand and/or short-term income disruption, and to **refocus services** to meet the needs of those affected by COVID-19. The Fund has two main objectives:

- To increase community support to vulnerable people affected by the COVID-19 crisis, through the work of civil society organisations.
- To reduce temporary closures of essential charities and social enterprises, ensuring services for vulnerable people impacted by COVID-19 have the financial resources to operate.

Preliminary details are available in the [National Lottery Community Fund press release](#) and information on the Fund and how to apply will be available from the [National Lottery Community Funding pages](#) from 10am on Friday 22nd May.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND: FUNDING PRIORITY

The National Lottery Community Fund is now focused on funding projects and organisations helping communities through the COVID-19 pandemic. Priority will be given to organisations which:

- Support people who are at high risk from COVID-19.
- Support people most likely to face increased demand and challenges as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.
- Connect communities and support communities to work together to respond to COVID-19.

[Awards for All](#) offers grants up to £10,000 and can fund activities supporting people affected by the crisis. For larger amounts from £10,000 to £100,000, or if your organisation is struggling financially because of the pandemic, apply to [Reaching Communities](#).

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S FUND STILL AVAILABLE

Grants of up to £2000 from the Buckinghamshire Councillor's Fund are still available in some areas. Applications need to be made through your local councillor; for more information, read [Briefing #34](#) or visit [Buckinghamshire Council](#).

OTHER #FUNDALERTS

- **Grants to support projects supporting older people:** the Independent Age Grant Fund offers grants of between £5,000 and £15,000 for up to six months for projects supporting older people who are living in particularly complex and challenging situations or in danger of being overlooked. The Grants Fund comprises of four separate funding rounds with £500,000 available in each round. The deadline for the first round is 4th June; for more information and to apply, visit [Independent Age](#).
- **Emergency grants available for past and current National Lottery Heritage Fund grantees:** The Heritage Emergency Fund is now open to past and current grantees for emergency grants of between £50,000 and £250,000 to cover essential costs for up to four months. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2020; for more information, click [here](#).
- **Funding for groups working in criminal justice system:** Clinks is offering grants of up to £5,000 for organisations which are already providing, or have a track record of providing, services within the criminal justice system. Organisations must have an income of under £500,000 with funding helping to support vital work during the pandemic. For more information, visit [Clinks](#).

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