

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #48

Funding focus & Community Buildings advice update

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

18th June 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Securing funding is one of the key challenges faced by organisations across the voluntary sector. In fact, when we asked Buckinghamshire's charities and community groups what their biggest challenge was in 2019, a third stated 'funding'. Since then, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown have had a huge financial impact on voluntary organisations of all sizes.

Today is [Small Charity Week's Fundraising Day](#) and, to support you in your fundraising activities, today's briefing includes a funding focus. Just a reminder, if you would like to talk through an application or discuss your funding activity, email support support@communityimpactbucks.org.uk and, for volunteering support, email volunteering@communityimpactbucks.org.uk.

#FUNDALERTS AND TOP TEN TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

To help you secure the funding you need, we have collated [top ten tips on how to write a successful funding application](#). Further support is available on our general [funding advice](#) and [COVID-19 related guidance](#) webpages.

Here is a round-up of the latest funds which are available:

- **Funds for projects examining how to help communities move towards recovery and renewal:** the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) has opened its Emerging Futures Fund offering grants of £20,000 to £50,000 to help communities and civil society organisations look at how they can transition from the immediate crisis, towards recovery and renewal. NLCF expects projects to use most of the funding from this programme to pay for staff salaries but it can also cover digital tools to carry out the work and any running costs. Application deadline is 25 June; for more information, visit [Emerging Futures Fund](#).
- **Grants for projects addressing barriers to being active:** Sport England is offering up to £50,000 for innovative solutions from individuals and organisations to help those most affected by the impact of COVID-19 to get active. The projects should address the barriers to getting active faced by women, people on low incomes, people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, disabled people or people living with long-term health conditions. Projects do not have to directly deliver physical activity and Sport England is keen to hear about projects which focus on community infrastructure or changes to the physical environment. Application deadline is 24 June; for more information, visit [Sport England](#).
- **Funds for natural history, wildlife conservation and horticulture:** John Spedan Lewis Foundation has opened its COVID-19 Emergency Fund to give one-off emergency grants to alleviate financial hardship caused by the pandemic amongst UK registered charities whose charitable aims include natural history, wildlife conservation, and horticulture. Grants of up to £20,000 are available for charities with a turnover of less than £1 million. Application deadline is 14 June; for more information, visit [John Spedan Lewis Foundation](#).
- **Grants to support historic sites and buildings:** Historic England's COVID-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fund Emergency is offering grants of up to £25,000 to help fund urgent maintenance, repairs and investigations at historic sites and buildings across England due to the impact of COVID-19. Deadline for expression of interest is 28 June 2020. For more information, visit [Historic England](#).

PROMOTING YOUR FUNDRAISING APPEAL

Did you know we feature local fundraising appeals from charities and not-for-profit groups from across the county on our [Bucks Fundraising Appeals](#) page? If you would like your fundraising appeal to be included, send your organisation's name, a sentence about your organisation or appeal, and a link to the fundraising page to comms@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

REOPENING GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

It is anticipated that the coronavirus regulations will be amended by 4th July, ready for community buildings to reopen on Monday 6 July.

Supporting our role as the Rural Community Council for Buckinghamshire, our umbrella organisation ACRE has produced a comprehensive information pack to help management committees prepare for opening. The pack also includes the following templates:

- Checklist for reopening
- Sample questionnaire for regular users
- COVID-19 secure premises poster
- Management of social distancing – a risk-based approach
- Sample special conditions of hire during COVID-19
- Sample COVID-19 risk assessment for reopening of village and community halls
- Sample COVID-19 risk assessment for hirers of village and community halls

To receive a copy please email debi@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

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