

POLICY STATEMENT

Discretionary Grant Funding for Voluntary and Community Organisations June 2019

Daventry District Council recognises the need to provide appropriate financial support to voluntary and community sector organisations (VCSOs) that deliver services or facilities to the community that meet with the Council's core objectives.

1. SCOPE

- 1.1 The Council awards grants to VCSOs in accordance with agreed annual budgets.
- 1.2 Formally constituted charities, community groups, clubs and other not for profit organisations are eligible to apply for funding for specified purposes.
- 1.3 Individuals, private businesses, religious bodies, political bodies, and statutory bodies including parish councils and schools, are not normally eligible to apply. However, if such bodies can demonstrate that the purposes for which they are requesting funding have wide community benefit and contribute positively to the ongoing future provision of services to the community, an application will be considered.
- 1.4 There are five types of funding available:
 - (a) Capital grants up to a maximum of £15,000 for capital works such as building renovations, equipment or other major purchases with minimum value of £1,000. Only in exceptional circumstances, and if budgets allow, will applications for more than £15,000 be considered.
 - (b) One-off community events grants of up to £500 for organisations to host a community event to help raise further funds or promote their organisation. Where community groups wishing to hold events are not formally constituted or established, the Council will consider applications from parish councils or other statutory bodies on behalf of such groups.
 - (c) Community project grants up to a maximum of £1,000 for the purchase of small items of equipment and/or training and volunteer expenses. This programme will cease in March 2020.
 - (d) Where budget is available, one-off revenue grants will be considered and advertised to relevant VCSOs.
 - (e) Daventry Local Lotto community grant up to a maximum of £750 for either the purchase of small items of equipment and/or training and volunteer expenses, or for organisations to host a community event. Only one application per year can be submitted for consideration and the applicant must be signed up as a 'good cause' on Daventry Local Lotto in order for the application to be considered.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The Council's Community Development Co-ordinator updates, promotes and administers the grants scheme, providing assistance to applicants as necessary, with the support of the Community and Customer Development Manager and Community Manager.
- 2.2 Capital grant applications are assessed and scored by the Community Development Co-ordinator in accordance with published guidelines. The Community Development Co-ordinator will consult with relevant officers as appropriate before producing a report which seeks the Chief Executive's approval to make awards. Capital grant reports will be made to the monthly Senior Management Team meeting (SMT) unless there are no applications submitted during the previous month.
- 2.3 One-off community event funding applications are assessed by the Community Development Co-ordinator who then makes recommendations to the Community and Customer Development Manager for a decision to make awards.
- 2.4 Community project grant applications are assessed by the Community Development Co-ordinator, who then makes recommendations to the Community and Customer Development Manager for a decision to make awards.
- 2.5 If one-off revenue grants are made available as per 1.4(d) above, these will be assessed and scored by the Community Development Co-ordinator in accordance with published guidelines and a report made to SMT which seeks the Chief Executive's approval to make awards.
- 2.6 Local Lotto grant funding applications are assessed by the Community Development Co-ordinator who then makes recommendations to the Community and Customer Development Manager for a decision to make awards.
- 2.7 All organisations in receipt of funding are required to comply with appropriate conditions.
- 2.8 An application from an organisation with significant funds or other assets (i.e. reserves in excess of two years' running costs) will only be approved if it can demonstrate that there is a substantial reason why the activity or project cannot be funded from its own balances.
- 2.9 All applicants are required to demonstrate they are bona fide and have appropriate and transparent accounting procedures in place.

3. PROCESS

- 3.1 Grant application forms and guidance notes are available by contacting the Community Development Co-ordinator. Alternatively, electronic copies can be downloaded from the Council website at:
www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/community-grants
- 3.2 The grant application process will be reviewed as necessary to ensure corporate priorities are appropriately reflected within the assessment criteria, and that the process is fair.

3.3 Applications for all grants can be made at any time during the year. Capital grant applications and in-year revenue grant applications (if available) are processed and awarded throughout the year at the closest monthly SMT meeting. One-off community events grants, community project grants (until these cease) and Local Lotto grants are processed and awarded as they are received, usually within ten working days of receipt.

4. CONTACT

Community Development Co-ordinator
E-mail: communitygrants@daventrydc.gov.uk
Telephone: 01327 302312.