



Winchester City Council Cost of Living Grant Scheme

The new Cost of Living Grant scheme aims to help organisations that are supporting people in the Winchester district who are experiencing difficulties due to the rising cost of living. The scheme is being launched as an immediate response to the cost of living crisis and provides a one off fund of £60,000 for this purpose.

Who can apply?

- Voluntary groups / not for profit organisations / registered charities
- Parish and Town Councils
- Pre- schools, schools, and after school clubs in relation to their wider community role

Every group or organisation should have a constitution or documentation which includes a formal decision making process. We cannot fund individuals.

Key Dates

- Fund opens for applications: 28 November 2022
- Fund closes to applications: 28 February 2023 or on full allocation of budget
- A review of applications will be held every two weeks and applicants notified of the outcome shortly afterwards.

What can be applied for?

- Grant applications should be between £1,000 and £5,000. Requests for less than £1,000 should be directed through the [small grants scheme](#). For applications over £5,000 please speak to Jane Chuhan, Funding and Development Officer (jchuhan@winchester.gov.uk).
- Examples of activities could include:
 - Increasing access to information, support and guidance, ensuring that residents are aware of their benefits and financial entitlements and that they receive the necessary support to access these
 - Providing information and support to reduce costs for example by managing energy bills and making energy savings
 - Increasing social interactions to help reduce anxiety and improve social inclusion in warm spaces. To register your Warm Hub and access support resources: <https://www.warmwelcome.uk/>





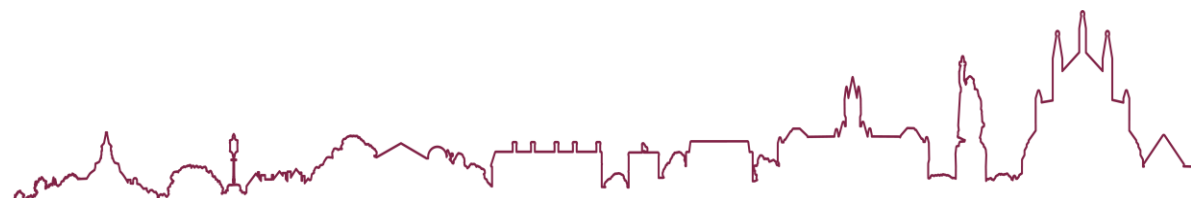
- Overcoming barriers to accessing services such as transport, access to the internet or use of IT equipment
- Helping to access essentials such as food or clothing
- Applications which target support towards the vulnerable and individuals/families who have never had to access support previously or are “just about making ends meet” are particularly welcome.
- All costs for delivering an activity or project will be considered, with the exception of any direct payments to individuals. If an organisation’s running costs increase as a result of putting on extra services/activities, these are eligible for funding through this scheme (providing evidence of the cost can be provided).

What information must be provided and how do I apply?

- A fully completed, signed and dated application form via the Flexigrant online application portal. **Follow this link to apply here now:** [Flexigrant](#)
- Supporting documentation as specified on the application form which includes:
 - Evidence of a current bank account in the name of the organisation/group with two signatories
 - Evidence for the costs applied for

Grant Terms

- Payment of the grant by the council will be made in advance of expenditure, following formal notification of the grant and receipt of the signed Funding Agreement. Funds will be released in one payment
- All grant recipients will be required to explain how they used their grant within three months of spending the grant. You must retain all receipts relating to the spending of this grant and we may ask to see them
- We need to understand the impact and benefit of the grant so will require an interim update and end of grant report which includes the number of people helped and other metrics relevant to the project.
- Should the project not take place, or not be completed any unspent grant will be repayable
- Retrospective funding towards costs which have already been incurred is not eligible
- Organisations/groups must not change the use of the grant award and must spend the grant on the purpose for which it was approved unless agreed otherwise in writing by the Funding and Development Officer at Winchester City Council.





- Groups are required to take reasonable steps to ensure their activities can be made available for as broad a range of people as possible and that positive measures are put in place to remove any barriers to access
- Organisations working with children, young people or vulnerable adults must have a robust protection policy in place and ensure that all active staff and volunteers have undertaken a DBS check.
- Organisations/groups must have the relevant insurances, policies and permissions in place for the activities they provide
- The council's decisions with regard to funding are discretionary and no appeals process is available.

Last Updated: 28 November 2022

