



Funding available to help voluntary organisations and charities



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Voluntary organisations and charities that support Hertsmere residents could qualify for a funding boost of up to £7,500.

The 2021/22 community grants programme from Hertsmere Borough Council is now open for applications from groups and organisations actively supporting our local communities.

Almost £140,000 of funding is available, reflecting the ongoing impact of the coronavirus pandemic on local people, as well as the voluntary and community sector organisations working to support them.

Applications of up to £3,000 are welcome from organisations helping those affected by issues which have worsened during the pandemic including domestic abuse, social isolation, food poverty, physical activity or mental health.

Organisations who need additional support to re-open or change the way they deliver their services as a result of the pandemic may also be eligible for support of up to £3,000.

Additionally, those organisations who have worked to support residents throughout the last year but are now facing significant financial difficulties are able to apply to a new fund, supported by the Hertfordshire Public Health Protection Board, for up to £7,500 to cover running costs and other expenses directly related to service delivery.

Councillor Meenal Sachdev, Portfolio Holder for Community, Health, Leisure and Culture, said: "We recognise just how hard the last year has been on our local communities and the organisations that work hard to support them.

"This year's grant funding aims to support those experiencing a range of issues exacerbated by social distancing and lockdowns, whilst also recognising the needs of the groups and organisations who have been a lifeline to many but are now facing financial uncertainty as we move back to normality.

"If you are a voluntary organisation or charity working to help our communities that has been affected by this unprecedented year, we want to hear from you."

In addition, the Ward Improvement Initiative Scheme (WIIS) funding is now open and available for charities and organisations working locally. Councillors can allocate £500 each of WIIS funding to support projects of their choice in their wards.

Organisations wishing to apply should speak directly to their Ward Councillor before completing an application form.

The closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 16 July

For more information about the community grants programme go to www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitygrants or for more about WIIS go to www.hertsmere.gov.uk/WIIS.

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