

## The Heart of England Birmingham and Black Country Community Fund Factsheet (BBCC)

The Heart of England BBCC Fund grants are awarded from the earnings of the Foundation's own endowment fund.

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### Fund Aims

The fund aims to support people in Birmingham and The Black Country.

Applications must meet one or more of the following aims:

- Promote health and wellbeing
- Tackle disadvantage
- Promote community cohesion
- Develop sustainable communities

### What will we support?

- Start-up costs for a new project
- To extend or develop an existing project.
- For pilot projects (to gather research or evidence).
- To purchase equipment or resources.

Grants of up to £3,000 are available for organisations in Birmingham & The Black Country.

The minimum grant request is £500

Funding must be spent within 1 year.

### Deadlines

The Heart of England BBCC Fund is a rolling fund, without specific deadlines, you can apply at any time.

### Eligibility

You can apply to this fund if you are one of the following:

- Registered Charities and Charitable Incorporated Organisations, but applications from the following will be considered:
  - Constituted Community groups
  - Companies Limited by Guarantee with charitable aims
  - Parish Councils, Schools, PTAs and Churches if community benefit can be demonstrated (but see 'Sorry we cannot fund' below)
  - Community Interest Company\* -
  - Co-operative - registered Community Benefit Society and Registered Industrial and Provident Society

\*Funding to Community Interest Companies and other non-charities may include conditions to restrict funding to charitable objectives only. **CICs less than 2 years old will not be considered.**

Additionally, your organisation/company income level must be equal to or less than £500,000, as shown in your most recent annual accounts.

### What we cannot fund

- Individuals or sole traders
- Capital builds
- Direct replacement of statutory obligation and public funding.
- Promotion of religious or political activities.
- Groups with significant financial free reserves.
- Retrospective grants.
- Contribution to endowment fund, payment of deficit funding or repayment of loans.
- National charities (but we could consider local branches who have their own bank account and management committee).
- Overseas travel or expeditions.
- Medical research and equipment for statutory or private healthcare.
- General appeals.
- Animal welfare, unless the project benefits people (e.g. disabled riding schemes).
- Statutory work in educational institutions.
- Sponsored or fundraising events or groups raising funds to distribute to other causes.
- Schools, Churches, Parish Councils or PTA's unless community benefit is demonstrated.

## Additional Supporting Information

To be eligible to apply you must be able to provide:

- Proof that your organisation has a governing body with at least three unrelated people as members. You will need to submit a list of those members who have bank authorisation (at least two unrelated signatories).
- A written constitution / articles / set of rules.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records showing your organisation's income, expenditure and balance of funds and reserves.
- A bank statement from the last three months.
- A copy of your safeguarding policy(s). If you have any separate safeguarding procedures, please share them.
- A copy of your equal opportunities / EDI policy.
- Quotes for capital items over £300.

Your policies must show clearly that they are within their review date.

The documents listed above must be provided when submitting the application form. If any documents are unavailable at the time of submission, they must be provided within 7 days of submitting the application. Failure to provide the required documents within this timeframe will result in the application being rejected.

**All grant applicants** will be expected to participate in any appropriate publicity as requested by HoECF.

For guidance on impact reporting visit the Foundations website.

For more information, visit the Foundation's [Essential Information page](#).