

## Lancaster Community Fund - Guidelines

### Overview

The Lancaster Community Fund was set up following the transfer of several dormant charity funds which had been left to Lancaster City Council in bequests and endowments but over the years had fallen dormant. The fund will also distribute additional grants from Lancaster City Council, on an ad hoc basis.

### Who can apply?

You must be working within the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector providing activity to make a positive difference to the lives and wellbeing of people and communities.

We would like to encourage all voluntary or community groups to apply and we specifically welcome applications from new and small grassroots groups. Those without a formal constitution are asked to seek support from an established organisation or group. If you are unsure how to go about this, please get in touch with us.

You will also need to be a current member of Lancaster District CVS to apply for an award. If you are not sure whether you are a current member, please contact [sharonphillips@lancastercvs.org.uk](mailto:sharonphillips@lancastercvs.org.uk) to check your status. If you need to update your membership, you can do so by following this link <https://lancastercvs.org.uk/join-us-today/> - it only takes a few minutes to complete.

### What is the focus of the fund?

The fund has three main priorities:

- Projects that increase community involvement, build community wealth and resilience.
- Projects that contribute towards carbon reduction and a more sustainable district.
- Projects that contribute to individual and community wellbeing.

### How much is available?

Grants of up to £1,000.

### Which areas are covered?

The Lancaster district as defined by Lancaster City Councils limits i.e., Lancaster, Morecambe, Heysham, Carnforth and surrounding rural areas.

### **Criteria**

Priority will be given to those groups working in disadvantaged areas of the community and to new and smaller grassroots groups with low-income levels.

### **Examples of the sorts of projects that may be funded**

- Equipment for youth club
- Activities for young people
- Training for volunteers
- Community sports activities
- Projects to reduce social isolation for vulnerable groups
- Cleaning up of grot spots
- Improvements to outdoor public spaces
- Social enterprise activities
- Money advice projects

### **Supporting documents**

To support your application, we recommend that you enclose any of the documents you have from those listed below. If you are struggling to supply these, please contact us for advice and support.

- A copy of your governing document i.e., your constitution or rules
- A copy of the group's latest annual accounts or income/expenditure document
- A copy of a recent bank statement for your group
- Copies of relevant policies, which have been reviewed in the last 2 years.

All applicants must ensure that they hold relevant policies and procedures in place to undertake activities, such as safeguarding policies, DBS checks and/or a health and safety policy, depending on proposed activity.

### **Closing Dates**

17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

If you have any queries about the fund, or about how to apply, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us by emailing [funding@lancastercvs.org.uk](mailto:funding@lancastercvs.org.uk) or by ringing CVS on 01524 555900