

CRITERIA

ANGLIAN WATER POSITIVE DIFFERENCE FUND



A FUND MANAGED BY
BEDFORDSHIRE AND LUTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

INTRODUCTION

Anglian Water operates at the heart of the community, and its employees live locally too, so they're committed to making this region a great place to live and work.

The Coronavirus pandemic has shown that community has never been more important, and that's why Anglian Water has created The Anglian Water Positive Difference Fund. It will provide grants to support projects which have a positive impact on the people and communities they serve, allowing them to provide help and connecting people with the practical and essential support they need.

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) is leading on this programme and is working with Community Foundations across the Anglian Water Region, including BLCF. The first phase of the fund is open to constituted community organisations who are supporting vulnerable, isolated and older people at this time and who have clear charitable objectives. It will provide community organisations with emergency funding to deal with emerging issues in the community, as a result of the continuing threat of coronavirus, and the need for self-isolation, and potential for further exacerbation of loneliness and isolation. This will include;

- the need for self-isolation
- financial hardship
- potential for hunger
- lack of shelter
- further exacerbation of health issues, loneliness and isolation.

GRANTS OFFERED

Grants from £1000 to £5000 will be considered (larger grants may be available for groups working in partnership, or in exceptional circumstances).

To be eligible for funding, your project must support those who are considered high risk (including those with pre-existing medical conditions and older people over 60) or those in vulnerable circumstances and help to:

- Support their ongoing needs, ensuring their health and mental well-being is maintained,
- Reduce isolation and vulnerability during any isolation period that may arise as a result of the threat of coronavirus,
- Help to make sure people remain safely connected with the outside world during this time.

Example projects might include:

- Support for foodbanks and organisations working to combat hardship caused by the pandemic including child hunger.
- Groups that provide services to address domestic abuse and violence in the home.
- Support for groups that provide services to those who are homeless.
- Tackling the impacts of financial hardship.
- Enabling people to keep warm, and independent in their homes.
- Enabling people to access a nutritious meal by connecting them to services providing groceries, and/or ready-made meals.
- Enabling and encouraging people to use and access technology to keep them connected to the outside world.
- Reaching out to isolated people by telephone, and befriending.
- Enabling home education for children and young people.

ELIGIBILITY

This fund is open to voluntary and community organisations that are **based in the Bedfordshire** area of benefit for the fund – (across **Bedford Borough & Central Beds**), please use the postcode checker to ensure you fit this criteria **BEFORE** applying.

Who can apply:

1. Registered, exempt, and excepted charities
2. Parish and Town Councils, Village Halls, and Parochial Church Councils (if the activity is not deemed part of their statutory duties)
1. Constituted organisations and non-registered charities such as:
 2. Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs)
 3. Community Interest Companies (CICs) – BLCF has its own guidance around CIC's/Social enterprises, please read this **BEFORE** applying.
 4. Social Enterprises which have the Social Enterprise Mark
 5. Co-Operatives
 6. Community Benefit Societies (formerly Industrial and Provident Societies)
 7. Churches and other religious organisations (if the activity is not deemed to be proselytising)
 8. Non-constituted or recently established organisations that can be endorsed by a statutory body, established charity, parochial church council or parish/town council
10. body, established charity, parochial church council or parish/town council
11. body, established charity, parochial church council or parish/town council

*Partnerships or organisations working collaboratively can apply. However, the lead applicant would need to be one of the above.

What can be supported within the fund themes:

- Running costs for organisations to provide such support, including volunteer expenses, staff costs, and transport; providing the organisation is focusing their attention on providing support to both existing, and any potential new beneficiaries.
- Small capital costs are eligible, providing the capital item will address the priorities of the fund, and is linked to keeping older people or those in vulnerable circumstances connected to the outside world. Repeat applications under the same fund for continuation of projects that are proving to work well.
- Applications from groups who already have live projects or pending applications are eligible.

WHO CANNOT APPLY

- Organisations that are not based in the Bedfordshire areas of benefit
- Groups that do not have **at least 3 unrelated** Trustees/directors/committee members
- Individuals
- Private Businesses
- National organisations and their affiliates

WHAT WON'T BE FUNDED:

- Organisational structures not listed above, or projects which are not charitable in focus
- General appeals or sponsorship
- Work normally funded from statutory sources
- Work undertaken by/ on behalf of schools, colleges or universities as part of their statutory curricular activities
- Work undertaken by or on behalf of statutory bodies
- Work for the advancement of religion
- Work where the main beneficiaries are animals

- Work which does not directly benefit people living in the area of benefit.
- Overseas holidays or trips
- Retrospective grants i.e. for items already purchased or activity that has already started
- Activities or projects which have already taken place (i.e. Retrospective funding)
- Purchase of vehicles
- Holiday schemes
- Events, parties, trips and initiatives based upon mass gatherings
- Work which does not directly benefit people living in the Anglian Water area
- Work normally funded from statutory sources
- Sponsored events, fundraising activities, or grant-making activities or bodies
- Improvements to land/buildings that are not open to the general public at convenient hours
- Projects promoting political activities, lobbying for causes, or projects whose main purpose is to promote religion (as distinct from religious organisations)
- Non-constituted or recently established organisations that cannot be endorsed by a statutory body

T H E P R O C E S S

Applying

Complete the online application form and attach any supporting documents, if required. If supporting documents cannot be attached then please forward these by email to administrator@blcf.org.uk If you experience any difficulties with completing the application or providing any of the requested documentation, please let us know via email.

Decisions

Similarly to our already established BLCF emergency fund, due to the exceptional circumstances that have also led to the creation of the fund, our aim is to keep the application process as straightforward as possible and award grants within 14 days of a receiving a completed application.

An assessor may contact you to obtain further information and we will contact you by email to let you know the outcome.

If you require any assistance with the completion of your application, please contact BLCF on administrator@blcf.org.uk