

CRITERIA

STABILITY FUND- BEDFORDSHIRE & LUTON

A FUND MANAGED BY
BEDFORDSHIRE AND LUTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GRANTS OFFERED

Grants are available of **up to £15,000 per year** for a maximum of 2 years, for smaller organisations with an income of no more than £250k pa.

INTRODUCTION

This Fund aims to help charitable organisations in Bedfordshire & Luton recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The fund will offer financial stability over a period of 2 years to **established** charitable organisations, which already have a clear track record in delivering services locally and have the capacity to adapt/enhance their services in response to the current and longer term impacts of Covid-19.

The fund will support the following:

- Financial stability of organisations directly supporting people experiencing hardship as a result of the crisis. -this can include core funding
- Ongoing services or activities whilst organisations continue to adjust to the impact of the pandemic.
- Activities/projects that will primarily benefit the most vulnerable communities impacted by Covid-19.

Please note if you are applying for core funding, you will be asked to evidence your organisation's current financial position and plans for return to sustainability within a known timescale, including:

- Information to explain current financial position
- Operational plans and financial forecast, covering the next 6-8 months minimum
- Smaller community groups can submit a simple budget/ plan showing projected income and expenditure for the next 12 months.

PRIORITIES

1. **Mental Health** – Young People; Elderly; Social Exclusion
2. **Poverty** – Homelessness, Advice, Information, Guidance (IAG) & Employment and Retraining (in particular for young people)
3. **Equity** - those working with beneficiaries that have been disproportionately affected by Covid-19

ELIGIBILITY

Groups must:

- ✓ Be based in the Bedfordshire or Luton area
- ✓ Have a committee of at **least three unrelated** Trustees/Directors (if you have more than this the majority must be unrelated individuals with no financial interest in the organisation).
- ✓ Be a voluntary organisation, community group, small charity or other not for profit organisation
- ✓ Have a bank account in the group's name (with two unrelated signatories)
- ✓ Have an income of no more than £250k within the last financial year.
- ✓ Have a clear track record in delivering services locally

INELIGIBILITY

Who cannot apply/ what work will not be supported?

- × Individuals
- × Private Businesses
- × National organisations and their affiliates
- × 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
- × To support capital costs where the balance of funding needed to proceed has yet to be secured.
- × Grants cannot be awarded to organisations that are currently inactive / not delivering services and activities
- × Those organisations already in receipt of round 1 stability fund grants or who have 3 or more active grants with BLCF (as per our grantmaking policy).

THE PROCESS

Applying

Only requests for funding made via the official online application form will be considered. The form can be accessed via our website under the appropriate grants tab: www.blcf.org.uk Please ensure you attach any supporting documents required. If you struggle to upload the supporting documents, 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

There will be a clear timeframe for applicants to apply. The deadline for applications is **15th July 2022, 5pm**, although we welcome applications before this date.

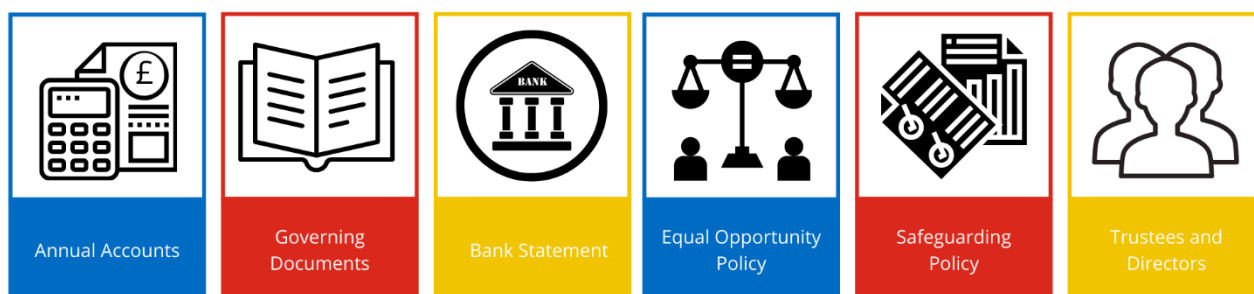
Decisions will be made the 2nd week of September by our community panel. Only those that best meet the priorities of the fund will be shortlisted and considered by the panel. Applicants that are not shortlisted will be notified accordingly.

An assessor will contact you to obtain further information as part of our normal process. Once decisions are made, 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

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following supporting documents must be uploaded with your application alongside a **copy of the full budget breakdown for the project/activity, including how you have worked out any costs:**



If you do not have an Equal Opportunity or Safeguarding policy, please get in touch before applying.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Successful organisations will be required to complete interim progress reports as well as a monitoring report at the end of the project. We will be asking how the grant was spent, outcomes achieved or not, as well as the difference the project has made, any key issues and lessons learnt.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We are committed to promoting equal opportunities and to valuing diversity regardless of age, gender, race, ethnic origin, nationality, religion/belief, culture, language, disability, learning difficulty, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status, health status, or any other discriminatory grounds.

Should you have any queries about this criteria or applying to this fund please contact a member of the BLCF team who will be able to help either by phone: 01525 306690 or email administrator@blcf.org.uk

****This fund is only open to organisations who are based in Bedfordshire & Luton.**