

CRITERIA

THE HEALTHIER, WEALTHIER AND HAPPIER COMMUNITIES (HWHC) FUND

A FUND MANAGED BY
BEDFORDSHIRE AND LUTON COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

ON BEHALF OF
PEABODY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



INTRODUCTION

Peabody is a not-for-profit housing association that creates affordable homes and works to build inclusive communities. They provide resources and support aimed at strengthening local areas and improving outcomes for residents. Peabody Community Foundation aims to create opportunities for resident involvement in local decision-making and service delivery, building resilient communities where people have a say in their living environment and the services they receive.

In collaboration with Peabody Community Foundation, Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation is facilitating the Healthier, Wealthier and Happy Communities Fund. This fund provides grants to local community groups delivering services in anti-social behaviour (ASB), initiatives aimed at reducing criminal behaviour, violence against women and girls (VAWG), youth development, and health inequality initiatives. The fund focuses on supporting organisations working in areas where Peabody operates.

HOW MUCH CAN GROUPS APPLY FOR?

5 grants of up to £5,000 will be considered for organisations who are delivering services in the following wards of Luton: Dallow and South.

Applications can be for an extension to existing projects or could also be for 'new' work, based on learning from existing project work.

Funded projects will run from April 2025 – March 2026.

Funded activity must fit with one of the priorities of the fund. **Up to 15%** of the grant can be used **for core costs**, such as rent and utilities. The rest should be used for project or activity delivery costs. If you have any queries, please contact us at administrator@blcf.org.uk

PRIORITIES

Applicants must apply under only **one** of the 5 following fund priorities and be able to demonstrate service provision connected to the following issues:

- 1) [Anti-Social Behaviour \(ASB\)](#).
- 2) **Initiatives aimed at reducing criminal behaviour.**
- 3) [Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\)](#).
- 4) **Youth development, (including employment / economic inclusion projects).**
- 5) **Health inequalities.**

Applicants must also be able to demonstrate that they can:

Deliver Impact

Demonstrate experience or a clear approach in addressing one of the priority themes, showing how your interventions can create meaningful, measurable impact.

Engage Local Communities

Demonstrate a strong understanding of the Dallow and Luton South areas and a commitment to engaging and involving local residents in the delivery of services.

Support Vulnerable Groups

Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with vulnerable or marginalised groups, ensuring that services are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to their specific needs.

Align with Community Vision

Ensure that the project aligns with Peabody Community Foundation's vision of creating healthier, wealthier and happier communities through co-created solutions and shared power with residents.

We Fund

Registered charities and other not-for-profit groups making a positive difference to people in the community (i.e. community groups, sports groups, PTAs, etc).

You need to be able to demonstrate that you have:

- A constitution or other governing document.
- A committee of at least 3 unrelated Trustees / Directors (no-one with 'significant control').
- Good financial management and health, without large free / unrestricted funds.
- A proposed project which has not already been funded by BLCF (or separately applied for BLCF funding).
- A clear plan to support residents in the Bedfordshire area.
- A comprehensive safeguarding policy (for work with children / adults at risk).
- A comprehensive equality, diversity & inclusion / equal opportunities policy.
- A clear plan to work in partnership with others.
- Sought funds from a range of sources, made efforts to become self-sustaining, and have a clear strategy for when funding ends.

If your organisation is a social enterprise (including CICs) there is specific guidance available [here](#).

We Do Not Fund

- Groups with 3 or more active BLCF grants.
- Groups who have provided low quality monitoring on previous grants.
- Individuals.
- National organisations (unless clear local benefits).
- Private Limited Companies (except Community Interest Companies - CICs - limited by guarantee).
- Profit-making organisations.
- Organisations or activities that promote political parties or religion. (We do fund activities that demonstrate wider public benefit).
- Professional marketing / advertising (unless you can demonstrate that this is only to publicise the funded work to engage beneficiaries).
- Professional fundraising.
- Retrospective costs.
- General appeals or sponsorship.
- Animal welfare, unless the project directly benefits people.
- Trips (excluding respite care) and / or fundraising events.

Supporting Documents

We require a full budget breakdown and project plan for the project or activity. You must also upload the following supporting documents with your application:

- Annual accounts - most recent signed annual accounts and / or management accounts, which have been audited / independently examined where required.
- Governing documents - constitution, memorandum and articles, articles, or set of rules.
- Bank statement - date within 2 months, in the name and correct address of the organisation applying with at least 2 unrelated signatories.
- Equal opportunity policy.
- Safeguarding policy.
- Trustees and directors (names, roles, confirmation of any related trustees / directors and any other potential conflicts of interest).

Monitoring & Evaluation

Successful applicants must complete interim and end-of-project monitoring reports. We will ask how you spent the grant, including providing receipts. You will need to tell us about the project outcomes, impact, important issues, and lessons learned. We will contact successful applicants to discuss progress and organise visits to help with learning and development.

Before beginning the project, please consider:

- Who will write your reports.
- Your aims and objectives.
- How will you measure progress.

- What information you will collect:
 - Numbers (quantitative data) – how many people use the service, goals achieved (e.g. employment, improved health).
 - Stories / Case Studies (qualitative data) – user / volunteer feedback, observed increase in skills, confidence, etc.
 - Learning – user / volunteer feedback, what went well, what would you do differently, etc.
 - Partner feedback.

Additional Information

All applications are thoroughly assessed, including due diligence checks (more information [here](#)). Only applications which clearly meet the fund's criteria will be presented to our panel of local volunteers. We reserve the right to decline or accept any application according to the grants panel's decision.

We encourage all applicants to explore other funding sources. Your local Community Voluntary Service (CVS) can provide funding advice. For Bedfordshire CVS, visit www.cvsbeds.org.uk

Equal Opportunities

We commit to promoting equal opportunities and valuing diversity including all protected characteristics. We expect applicants to also be committed to the promotion of equality, cohesion, and inclusion.

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