

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITY GRANT SCHEME

### Vision and priorities – 2025/26

#### Theme: Community Action

##### What difference do we want the funding to make?

- Give local people the resources to take action to benefit their local community or neighbourhood.
- Help residents to feel less isolated by supporting activities which bring people together.
- Make it easier for residents to engage in a vibrant range of cultural and recreational activities focussed on creating a sense of pride of place.
- Create inclusive communities and neighbourhoods, where people facing the biggest barriers to participation are able to access opportunities.
- Improve access to opportunities and services to help people affected by the cost of living crisis.

##### What factors will we consider when assessing applications?

- The number of residents of West Oxfordshire who will benefit from the activity balanced with the cost.
- Whether the proposed activity meets an identified need, complements existing activity or duplicates something that is already underway.
- The capacity of the project to have ongoing impact.
- The degree to which those who benefit are facing barriers to participating fully in their local community.
- The effectiveness of the activity to meet needs of those facing financial barriers.
- The degree to which the activity is led by local people.
- That the activity links to 1 or more of the Council priorities
- The scale of the project or activity
- Whilst its not always appropriate to work in partnership with other groups, we do welcome proposals which demonstrate collaboration to make the best use of resources to achieve common goals.

##### Some examples of the sorts of activity that could be supported:

- Community projects, workshops, activities and events
- Cultural and environmental themed activities
- Community sports activities

## Who can apply?

The focus is on supporting small scale projects.

- Voluntary sector groups including community action groups.
- Charities.
- New informal groups (only when partnering with an established formal group who will be the named applicant) directly serving communities in West Oxfordshire.
- Non-profit constituted groups based in and serving the communities of West Oxfordshire.

## General

- Applicants will need to demonstrate how the activity for which funding is required supports one or more of the Councils priorities:
  - a. Putting residents first
  - b. Enabling a Good Quality of Life for All
  - c. Creating a Better Environment for People and Wildlife
  - d. Responding to the Climate and Ecological Emergency
  - e. Working Together for West Oxfordshire

<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/our-plan-for-west-oxfordshire>

- Priority will be given to projects which are led by residents, for residents and those who face the greatest barriers to participation eg young people and older residents
- Only one application per organisation in a single calendar year.
- General and unspecified fundraising will not be eligible.
- Applicants will not be able to utilise CAG funding towards a project which has previously received Council funding or for activity which is simultaneously fundraising on the Westhive platform.

## How much funding is available?

Grants of between £500 and £1,000 are available.

## Deadline

Summer 2025 (precise dates to be determined)