



Argus Appeal Fund Guidance

Fast Track Small Grants

We are delighted to introduce our new fast track grants programme – the Argus Appeal Fund. The Argus Appeal Fund provides grants of up to £1,000 for smaller charities, voluntary and community groups or individuals in need across Sussex. It provides a quicker service for applicants who need a small grant or have an immediate or urgent funding need. Applications can be submitted at any time throughout the year.

This fund was established from the transfer of funds from the Argus Appeal, set up by The Argus newspaper over 50 years ago.

How much can I apply for?

Most fast track grants will normally be up to £1,000 though we may be able to consider higher amounts in exceptional circumstances. Do contact us before making an application if you wish to apply for a higher amount.

What can I apply for?

Funding for groups:

Applications from constituted groups to support a range of critical or unexpected needs such as:

- Emergency repairs for community buildings
- Start-up costs for new community groups
- Capacity building activities, such as training of volunteers or support with development of policies and procedures
- Events and activities
- Equipment and room hire

Funding for individuals:

Applications from social workers or registered professionals on behalf of individuals with long term health issues and/or disabilities, with

- Specialist equipment and furniture
- Treatment, counselling and therapeutic services

Before you can apply for funding

For groups: you must have a governing document (constitution, rules, memorandum and articles of association etc.), a governing body of at least three unrelated individuals, and a bank account in your group's name with at least two unrelated signatories. If you are applying to purchase equipment or undertake repairs or refurbishments, please supply written estimates or catalogue pages.

For individuals: you will need to provide a letter of support from a social worker or recognised professional who is in a position to confirm your funding needs.

Before you complete the application form, please make sure that your project or activity will not need to start *before* you have received potential funding. The period between receipt of your application and payment of a grant, if successful, is generally between 3-4 weeks.

Who can apply?

1. Voluntary and community groups
2. Not-for-profit organisations (Including CIOs, Companies Limited by guarantee and CICs)
3. Charities
4. Individuals

Please note we do not accept requests from or for the following:

- Organisations or activities which don't benefit communities or individuals in Sussex
- Organisations that discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual identification
- Organisations where the service provided is used as a means to promote religious beliefs
- Political activities
- Small contributions to major capital appeals or campaigns
- Grants which will be used to make awards to a third party
- Projects which only benefit animals
- Organisations who have not returned monitoring from previous grant awards
- Retrospective funding for activities or projects that have already taken place.

Information for existing grant holders

You may apply for a fast track grant at the same time as holding a general award in cases where you have an unexpected or emergency need. Grants that are held by you may be taken into account by those approving fast track applications.

Once we have received your application, we will make sure that the application is complete, with all the required supporting information and documentation. Normally, we would expect this to be within 3-4 weeks of receipt of your application.

If you need any help with your application, please give us a call on 01273 409 440.