

Sussex Crisis Fund phase 3 - Covid Support and Recovery Fund

Application criteria and guidance

The Sussex Crisis Fund supports community and voluntary sector organisations who are leading efforts to support people most affected by the coronavirus outbreak. This is the third phase of the Fund and is particularly aimed at helping people experiencing greater health inequalities as a result of Covid-19 and those facing acute financial difficulties as a direct result of the pandemic.

Alongside helping to address extreme poverty and disadvantage we would like to particularly encourage applications which support people disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 such as women, Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and children and young people.

We recognise the difficulty in planning for activities and projects at the moment, so this funding is offered on an unrestricted basis to organisations working in the areas identified.

Funding can support both online or in person activity, in line with government restrictions. We appreciate the need to continue to develop online services but also understand that some services may be less effective when delivered in this way. We are open to what works best for your organisation and beneficiaries.

What can you apply for?

Grant of up to £10,000 for delivery over a twelve-month period under the following themes:

- Mental health and well-being support
- Advice and support services
- Digital inclusion
- Reconnecting people and communities
- Costs associated with providing food and other vital support

Service areas/project examples and ideas:

1 Mental health and well-being support:

- Counselling and therapeutic services
- Support groups and befriending services
- Mental health training for staff and volunteers
- Projects that promote and raise awareness of positive mental health, including nature based and outdoor activities

2 Advice and support services:

- Financial, debt and benefits advice
- Housing and homelessness support
- Employment and training initiatives
- Immigration and asylum support
- Support for people affected by domestic abuse
- Interpretation services

3 Digital inclusion:

- Digital equipment and broadband for use by voluntary groups
- IT services to support voluntary groups, e.g. systems support and maintenance
- Digital skills training and development
- Projects that support local people to access online services
- Computer recycling schemes for digitally excluded groups

4 Reconnecting people and communities

- Projects supporting people with complex needs to reconnect with services and their local communities
- Projects to address social isolation and loneliness
- Events, activities and skills development (such as cooking, gardening, IT etc)
- Adaptations to make community owned buildings covid secure
- Community transport to help bring people together

5 Food and other provision

- Coordination and staffing costs for foodbanks and other providers
- Transport and vehicle costs
- Provision of food, food vouchers and other emergency support for beneficiaries such as sanitary/hygiene products and vouchers for bills for household purposes
- Food sustainability projects such as community fridges and larders
- Activities that support healthy eating, nutrition advice and cooking skills

Our normal £1 million income limit will apply to this Fund.

What we are unable to fund

- Organisations not currently able to provide services due to ongoing covid restrictions
- Statutory services including schools, social care and environmental health
- Organisations or activities based outside of Sussex unless there is strong evidence that beneficiaries will be Sussex communities
- Organisations that discriminate on the basis of ethnic origin, race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation
- Organisations where the service provided is used as a vehicle or means to promote religious beliefs
- Political activities
- Projects which only benefit animals
- Retrospective funding for activities or projects that have already taken place

Application process

Applications should be submitted on our [Sussex Crisis Fund application form](#). Applications will be assessed on a rolling deadline basis, with decisions expected within three – four weeks of submission.