

Sussex Crisis Fund

Guidance for applicants and criteria

The Sussex Crisis Fund supports community and voluntary sector organisations who are leading efforts to support people most affected by the coronavirus outbreak. It is designed to help fund the urgent needs facing our communities as the virus affects them and to support for organisations with funding needs to enable them to adapt and respond to the crisis.

We are now entering the final phase of our crisis funding from the National Emergencies Trust, though we will continue our own local appeal to allow us to support critical needs into the autumn. We will continue to keep this information under review as emerging needs arise in our communities.

This guidance and criteria has recently been updated and represents the second phase of this Fund, which first opened in March 2020.

Our usual funding rounds are also open and we would encourage applicants who have non urgent funding needs and/or activities taking place over a year to apply here rather than the crisis fund.

Timescales

We will be responding to grant requests as soon as we can, aiming for decisions on emergency requests within 2-3 weeks.

Grants of *up to* £5,000 to support charities and community groups in Sussex.

Core criteria

- Funding to support organisations helping those most affected by the covid-19 pandemic and especially those operating in and serving the most deprived areas and communities.
- Funding to support Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities and help build the capacity of BAME-led organisations to respond to growing inequalities as a result of the crisis.
- Funding to help organisations continue to adapt their work and services, including planning for the future and working towards delivering differently as a result of the pandemic.
- Core funding for organisations either currently providing services or planning to start delivery in the near future (we will continue to prioritise organisations which are providing services to help people most in need).
- Funding to promote and support digital inclusion.

Funding is to cover work over no more than six months, with all funding spent within this period. Monitoring reports will be required once this period is complete.

Repeat applications will only be considered once satisfactory monitoring for previous awards has been received.

Project examples

- Supporting the ongoing needs of vulnerable people to ensure that their health and wellbeing is maintained
- Emotional support, mental health and bereavement support
- Activities that relieve pressure on emergency or health and social care provision, or complement their response
- Groups and activities that support vulnerable people self-isolating (older people, people with pre-existing medical conditions etc.)
- Foodbanks and organisations working to combat hardship caused by the pandemic including child hunger
- Volunteer costs for new and existing organisations responding to the effect of the crisis
- Costs of adapting services and ways of working in response to the crisis
- Costs to support development of new services, training of volunteers or developing new ways of working
- Cost of new partnership work between organisations working together to combat the effects of the crisis
- Training of new volunteers and additional workers
- Employment and training initiatives

What we are unable to fund

- 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