

## Huntingdonshire District Council

### Community Chest 2023 - 24

#### Funding Criteria

**Applicants are encouraged to read these funding criteria thoroughly as applications not meeting the criteria will be rejected.**

The 2023 - 24 Community Chest grant scheme is now open and welcomes applications from community groups and organisations who would like to help the District Council achieve the following priorities that have been set out within the Corporate Plan for 2023 – 28:

- Improving the quality of life and well-being for everyone
- Keeping people out of crisis
- Helping people in crisis
- Lowering carbon emissions

The criteria are as follows:

1. Applications must be for projects that are based in Huntingdonshire, and where the significant majority of beneficiaries are Huntingdonshire residents.
2. The Community Chest is open for applications with immediate effect.
3. Applications will be considered by the panel monthly. In circumstances where it is necessary to cancel a panel meeting, any applications will be heard at the meeting held the following month.
4. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within 7 days of a decision being made by the panel.
5. There is no closing date for applications, once the funding has been allocated, the Community Chest will close, and this will be confirmed on our website.
6. No precepting authorities, private individuals or commercial organisations are eligible to apply for funding.
7. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate that the organisation to which the application relates to, has a dedicated bank account.
8. Applicants are welcome to submit more than one application within a 12-month period as long as the funding requested is to be used on different projects and or initiatives.
9. The maximum amount of funding that can be applied for is £1,000. Applicants must be able to provide a breakdown of the amount that has been requested.
10. Applications to cover salaries or other core running costs of an organisation will not be considered.
11. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the sustainability of their project, either in the form of financial self-sufficiency, alternative funding streams or an exit strategy at the end of the project.
12. If the project that has been applied for costs more than the amount requested, applicants must be able to demonstrate where they have or intend to secure the remainder of the funding from.

12. We welcome applicants where match-funding is secured from other grant-giving bodies, business sponsorship or the organisation's own reserves.

13. Applications will not be considered from organisations who intend to support or oppose any particular political party, or discriminate on the grounds of race, gender, age, sexual orientation or religion.

14. Groups or organisations must be able to demonstrate how the project seeking funding aims to help address one or more of the themes for the Community Chest fund, in line with the priorities set out within the HDC Corporate Plan 2023-28:

- Improving the quality of life and well-being for everyone
- Keeping people out of crisis
- Helping people in crisis
- Lowering carbon emissions

15. Applicants must be able to demonstrate, where possible, that they are not duplicating a similar project covering the same area of the District.

16. On completing the funded project, all applicants must complete a brief evaluation to demonstrate the impact that the funding has had, along with copies of receipts. Any unspent funds, or funds that were used for a different purpose to that which the grant was awarded, must be returned to Huntingdonshire District Council within 30 days of request.

17. Successful applicants must agree to Huntingdonshire District Council in any media coverage relating to the project?

### **Warm Spaces Funding (Spring 2023 update)**

In 2022-23, HDC Community Chest funding criteria was extended to support the establishment of Warm Spaces to support communities through the cost-of-living crisis.

As the warmer months approach, the need for a warm environment will be less pressing. However, HDC recognises that many residents continue to face unprecedented financial hardship. HDC also recognises that the social aspects of Warm Spaces are just as important as providing somewhere warm for people to congregate.

Where an existing Warm Space can be demonstrated to have had a significant positive impact, HDC welcomes applications of up to £500 per year to help keep these facilities and activities open. Applications will be considered from charities, community groups, town and parish councils and faith organisations, as long as the facility and activity is actively marketed to the wider local population. Applicable costs must be specifically linked to the Warm Space provision and separate to the general running costs of the building or organisation.