Cheshire West and Chester Home Support Small Grants Scheme

Application Criteria 2022- 2023

Cheshire West and Chester Council are committed to providing community led support that enables residents to live independently and remain in their own homes and communities.

The benefits of supporting local people in the community include:

- People being able to stay living at home longer;
- Improved physical and mental health;
- Increased connectivity and sense of belonging;
- People being valued in decision making for their own life requirements.

The Council have a duty under the Care Act 2014 to prevent or delay the development of care needs and to support the reduction of care needs that already exist.

Scope

The Council have launched a small grants programme (grants between £100-£5000) to pilot new projects or build on existing projects for our borough that ultimately support people to live independently, stay connected in their communities and able to live in their own homes.

These are examples of the type of projects that the Council could support under this programme:

- A voluntary / community organisation working with older people to help with shopping or food delivery;
- Supporting a community group wanting to put on a Meals on Wheels or similar services;
- A project of local volunteers home-visiting neighbours and giving peer to peer support;
- A project where older people are supported at home to help with household organisation (bills, forms, cleaning, decluttering etc.) through face-to-face support;

- A volunteer led service to help with simple tasks in the home and garden;
- A good neighbour project to help with pet care and basic meal preparation.

We will prioritise bids that are:

- financially accessible
- delivered locally by local organisations, and
- clearly address the outcomes listed below.

Outcomes

The required outcomes:

- Residents feel supported to live independent and confident lives in their own homes;
- Residents have a good support network to maintain the running of their own lives;
- Residents feels safe and are connected to the communities that they live in;
- Residents can access support locally to their home in order to prevent them accessing high-level care.

Applications and Timeline

All applications should be for funding within the period of 1st October 2022 and 30th September 2023 and should be made on the application attached and returned via email.

To make the process accessible to all eligible organisations, applications will be accepted in alternative formats. If you wish to apply using an alternative format please contact Cheshire Community Action (CCA) to discuss it. Funding is capped at £5000 per application. Projects can last up to a maximum of 12 months.

- Applications open – 5th August 2022
- Closing date for applications – 5th September 2022
- Awards made – 12th September 2022
- Projects start – 1st October 2022

Voluntary and community sector organisations are invited to apply for funding awards from ***£100 to £5,000 per application.***

Eligibility

You can apply if your organisation is a:

- voluntary and community organisation
- constituted group or club
- registered charity

- charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
- not-for-profit company
- community interest company (CIC)

We will accept applications from organisations acting on the behalf of others, for example, a Parish Council holding funds for a constituted group.
We will not accept applications for IT or digital equipment.

There are other eligibility conditions that need to be met and these will be made clear in the application process.

Award Process

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by a grant selections panel using a scoring system based on the above criteria. Decisions to make funding offers will be taken by the panel. All funding offers will be subject to a signed agreement that will include a commitment by the recipient organisations to report on the project.

Commissioners are particularly keen to encourage bids that demonstrate innovation and sustainability, particularly in relation to innovation in the approaches to home support which promote choice and independence of the individual.

Management of Successful Awards

Once awards have been determined by Cheshire Community Action (CCA) and the Council, and agreements have been entered into with successful applicants, the subsequent monitoring of those agreements, and the issuing of payments, will be managed on behalf of the Council by CCA.

There will be a mid-year review and you will be required to complete an end of grant report with a focus on evidence, impact and case studies. A clear expectation of agreed targets will be agreed with CCA and detailed in the grant agreement. The mid-year review will be completed by CCA, and the end of year report will be submitted to the Council.