



**LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COVID-19  
COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND**

**FUND GUIDELINES**

**Help for community groups, charities and other not for profit organisations**

Grants may be made for charitable purposes to respond to hardship caused directly or indirectly by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Applicants should demonstrate clearly how they are responding to the immediate needs of vulnerable people and that delivery will take place within six months.

**Who can apply:**

Voluntary and community organisations, including:

- Registered charities, including charitable incorporated organisations; constituted organisations and non-registered charities;
- Community interest companies and community benefit societies;
- Parish and town councils (if the funded activity is not deemed part of their statutory duties)
- Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs);
- Churches and other religious organisations (if the funded activity is not deemed to be proselytising);
- Other voluntary community organisations or those not constituted would be eligible, with appropriate endorsement from the statutory body, charity, parochial church council etc

**Who can't apply:**

- Statutory bodies such as district councils or health institutions
- Political or predominantly religious activities
- Statutory provision
- Animal welfare
- General contributions to large appeals
- Improvements to land/buildings
- Building work/purchase of vehicles
- Grant making bodies applying for funding to redistribute to others

**Priority:**

Funding will be targeted at:

- Organisations working to combat hardship including economic, social or health impacts caused by the pandemic
- Organisations that support the ongoing needs of vulnerable people to ensure their health and wellbeing is maintained including those who are self isolating, community response co-ordination and informal groups responding to the crisis
- Organisations supporting activities that relieve pressure on local statutory services, particularly emergency or health and social care provision, or compliment their response
- Organisations supporting people or communities who have been disproportionately affected. For example, projects could include, but are not limited to:
  - Reducing isolation and vulnerability, support for ongoing needs, ensuring health and mental well-being is maintained
  - Support for vulnerable and older people in their homes, providing access to essential items whilst this is still required

- Help to make sure people remain safely connected with the outside world (e.g. digital inclusion, telephone befriending)
- Funding for community groups that are linked into the hubs being created to coordinate the above, existing or emerging good neighbour schemes
- Mental health support, help for marginalised groups (homeless people, victims of domestic abuse, BAME, people with disabilities, LGBT community etc)
- Tackling the impacts of financial hardship (access to benefits, employment advice)
- Volunteer recruitment, training and/or retention

Further information about funding for the provision of food/non-perishable food and essential living items for distribution to those in need can be obtained from <https://www.bishopg.ac.uk/about-bgu/lincolnshire-emergency-assistance-scheme-grants-for-food-and-essential-services>

**Project costs considered:** resource to directly support vulnerable and/or isolated residents, volunteer training costs, programme running costs/overheads; goods and equipment, digital resources, counselling support, volunteer costs and expenses, travel costs, an appropriate contribution towards fixed costs, materials etc.

### About The Grants

- We aim to distribute around £190,000
- Grants are for a maximum of £5,000 subject to funding availability
- There is a shorter application form for grants of less than £500
- Payments are normally made in advance
- Rolling closing dates, decisions likely to be notified within 4 weeks of receipt
- All grants to be spent within a year of receipt

### What supporting documentation do you need to apply?

- Constitution or set of rules
- A bank or building society account in the organisation's name with at least two signatories
- A recent bank statement
- Up to date accounts or income and expenditure account
- Other relevant policies and procedures (vulnerable children/adults' policy, equal opportunities)

**How to apply:** Complete an application form and submit it, along with supporting documentation by email to [sue.lincolnshire@btconnect.com](mailto:sue.lincolnshire@btconnect.com).

**If you would like to know more about this Fund, have a chat about the type of support you would like or need assistance to complete an application, please contact Sue Fortune or Helen Cater on 01529 305825**