

Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund 2022 - 2023

Guidance Notes

The Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund is a small local grants programme funded by Essex County Council and is being delivered on their behalf by the Essex Association of Local Councils.

Grants of up to £1000 are available to support the provision of Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces and activities for local communities in Essex (excluding Southend and Thurrock). These can be the creation of new spaces and activities or to support existing ones.

Fund Priorities

For the purposes of this fund, Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces are to be warm, free to access to all, safe and supportive spaces that Essex residents can visit during the winter.

They offer somewhere to:

- Get access to activities, support and advice
- Keep warm
- Look after your physical and mental health

Funding Available

There is a total of £100,000 available to support the delivery of Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces in Essex. Organisations can apply for a grant of up to £1000.

Projects should be delivered and all funds spent by **31 March 2023**.

Successful applicants must work with Essex County Council to ensure that their project is connected into the local cost-of-living offers of support being developed in their areas to enable project beneficiaries to have greater awareness and access to support available to them. This will include agreement to sharing their contact details with relevant third parties such as District Councils, health partners and other public sector bodies to facilitate this.

Who can apply?

- Registered charities
- Unincorporated clubs or associations and small community groups
- Community interest companies
- Parish Councils (Please note that Parish and Town Councils **MUST** provide a minimum of 50% matched funding contribution of the total project cost. If a Parish or Town Council is unable to provide a minimum of 50% contribution then they must clearly state any exceptional circumstances for the Panel to consider)

Applicants must provide their bank account details on headed paper. If you do not have access to a business bank account, then the EALC can look at local Voluntary Sector Organisations who can act as a broker to arrange payment.

Applicants should also provide evidence of safeguarding and health and safety policies

Eligible Activities

Examples of the types of activities that may be funded include:

- Increased operational costs to deliver support and activities (including the reasonable cost of utilities. This fund is **NOT** about exclusively paying for energy costs)
- Venue and catering costs
- Small pieces of equipment
- Small administration costs
- Marketing and communications
- Reasonable staff/volunteer costs to deliver support and activities for attendees (examples of activities may include but are not limited specialist support and advice; physical activity such as yoga and exercise classes; fun arts and crafts activities for children; older people activities such as lunch clubs; budgeting classes; food education activities.)
- Health and safety costs incurred to deliver safely

The grant cannot be used for political or religious campaigning.

Fund Administration

The administration of this fund will be undertaken by the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) on behalf of Essex County Council.

Applications will be assessed on a weekly rolling basis until the funding is allocated so please submit at your earliest convenience as the grants will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Successful applicants can re-apply for funding once they can demonstrate that their grant has been spent, that there is additional need and demand for the project and can demonstrate the benefits of their project using the evaluation template. This is contingent upon funding still being available in the fund at the time of re-applying.

Please return your application to: funding@ealc.gov.uk

Telephone: 01371 879 722

Web: www.ealc.gov.uk