

Community Capacity 2024 Grants Round

We are launching a third round of Community Capacity funding, thanks to **£341,250** from Oxfordshire County Council. Grants will be made to help Oxfordshire's residents to live independently and healthily for as long as possible in their lives.

Last year, 24 organisations received a share of **£325,000** from the Community Capacity Fund.

Amounts available £5,000 - £20,000

Desired outcomes for this grants round:

The Community Capacity grants support the Council's [Oxfordshire Way](#) vision: "to support the people of Oxfordshire to live well in their community, remaining fit and healthy for as long as possible: to build community resilience and increase independence".

Local community organisations play a huge role in supporting people to thrive with less need for government services. This can help people have a much better quality-of-life.

We are seeking grant proposals which deliver these outcomes:

- Support the wellbeing of the whole community to stay well, live independently, increases physical activity, reduce individual isolation and loneliness, promoting emotional resilience and reducing demand on services
- Address inequalities and improve quality of life
- Support neighbourhood-led NHS social prescribing
- Empower people to forge their own networks and structures
- Create self-sustaining enterprises targeted at diverse communities
- Support redevelopment or use open green spaces to support the wellbeing of whole communities

*"The target beneficiaries **must be over 18**. For intergenerational schemes, it is acceptable for under-18s to be involved but the target beneficiaries to report on must still be over 18"*

Types of schemes we would like to see:

- Schemes/projects that fill gaps and therefore increase the options available to community connectors and social prescribers
- Schemes where a grant would help to increase existing capacity, increase volunteering, support collaborative working and opportunities for mutual aid
- Schemes that are innovative: e.g. help mitigate digital exclusion; work across different generations; aspiration building; unlock value in our use of space and place etc
- Schemes that work with local businesses and partners for environmental, economic and social benefit

- Schemes that are intergenerational
- Schemes that support underserved groups that find it hard to find support through traditional services

Types of Costs: *Please ensure you have understood the types of costs we can fund, before proceeding

- Costs incurred from grant award (December 2024) until 30 November 2025*
- Ongoing running costs, including full cost recovery
- Project costs
- Capital costs
- Promotional costs

*Applicants can choose 12 or 24 months to spend the grant from date of award (December 2024). If the applicant chooses the 24 month option, they cannot apply for additional funding from the Community Capacity Grants during this period.

External requests for any of the following are not eligible for our funding:

- Contributions to general appeals or circulars
- Activities where the primary benefit is the advancement of religion
- Activities where the primary benefit is to enable a public body to conduct its statutory obligations
- Activities where the primary benefit is the advancement of animal welfare
- Activities which have already taken place
- Grant-making or equivalent gifts in kind by other organisations (although we can fund provision of necessary goods for a service e.g. food parcels or activity packs)
- Applications from privately owned and profit-distributing companies or partnerships.

All information on eligibility and desired outcomes can be found on the **guidance document**, please read this before proceeding.

Dates and timings:

- Grants round opens – **16th September**
- Grants round closes – **midday on 14th October**
- Funding decisions announced – **w/c 2nd December**
- Successful applicants provide required financial and governance evidence – **by 9th December**
- Grants paid – by **31st December** (contingent on financial and governance evidence being received)

In addition, we are offering these advice sessions to answer any questions you may have about the grants round and your application – no need to register:

- Monday 23rd September, 2pm – 3.30pm: virtual drop-in session. [Join the Zoom meeting](#) (Meeting ID: 852 2937 5145 Passcode: 963873)
- Monday 30th September, 5pm – 6.30pm: in-person drop-in session at the [OCF office](#) in central Oxford.

Other sources of information:

[Click here for our FAQ document](#)
[Example of a good application](#)
[Full list of questions required for this application](#)

Email *

test@test.org

After reading the guidance document, can you confirm you are eligible to apply? *

Yes

No "if no please do not proceed with the application"

Charity/organisation details

Please complete the information below

Name of charity/organisation *

Test

Address of your organisation *

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Organisation Website (if applicable)

Main Contact Name *

Test

Job Title *

Test

Contact Telephone No. *

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Organisation Start Date *

DD MM YYYY

12 / 01 / 2021

We are a: *

- Registered Charity
- A Community Interest Company (CIC)
- Company Limited by Guarantee
- Unincorporated Club or Association
- Community Benefit Society
- Charitable Incorporated Organisation

If other please state below:

.....

Company Number (if applicable)

.....

Charity Number (if applicable)

.....

What was your income in the last financial year? *

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.....

Please provide a postcode which represents the geographic area you will benefit *
(e.g. OX1, OX12 etc.)

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.....

Your Organisation's Work

Please give us details of the work you do, why it is so important, and how you are having an impact.

Please describe the overall aims and objectives of your organisation and the activities or services your organisation provides *

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To help us understand the difference you make, please tell us how you have helped an individual in the past and the change your organisation has made to their life - (this should be anonymised) *

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Your grant application

Funding request *

What does your organisation need this funding for?* (Select all that apply)

- Project costs
- Core costs
- Capital costs

Requested funds: How much are you applying to us for *

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Breakdown of amount requested (please forward budgets, including spreadsheets to ocf@oxfordshire.org) *

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Funding Start Date (Costs incurred from grant award (December 2024) onwards) *

DD MM YYYY

15 / 12 / 2024

Funding End Date *

"applicants can choose 12 or 24 months to spend the grant from date of award (December 2024). If the applicant chooses the 24 month option, they cannot apply for additional funding from the Community Capacity Grants during this period"

DD MM YYYY

30 / 11 / 2026

Funding Purpose: How will you spend this grant to deliver one or more of the 'desired outcomes' outlined in the grant criteria? Please include what activities you intend to deliver, and why you think they will lead to the desired outcome i.e. a positive change: *

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Which one of these outcomes will the funding meet: *

Please choose which outcomes your funding will meet

- Support the wellbeing of the whole community to stay well, live independently, increases physical activity, reduce individual isolation and loneliness, promoting emotional resilience and reducing demand on services
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Will your organisation charge the public for the activities to be funded by this grant? *

Yes

No

Are there other providers of such activities currently offering them to the public for a charge? *

Yes

No

Further Information and Consent

Are you awaiting a decision for any other fund? *

Yes

No

If Yes please describe below

Would you accept part funding? *

Yes

No

Please read the terms and conditions below carefully *

- We agree OCF may share this application with members of the OCF grants panel and their assessors
- We agree OCF may share this application with potential donors

Supporting Documents: Please note we are not requesting documents to be attached to this application but will ask for these should your application be awarded funding. Please confirm that these documents would be available to be submitted.

Bank statement in the name of the organisation dated within the last three months showing the name of the organisation, the sort code and the account number *

Yes

Signed Child Protection/Vulnerable Adults Policy *

Yes

Signed annual report and accounts plus proof of income and expenditure covering 12 months Successful applicants will be required to supply audited accounts of the most recent financial year. If the most recent year is not yet available, management accounts or income/expenditure document will be accepted.' i.e., reporting on data at least up to September 2024. *

Yes

Signed set of rules, terms of reference or constitution *

Yes

Contact details for all trustees and/or management committee members with cheque/bank signatories (at least two) identified who must not be family members (address, email and phone number) *

Yes

A signed grant agreement, provided by OCF to release funds *

Yes

I confirm we have three Trustees, Directors or Committee Members (as relevant * to our organisational structure) that are not related to each other

Yes

I confirm that our reserves are expected to be a minimum of three months' running costs, and I understand that if they are more than 12 months an explanation will be requested. *

Yes

Grant recipients will be required to provide an end of year grant report on the delivery of their grant. This report must include demographic data about beneficiaries and also a summary of responses to the questionnaire set out in the guidance. Additionally, we will invite grant recipients to report on successes and challenges, lessons learned and stories of change. Please confirm that you have reviewed the information provided in our guidance document and are content with the requirements of the end of year grant report. *

Yes

Further Information

After you submit your application it will be reviewed thoughtfully by two Assessors before our grants panel meeting.

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If you need any help or have questions, please don't hesitate to email us at ocf@oxfordshire.org. We truly appreciate your interest and are here to support you. For more information on OCF, please refer to [our website](#).

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