

Domestic Abuse Community Innovation Fund Detailed Application- Grant Form 2026

The Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Community Innovation Fund will provide grants to charitable organisations to reduce harm and improve safety for people experiencing domestic abuse before crisis point is reached. Grants will deliver one or more of these outcomes:

- Stronger community-based organisations delivering impactful, survivor-centred and culturally appropriate services for people experiencing emerging domestic abuse
- Increased early intervention, prevention and awareness of domestic abuse within marginalised communities
- Increased access to early support and preventative domestic abuse services, helping to reduce harm and prevent escalation to higher-risk situations

The focus of this fund is on reaching people experiencing emerging abuse, where timely support can reduce harm, improve safety, and prevent escalation to crisis. This includes people experiencing controlling or coercive behaviour, emotional or psychological abuse, financial or other non-physical forms of abuse, or those at an early stage of recognising abuse and seeking help. This fund is not designed for crisis response or MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) situations.

The beneficiaries for this fund are people in Oxfordshire experiencing emerging or ongoing domestic abuse, who would benefit from early intervention and support before crisis. Priority will be given to organisations that demonstrate reach into underserved communities.

The fund will support a mix of established, evidence-informed approaches and new ideas. Approximately 60% of the available funding will support tried and tested approaches that build on existing community-based activity and strengthen what is already working within Oxfordshire communities. Approximately 40% of the available funding will support innovative approaches, including new ideas, pilots, or alternative delivery models that respond to unmet need or test new ways of working. Innovation may include new partnerships, delivery models, engagement methods, or adaptations of existing practice for new populations or settings.

The following costs are eligible:

- Project costs; all costs associated with delivering the proposed activity including:
 - Staff costs (including staff doing delivery and staff doing management and supervision)
 - A proportion of organisational annual running costs that support project delivery (also known as “overheads” like insurance, training, energy bills)
 - Monitoring and evaluation of the project
- Costs incurred within the agreed grant period

We know that including these costs helps ensure your project is properly resourced and can be delivered safely and to a high standard. Please ensure your budget reflects everything you need to run the project effectively.

Requests for any of the following are not eligible for funding:

- Crisis or high-risk domestic abuse response
- Capital expenditure
- Debt repayment
- General organisational costs not linked to the project
- Activities without a clear connection to domestic abuse
- One-off or short-term events with limited impact
- 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 before 1 November 2026
- Grant-making or equivalent gifts in kind by other organisations
- Applications from privately owned and profit-distributing companies or partnerships.

Before completing this form, and for more information on the fund, please look at our Domestic Abuse Community Innovation Fund [guidance document](#).

Thanks to funding from Oxfordshire County Council, we have £150,000 available to award this year. We anticipate the maximum grant size being £30,000 in total which can be structured over one, two or three years as the applicant organisation deems most appropriate. Grants will be paid in advance on an agreed schedule.

We aim to keep monitoring and evaluation proportionate and meaningful, placing trust in organisations to define and evidence the difference their work makes.

The deadline for applications is midday on Thursday 6th August 2026.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Charity/organisation details

Please complete the information below

2. Name of charity/organisation *

3. Address of your organisation *

4. Telephone Number *

5. Main Contact Name *

6. Job Title *

7. Contact Telephone No. *

8. Organisation Start Date *

Example: 7 January 2019

9. We are a: *

Mark only one oval.

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

10. If other please state below:

11. Company Number (if applicable)

12. Charity Number (if applicable)

13. What was your income in the last financial year? *

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

15. It is a requirement that 90% of your beneficiaries are in Oxfordshire for this round. Please show evidence of this below *

16. How many individuals do you expect to benefit directly from this funding over the grant period? Please provide a breakdown if possible (e.g. per year or per activity).

Your Organisation's Work

The questions in this section are to help us understand the work you do, why it is so important, and how you are having an impact. You can also send us up to three documents that support your application, which can include previous applications for funding (not just to OCF) or previously used presentations or documents that highlight your activities. These should be sent to grants@oxfordshire.org.

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

Your grant application

18. **Requested funds** *

Please tell us the amount of funding you are requesting

19. Please tell us if you want the funding structured over one, two or three years. *

20. **Funding request** *

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

- **Project costs:** these are costs directly associated with the delivery of a project.
- **Core costs:** these are costs that keep your organisation running, such as salaries, rent, utilities, etc.
- **Capital costs:** these are costs related to any physical assets your organisation may need, such as equipment or IT support.

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Project costs
- ☐ Core costs
- ☐ Capital costs

21. Please provide a detailed explanation of what exactly you intend to use the funding for. *

We will be assessing your response against the desired outcomes of the Domestic Abuse Community Innovation Fund grants round, as outlined above and in the guidance document.

22. Who are the main people who will benefit from this work? Please describe the people you will help - the needs they have, the situations they are in or challenges they are facing. *
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23. Please tell us how you know this project is needed. What direct insight or evidence do you already have about the need for this work? *
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24. Would you describe this work as tried and tested approaches that build on existing community-based activity or as trialling new or innovative approaches? Please see the description in the guidance document for how this is defined. If it is a mix of both, please indicate a weighting, for example 70% existing, 30% new. *
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25. If you are planning on working in partnership with other organisations to deliver activities, could you please describe what stage these plans or conversations are currently at? *
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26. How will this funding enable you to grow, or become more efficient or resilient? We want to know how much of a change you think you'll see in your charity with this support. *

27. Please provide a budget breakdown of how you will spend the proposed grant. We have created a simple template that can be downloaded here : [Grant Budget Template](#) this should be submitted to grants@oxfordshire.org. *

When submitting your budget, please include all the costs needed to run your project successfully. This may include staff time, a proportion of running costs that support delivery, training, and monitoring and evaluation. Including these costs helps ensure projects are properly resourced and can be delivered safely and to a high standard.

Tick all that apply.

☐ I agree

28. How does your budget demonstrate good value for money? *
Please explain how the costs you are requesting are necessary and proportionate to the outcomes you aim to achieve.
You may wish to mention:

- How your budget is structured and itemised
- How it links to your planned activities and outcomes
- Any use of volunteers, partnerships, or in-kind support
- Whether you will charge the public for any of the activities

Note: Value for money does not always mean the lowest cost per person. Some interventions may be more intensive or long-term and still represent good value.

29. **For non-charity organisations only:**

This question applies only if your organisation is not a registered charity, such as a CIC, Companies Ltd by Guarantee, or a co-operative

Please explain how the activities funded through this grant will be used solely for charitable purposes for public benefit, and how this aligns with your organisation's mission, governance and delivery model.

What does success look like to you?

Please propose outcomes and indicators that are relevant to you and that you will be able to report on. This will help us analyse the potential impact of your application and, for successful applicants, it will go into the grant agreement. Please consider how you would collect information for reporting on these.

Outcomes: Please set 1 - 3 outcomes you will deliver if you receive funding. An outcome is the result or change caused by the funding, usually the benefits that individuals or groups receive from your activities. Eg: young people experience better mental health [by attending weekly sessions].

Indicators: For each outcome you should propose at least one indicator. An indicator is something measurable which can track whether your intended outcome has happened. Eg: the number of young people who report better mental health after 1 year of participation.

NPC host several resources specifically designed for helping people who work or volunteer for charities and social enterprises to consider how their activities are connected to change on the ground.

<https://www.thinknpc.org/resource-hub/the-inspiring-impact-programme/>

30. Outcome 1 *

31. Indicator 1 *

32. Outcome 2

33. Indicator 2

34. Outcome 3

35. Indicator 3

36. Monitoring and Evaluation: *

Successful applicants will receive ongoing support from the OCF grants team. This includes invitations to annual in-person catch-ups and access to an online forum designed to share learning and strengthen monitoring and evaluation practices.

We aim to keep monitoring and evaluation light-touch but meaningful - empowering grantees to shape how they demonstrate the impact of their work.

Mark only one oval.

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

Financial Information and Consent

37. Will your organisation charge the public for the activities to be funded by this grant? If yes, please give a brief explanation below *

38. Please read the terms and conditions below carefully *

Tick all that apply.

☐ 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

Please note we are not requesting documents to be attached to this application but will ask for these after the panel meeting in September if you are conditionally offered a grant. Please tick the relevant boxes to confirm that these documents would be available to be submitted swiftly.

39. 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 *

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

40. Signed Child Protection/Vulnerable Adults Policy *

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

41. Signed annual report and accounts OR proof of income and expenditure covering the most recent financial year. If the most recent year is not yet available, management accounts or an income/expenditure document at least up to 31 March 2026 will also be required, if this is not covered in the most recent annual accounts. *

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

42. Signed set of rules, terms of reference or constitution *

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

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

Cheque/bank signatories (at least two) identified who must not be family members

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

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

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

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

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

46. I confirm we have a minimum of one year of operation; if you have been constituted for less than one year but have been active for longer, you will be asked to demonstrate this activity *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other:

47. If other please note below

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

Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

Further Information

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

Important dates:

- Applications open on 9th July and close at midday on 6th August
- We will announce awards in the week beginning 21st September

If you need any help or have questions, please don't hesitate to email us at grants@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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