

Grassroots Grants Coventry

What is Grassroots Grants?

Grassroots Grants is funded through the Office of the Third Sector and its aim is to give grants to small voluntary and community groups to strengthen them.

Who does it aim to help?

The fund aims to support local grassroots voluntary and community groups. **Please note:** your group should have been in existence 12 months prior to applying.

- Local groups which involve local people
- Small, unstaffed & under-funded groups
- Support for self-help and voluntary efforts
- Neighbourhood or grassroots-based projects

What will not be funded?

- General & Major fundraising appeals
- Individuals
- Promotion of religious beliefs
- Medical Research
- Animal welfare
- Political activities
- Organisations with substantial reserves
- Statutory organisations

Who can apply for a grant?

Local charities and voluntary and community groups with an annual income of less than £20,000 per annum, taken as an average turnover for the last three financial years (or over the life of the group if it less than three years old)

Are grants made to individuals?

No. Applications from individuals will not be considered.

Do we have to be a registered charity?

No. Some groups may be too small or too new to be a registered charity. However, what you are doing must be charitable and you must have some kind of constitution or rules to govern the operation of your organisation.

What kind of things can we apply for?

Grants can be made for a wide range of purposes.

- Capital equipment e.g. photocopier, computer/digital projector/oven etc
- Costs of staging an event or activity
- Contribution to rent costs (related to activities and proportionate to overall grant amount)
- Attending conferences or events to develop the capacity of the group
- Training for volunteers
- Additional activities to expand an existing funding project

What criteria should your project meet?	Grassroots aims to complement each area's local area agreement (LAA). LAAs set out the priorities agreed between central government, your local authority and other local partners. Your project should address one or more of the following aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People in Coventry living longer, healthier independent lives • Making Coventry's streets, neighbourhoods, parks and open spaces attractive and enjoyable. • Ensuring that children and young people are safe and enjoy, achieve and make a positive contribution. • A creative, active and vibrant Coventry. • A more equal Coventry with cohesive communities and neighbourhoods.
Will you fund running costs?	Yes, provided that the grant money will increase an activity or service to help people. Added value must be shown.
What size of grant can we apply for?	Grants range from £250 to £5,000
What is the total amount of funding a group can receive?	A group can receive no more than £5,000 over 3 years.
Do we need to have matching funds?	No.
Do we need to provide accounts?	Yes, unless you have been meeting informally and have recently constituted your organisation you should try to estimate your income and outgoings for the first year.
What kind of monitoring will there be?	All grant recipients will need to provide evidence of expenditure, such as receipts and invoices and to complete a simple monitoring form.
Can a group receive grants for more than one project?	Yes. As long as the total amount of funding does not exceed £5,000 within 3 years.
Can we appeal if our application is unsuccessful?	Yes. The Heart of England Community Foundation operates an appeals procedure which is available to all applicants.
How long will it take to hear the outcome of our application?	You should hear within 6 weeks of submission of an complete application.
How do I apply?	An application form may be downloaded from the Foundation's web site: www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk (located under forms and reports) or alternatively telephone: 024 7688 4386.