

Heart of England Fund

What is the Heart of England Fund?

Heart of England Fund grants are awarded from the earnings of our charity's own endowment fund, which pools general contributions by individuals, companies and trusts.

Who does it aim to help?

People living in Coventry & Warwickshire who are facing some form of disadvantage or social exclusion. Grants can be made for projects that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Local groups which involve local people;
- Small, unstaffed & under-funded groups;
- Support for self-help and voluntary efforts;
- Neighbourhood or grassroots-based projects;
- Projects tackling isolation & exclusion;
- Projects helping vulnerable people to gain strength & self confidence.

What will not be funded?

- General & major fundraising appeals;
- Individuals;
- Mainstream activities of schools & colleges;
- Promotion of religious causes;
- Sporting clubs except when aimed at addressing disadvantage;
- Medical research;
- Animal welfare;
- Political activities;
- Organisations with substantial reserves.

Who can apply for a grant?

Local charities and voluntary and community groups

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. If you do not yet have a bank account, you can ask another group to hold the money for you.

What kind of things can we apply for?	Grants can be made for a wide range of purposes.
How can the money be used?	The money may be used in all sorts of ways. For example: buying tools, computers or equipment, printing and publicity.
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?	The maximum grant available is £2,000
Are applicants able to apply for further grants?	Yes.
Do we need to have matching funds?	No.
Do we need to provide accounts?	Yes, unless yours is a new group, in which case you should try to estimate your income and outgoings for the first year. Business start-ups will be expected to provide a financial forecast.
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.
Who will consider our application?	Applications are initially evaluated by Grants Officers before formal assessment and ratification by our Grants Sub- Committee.
Can a group receive grants for more than one project?	Yes.
Can we appeal if our application is unsuccessful?	Yes, the Heart of England Community Foundation has an appeals procedure which is available to all applicants.
How long from submission till we hear if we've been successful?	Please do not plan to start your project until 3 months after submission to allow yourself time to plan or seek alternative funding if you are unsuccessful.
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.