

Active Communities Fund

Application Guidelines

Please read this entire document before completing the application form.

Introduction

In support of the Southampton Physical Activity and Sports Strategy, Southampton City Council have created the Active Communities Fund. This strategy aims to make physical activity a normal part of life for all and actively support excluded, inactive groups to increase participation in physical activity and sport. This fund aims to enable inactive communities to become more physically active for their physical and mental health and wellbeing.

The **Active Communities Fund** is to be used towards local projects in Southampton that can support groups who struggle most to be physically active including:

- Women/Girls
- Lower income groups
- Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic communities
- People with long-term conditions or disabilities
- LGBTQ+ community

These projects could support children and young people, adults, or families.

These projects should do one or more of the following:

- Increase the range and availability of green/open spaces and facilities close to home for informal play and recreation
- Enhance community assets to increase physical activity and play in our streets and neighbourhoods
- Diversify and expand the range of local activities to meet people's needs
- Bring communities together to transform local spaces for physical activity
- Learn more about what support people need to be active
- Embed physical activity into everyday life to create positive experiences and lifelong benefits
- Create physical activity champions and leaders within communities that support others to be physically active

£20,000 is available for this fund. A maximum amount of £5,000 can be awarded per applicant.

Deadline

The deadline for this grant is **21st January 2022**. To apply, please refer to the Active Communities Fund application instructions and complete the application form, which can be found on the Southampton City Council [grants website](#).

Who can apply?

Applicants must ensure they meet the purposes of this grant through their projects/actions.

Applications can be accepted from the following organisations:

- Charities
- Volunteer Groups
- Youth Groups
- Sports Groups
- 'Friends of' groups
- Community and Residents associations

Priority is given to small, unfunded, volunteer-led community groups.

Applications are **NOT** accepted from:

- Schools, further and higher education establishments, regardless of how they are funded (LEA, trusts, privately funded, etc.).
- Statutory agencies, such as the police, health, other local authorities, or other Southampton City Council departments.

Application requirements:

- Applicants will need a legal status or provide evidence of a host body to receive funds. Evidence an organisation is applying for this status will be enough at the time of application
- Applications must demonstrate how their project will benefit groups which are less likely to be physically active (Women/Girls, lower income groups, Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic communities, people with long-term conditions or disabilities, and LGBTQ+ community)
- Applications must support/contribute towards one or more priorities of the [Southampton Physical Activity and Sports Strategy](#) :
 - Active Places
Increasing the availability of green/open spaces, environments and facilities that encourage physical activity and supports people to live healthy, independent lives. Residents have access to local facilities that suit their needs and aspirations, and barriers to physical activity are minimised.
 - Active Communities
Improving participation in physical activity and sport, which raises aspiration, creates community cohesion and builds city pride. Projects bring communities together, and work with our communities to understand local needs and encourage the development of local solutions.
 - Active Everyday
Encourage positive attitudes and behaviours to physical activity, especially from an early age and promote positive physical activity habits so that they become embedded in everyday life.
- Projects must **start** before 31st March 2022
- Any match funding or contribution of third-party money from elsewhere will be favoured
- Projects are of direct benefit to the residents of Southampton
- Applications must be affordable and realistic

What can be funded?

- Insurance
- Venue hire for regular meetings or events
- Materials for use in your project
- Publicity materials, including digital publicity (such as social media), newsletters and flyers
- Basic stationery – paper, ink cartridges, envelopes, etc.
- Transport costs within the city for groups of members/attendees who have limited mobility
- Individuals
- Volunteer expenses
- Sports equipment
- Health and wellbeing activities
- Employment and training activities
- Basic IT equipment (as long as it is reasonably priced and you can show us the need for it)
- Fees for services - like crèche facilities, guest speakers, artists, entertainers, etc. (excluding professional fees)
- AGM costs (including tea/coffee but excluding food)

Decisions on awards will be made under Delegated Authority.

Grants and anything bought with grants must be used directly by the applicant and cannot be transferred to any other organisation or affiliate, except by consent of the Council.

This list is not exhaustive. If what you want to apply for isn't on this list, we may still be able to fund it – please contact the grants team for advice.

What can't be funded?

- Applications towards religious or political activities, i.e. activities where the key purpose is to promote a religious or political doctrine, mission, or another form of proselytising.
- Work or events that have already taken place or for equipment that has already been purchased or building works which have been completed.
- Activities that happen or start before we confirm the grant
- Core funding from groups and organisations whose activities fall within the responsibility of another public body. However, contributions to jointly funded projects may be considered.
- Towards subsidised contracts (whether with the council or anyone else).
- Large capital projects
- Applications for the intention of profit
- Food expenses – unless they are integral to the project, like a lunch club
- Alcohol
- Prizes and awards, such as tombola/raffle prizes or trophies
- Items that mainly benefit individuals
- Trips
- Holidays and expeditions
- Advanced and/or expensive IT equipment

- Websites, including domain names, design and hosting (there are many free options available)
- Professional fees – lawyers, surveyors, architects, etc.
- Ongoing projects that you cannot maintain beyond the grant (e.g. because of high ongoing costs or the need for specialist skills)
- Salaries for staff employed directly by the applicant or to allow applicants to employ staff.
- Groups may buy services for a specific project which include salary costs within the fees. For example, speakers/entertainers for community events and social clubs or trainers/tutors for one-off courses/events.