

Grants Criteria

Southampton City Council is keen to support the local voluntary and community sector by awarding grants to organisations and groups that meet the following criteria.

Applications will normally only be considered from voluntary groups and organisations that:-

Are properly constituted and can demonstrate that their practices and structures are representative of all relevant interests and are clearly accountable to users, beneficiaries and members.

Can demonstrate the proper conduct of their officers both general and financial and that they keep proper books of accounts together with full written records indicating how any grant monies are used.

Adhere to all equalities legislation and work in line with Southampton City Council's Equality Policy.

Are not wholly reliant on Southampton City Council grants and can demonstrate that they receive or are seeking funding from other sources.

Can demonstrate the involvement of volunteers in their activities.

Where appropriate, will agree to Council nominee(s) on the managing body in an observer status.

Where appropriate a national or regional organisation can demonstrate that there is a specific benefit to Southampton which is not being offered by a local organisation.

Applications will normally only be considered towards projects and activities that:-

Meet the following council priority:

- **Providing good value, high quality services**

Delivering value for money and efficient services, avoiding excessive taxation, ensuring good city governance, and working with neighbouring authorities, partner agencies and with appropriate strategic partnerships such as the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire.

And meet one or more of the following priorities:

- **Getting the city working**

Promoting economic prosperity in the City by improving the City's infrastructure, facilitating business growth and enabling more residents to enjoy rewarding employment.

- **Investing in education and training**

Raising educational standards and attainment in the city, and promoting greater choice and diversity.

- **Keeping people safe**

Reducing crime and anti social behaviour and improving the protection of residents from crime.

- **Keeping the city clean and green**

Minimising and recycling waste, promoting energy initiatives and improving the City's environment.

- **Looking after people**

Improving the wellbeing of all residents and supporting older people especially those with medical, care, social or financial needs.

Contribute to Southampton's Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets.

Contribute to any other City Council priorities and strategies.

Are of direct benefit to the residents of Southampton. Groups whose activities extend beyond the boundaries of the City or who provide services to people who are not resident in Southampton will be expected to seek contributions from funding sources in those areas that benefit from their work.

Complement and support and do not duplicate City Council and other services, strategies and plans including commissioning strategies.

Religious organisations are welcome to apply towards the costs of **community** projects.

Applications will not normally be considered:-

Towards religious activities, i.e. activities where the key purpose is to promote a religious doctrine, mission or another form of proselytising.

For work or events that have already taken place or for equipment that has already been purchased or building works which have been completed.

For core funding from groups and organisations whose activities fall within the responsibility of another public body e.g. Health. However, contributions to jointly funded projects may be considered.

From organisations with sufficient free reserves not held for a specific purpose to cover 12 months running costs. (Free reserves are funds controlled by the organisation and do not include restricted funds provided for a certain purpose).

Towards vehicles unless they are part of a community transport scheme or mobile resource centre. Applications will only be considered for individual organisations if they cannot access community or shared transport. Applicants will need to demonstrate that any vehicle funded by Southampton City Council will be properly maintained and insured and used often and regularly.

As a general rule the Council will not fund:-

- individuals
- trips
- holidays and expeditions