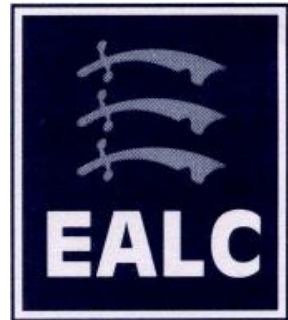




Essex County Council

Community Initiative Fund April 2019 - March 2021



Community Initiative Fund Background

- The new Community Initiative Fund was launched by Essex County Council on the 1st April 2019 and is expected to run over a 2 year period.
- This new fund incorporates various community grant schemes that have been funded by Essex County Council including the existing CIF and the Local Service Fund.
- Grants of up to £10,000 may be awarded per project. This is a one off annual funding round.
- There will also be a Micro Grant available with a £500 limit. This is a quick and easy access grant, available all year round.

Community Initiative Fund Administration

- The fund will be managed on a day to day basis on behalf of the ECC by Louise Gambardella in her role as the EALC Funding Officer and the CEO of the EALC Joy Darby will oversee the scheme.
- Charlene Slade the EALC Responsible Financial Officer will be reviewing the grant applicants accounts.
- Applications will be put forward to the Evaluation Panel once a year.
- The Micro Grant is a rolling programme, and applications will be considered twice a month by the EALC Chair and Responsible Finance Officer.

Community Initiative Fund

Who Can Apply?

- Town or Parish Councils
- Formally Constituted Groups
- Community Groups/Associations
- Social Enterprises
- CIC's
- Community Benefit Societies

This fund excludes projects that deliver outside the administrative area of Essex County Council.

Community Initiative Fund Capital Projects

The types of projects that have previously been awarded a grant are as follows:

Finchingfield Guildhall restoration - In 2008 the Finchingfield Guildhall Trust was formed to save the site from dereliction. After several years bidding for funding, the build started in earnest in 2011. Expert craftsmen were employed using ancient techniques, and local materials were sourced.

Brentwood Leisure Trust - The fund enabled the purchase of 12 new sports wheelchairs and two day chairs for members to get involved in numerous events, including Sportsfest and Wheelchair Basketball.

Community Initiative Fund

Capital Projects

Bounty Club Harlow - To purchase a new refrigerated van to support local families/people on low income and others finding it difficult to make ends meet. The project aims to help reduce companies' low-dated/end-of-line surplus fresh food, which would normally be treated as wastage, by picking it up and redistributing it into the community via front-line professional care and support agencies.

Chelmsford Men's Shed - Men's sheds offer a community space for men to get together and take part in practical activities such as woodworking, repairing items and various crafts.

Community Initiative Fund Revenue Projects

When deciding on a project, please ensure that this service is brand new and currently not in place within your community. The types of projects that have been approved in the past are as follows:

- Handyman Scheme
- Gardening Coordinator
- Youth Café Worker
- Trainee Cemetery Operative
- Village Warden
- Outreach Worker
- Grounds Maintenance Apprentice
- Riding Instructor for the Disabled
- Adult Friendship Scheme Coordinator

Community Initiative Fund

Micro Grants

A Micro Grant is intended to fund unique, unexpected opportunities or urgent, unanticipated problems.

Applications will be reviewed twice a month by our EALC Chairman and RFO and a decision made shortly after.

The types of requests that we would expect to receive are:

- Plant and maintain a community garden
- Purchase a fridge for a foodbank
- Organise a community clean up

Community Initiative Fund Outcomes

Essex County Council are looking for applications that contribute towards the delivery of one or more of their strategic aims listed below:



Enable Inclusive Economic Growth



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Help People Get The Best Start And Age Well



Help Create Great Places To Grow Up, Live And Work



Transform The Council To Achieve More With Less

Community Initiative Fund Panel

The same panel will sit once a year, across all four meetings. The meetings are scheduled for September. The composition of the panel is still under discussion.

When looking at each application, the Panel will be focusing on the following areas in particular:

- Community Engagement and Co Production
- Sustainability
- Wider Community Benefit
- Other Sources of Funding From Grants/Fundraising Activities to Support Your Project

Community Initiatives Fund 2019 Key Dates

Submit pre application checklists by 31st May (close of business)

Submit application forms by 18th August (noon)

Panel meetings will be held in September (date to be confirmed)

All forms are available to download from our website:

If you have any queries please contact:

Louise Gambardella on 01371 879722 or at

louise.gambardella@ealc.gov.uk

My working days are Monday and Tuesday 9-5, Thursday 9-1
and Friday 9-4