

**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNCILLORS' GRANT FUND 2025/2026  
GUIDANCE NOTES**



**Please read this information sheet carefully as some of the guidance has changed. It will help you to decide whether you can apply to the Councillors' Grant Fund.**

**Round 2 deadline for applications:  
5pm on Sunday 2 November 2025**

The Warwickshire County Council Councillors' Grant Fund is a revenue grant aimed at community and voluntary organisations. The Fund provides each of the County's 57 Councillors with a pot of £8000 to support small-scale projects within their division that support the strategic priorities within the Council Plan. [Council Plan – Warwickshire County Council](#)

All applications should aim to build community capacity and improve the health and wellbeing of people living in Warwickshire.

- Improve community assets and their sustainability
- Improve access to services
- Improve financial capability
- Reduce loneliness and social isolation
- Improve physical and/or mental health and wellbeing
- Promote equalities and inclusivity
- Improve the local environment and sustainability

## **1. Who can apply?**

- ✓ Constituted 'not-for-profit' community organisations in Warwickshire
- ✓ Non-constituted or new 'not-for-profit' groups working in Warwickshire that can be supported by a mainstream service or community group willing to administer the funds through an organisational bank account
- ✓ Warwickshire Town and Parish Councils
- ✓ Schools, if applying as a PTA or 'Friends of' group

## **2. Who cannot apply?**

- ✗ Groups or organisations that have failed to meet the conditions of previous award agreements from Warwickshire County Council
- ✗ Party Political/lobby groups
- ✗ Individuals
- ✗ It is unlikely that applications from statutory organisations will be supported, except for applications from town and parish councils.
- ✗ **Please note that if your organisation received funding from the Councillors' Grant Fund in Round 1 of 2025/26, your organisation is deemed ineligible to receive funding in this round.** Prior to applying for further funding, you need to complete your project, and you are required to submit your End of Project Report which is sent out six and/or twelve months after receiving the funding.

**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNCILLORS' GRANT FUND 2025/2026  
GUIDANCE NOTES**

**3. What will not be funded by the grant fund?**

- ✗ Projects that promote religious or party-political beliefs
- ✗ Projects for personal profit or personal gain
- ✗ Costs relating to items purchased or work already carried out before the grant has been awarded
- ✗ Loans or debt repayments
- ✗ Activities that are part of statutory obligations
- ✗ Existing contractual arrangements with WCC

**All projects must follow national legislation, guidance and good practice in relation to: equality and diversity; health and safety; and safeguarding.**

**4. Application Process**

- a) Applications should be submitted using the online application form found on our webpage <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cllrgrants>.
- b) Please fill in the application form carefully, bearing in mind the following:
  - Pay careful attention to the questions that are being asked, and to the awarding guidance for grants £350 and under (Section 6), and the scoring matrix for grants over £350 (Section 8).
  - To score highly, your application will need to provide clear evidence that it meets the stated criteria.
  - Applicants should submit evidence of cost (e.g. quotes), where appropriate.
  - Applicants are free to submit any additional information they wish in support of their application.
  - If requested, applicants will be required to submit their governing document as part of their application.
- c) Applicants are welcome to discuss their project idea with the local Community Partnerships Team (contact details in Section 9). For help with completing your application form, applicants are encouraged to speak to their local Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA), Funding and Group Development Officers. Details can be found on their webpage [www.wcava.org.uk](http://www.wcava.org.uk)
- d) Applications must be submitted by **the deadline date as detailed above**. All funding decisions will be made following the deadline date. **This is your copy of the application form so please remember to save it.**
- e) You will receive an automatic on-screen message acknowledging your application submission. Please note that you will not receive any email copies of your application. If you do not receive an on-screen confirmation of your submission, please contact [funding@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:funding@warwickshire.gov.uk).

**5. Awards of up to £350**

- a) Applicants requesting £350 or under will be guided to complete the shorter criteria questions within the application form.

**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNCILLORS' GRANT FUND 2025/2026**

**GUIDANCE NOTES**

**Note:** If your organisation is applying to multiple councillors and the total amount requested exceeds £350, select 'over £350' where appropriate and complete the additional criteria questions, even if individual requests are less than £350.

- b) All applicants must tick to confirm that they have read the Subsidy Control Declaration and declare any subsidy/state aid (grant or financial assistance) that they, or their organisation, may or may NOT have received in the previous 3 fiscal years exceeding £315,000.
- c) All applications will be assessed against the measures as outlined in Section 6 and will be considered by the relevant County Councillor(s) before grant awards are made. Additional notes to support your answers can be found in the Summary of Application Questions document on the Councillors' Grant Fund website in the 'Useful Documents' section: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cllrgrants>
- d) We will endeavour to inform all applicants of the outcome of their application within 6 weeks of the deadline date.
- e) Successful applicants will be duly notified of arrangements for receipt of funding.
- f) Within 6 months of receiving the funding, all successful applicants will be required to complete a simple monitoring report on the impact of their project.

**6. Guidance for assessment of applications for £350 and under**

- a) Applications for awards of £350 and under will be assessed to ensure that the project delivers on the Councillors' Grant Fund Priorities:

| Guidance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Project is deliverable within six months from the receipt of funding.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2. The application clearly states how the funding will be spent and includes a proportionate budget breakdown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 3. Evidence that the project meets one or more of the priority categories for the Councillors' Grant Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve community assets and their sustainability</li><li>• Improve access to services</li><li>• Improve financial capability</li><li>• Reduce loneliness and isolation</li><li>• Improve physical and/or mental health and wellbeing</li><li>• Promote equalities and inclusivity</li><li>• Improve the local environment and sustainability</li></ul> |

- b) Applications and projects will be assessed against the above guidance. All projects must demonstrate that they are deliverable within the timelines stated, that they provide value for money, and that they meet the grant criteria.
- c) Applications unable to demonstrate the above are unlikely to be funded.

**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNCILLORS' GRANT FUND 2025/2026  
GUIDANCE NOTES**

**7. Awards of over £350**

- a) Applicants requesting over £350 from the Councillors' Grant Fund should complete the relevant criteria questions based upon the criteria below.

**Note: This also applies to any organisations seeking funding from several councillors even if the amount requested from a single councillor does not exceed £350.**

**Your application may be rejected if an organisation completes the incorrect criteria questions.**

- b) All applications will be assessed and scored against the criteria as outlined in Section 8 and will be considered by the relevant County Councillor(s) before grant awards are made. Additional notes to support your answers can be found in the Summary of Application Questions document on the Councillors' Grant Fund website in the Useful Documents section: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cllrgrants>
- c) We will endeavour to inform all applicants of the outcome of their application within twelve weeks of the deadline date.
- d) Successful applicants will be duly notified of arrangements for receipt of funding.
- e) Within 6 months of receiving the funding, all successful applicants of awards over £350 will be required to complete a short project progress report.
- f) Within 12 months of receiving the funding, all successful applicants of awards over £350 will also be required to complete a simple monitoring report on the impact of their project.
- g) All applicants must tick to confirm that they have read the Subsidy Control Declaration and declare any subsidy/state aid (grant or financial assistance) that they, or their organisation, may or may NOT have received in the previous 3 fiscal years exceeding £315,000.

**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNCILLORS' GRANT FUND 2025/2026**

**GUIDANCE NOTES**

**8. Guidance for assessment of applications over £350**

Applications for awards over £350 will be scored against the following scoring criteria.

| <b>Criteria</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Maximum Points</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Project clearly demonstrates how it builds community capacity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2                     |
| 2. Evidence that the project meets one or more of the priority categories for the Cllrs Grant Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve community assets and their sustainability</li> <li>• Improve access to services</li> <li>• Improve financial capability</li> <li>• Reduce loneliness and social isolation</li> <li>• Improve physical and/or mental health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Promote equalities and inclusivity</li> <li>• Improve the local environment and sustainability</li> </ul> | 3                     |
| 3. Evidence of need for the project from within the local community and evidence that the community has been involved in shaping the project.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2                     |
| 4. Evidence that the project will provide a direct and lasting benefit to the local community within the division in which the funding has been applied for and will continue after the Councillors Grant has been spent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 3                     |
| 5. Evidence that volunteers will be directly involved in the delivery of the project and an explanation of how volunteers will be recruited, managed and retained.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2                     |
| 6. Projects can demonstrate they are working effectively with other organisations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | -                     |

| <b>Scoring range</b>                    |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Criterion not met =<br/>0 points</b> | <b>Criterion fully met =<br/>2 points (3 points for criteria 2 &amp; 4 above)</b> |

- a) The maximum score for applications is 12 points.  
b) The benchmark score is 7. Applications scoring 3 or less are unlikely to be awarded.  
c) Please note that the Criterion 6 question is not scored. Evidence of partnership working will strengthen your application but is not essential for grassroots organisations.

**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNCILLORS' GRANT FUND 2025/2026  
GUIDANCE NOTES**

**9. Community Partnerships Team – Local Contact Details**

Details of all Warwickshire County Councillors and the divisions they represent can be found on the WCC website at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/councillors).

If you are unsure which area your project will benefit, please contact the Community Partnerships Team using the contact details below.

| District / Borough                                                                           | Officer           | Contact details                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| North Warwickshire                                                                           | Nikki Bailey      | <a href="mailto:nikkibailey@warwickshire.gov.uk">nikkibailey@warwickshire.gov.uk</a><br>01926 412623          |
| Nuneaton and Bedworth                                                                        | Mike Slemensek    | <a href="mailto:mikeslemensek@warwickshire.gov.uk">mikeslemensek@warwickshire.gov.uk</a><br>07557 814937      |
| Rugby                                                                                        | Jennifer McCabe   | <a href="mailto:jennifermccabe@warwickshire.gov.uk">jennifermccabe@warwickshire.gov.uk</a><br>07887 650641    |
| Stratford                                                                                    | Dominika Stockham | <a href="mailto:dominikastockham@warwickshire.gov.uk">dominikastockham@warwickshire.gov.uk</a><br>07825856808 |
| Warwick                                                                                      | Dominika Stockham | <a href="mailto:dominikastockham@warwickshire.gov.uk">dominikastockham@warwickshire.gov.uk</a><br>07825856808 |
| <a href="http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/getinvolved">www.warwickshire.gov.uk/getinvolved</a> |                   |                                                                                                               |

If you require this information in a different format, please contact us by email on [funding@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:funding@warwickshire.gov.uk)

**10. Help and Support**

WCAVA provide general advice and support to Third Sector organisations across Warwickshire including accessing volunteering opportunities, developing a community group, accessing funding or strengthening governance arrangements. Visit their website at [www.wcava.org.uk](http://www.wcava.org.uk) for more information.