

Voluntary and Community Action

Grant Schemes in South Bedfordshire

Funding Information Sheet No.4

October 2008

This Information Sheet is a compilation of all the active grant schemes available to voluntary organisations and community groups in South Bedfordshire, with funding criteria, size of grants and an indication of when applications need to be in by. Contact Voluntary and Community Action for help and guidance with the completion of applications.

Funding Information Sheets

The Funding Advice Service has produced a series of Funding Information Sheets on:

- the different types of grants available
- good practice when applying for funding
- sustainable fundraising

These can be downloaded from our website or obtained from our office.



Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation



Grassroots Scheme

Any small volunteer led community group that is connected to the needs of the local community can apply for a grant, provided that their annual turnover (averaged over the last three years) is less than £20,000 and that they have been running for a year or more. Grants range from £250 to £5,000.

Small Grants Programme

Grants of up to £500 can be made for a wide range of purposes, including buying equipment, training staff and volunteers, printing and publicity, start up costs, social events and running costs.

Help the Aged

Small grants of up to £500 for projects which benefit older people living in Bedfordshire and Luton. Each grant awarded is funded equally by Help The Aged and the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation.

Sports Relief Fund

Support voluntary organisations or community groups that are using sport and exercise to strengthen

communities and provide opportunities for people who are excluded or disadvantaged by fulfilling the following criteria:

- increasing access to sport and exercise for people who face social exclusion and isolation
- helping people who are experiencing difficulties in their lives to regain their confidence and self esteem

Examples of groups that have been funded include summer schools, exercise groups, disabled groups, issues regarding social exclusion, isolation and many more.

Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available, although any applications for more than £2,500 will need to show exceptional benefit in view of the small overall budget available.

Applications are accepted throughout the year. The grant panel meet every quarter.

For more information contact the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation, The Smithy, The Village, Old Warden, Beds., SG18 9HQ. Tel: 01767 626459, Website:

<http://www.blcf.org.uk/grants/>





Biffaward

Biffaward is the fund name of Biffa Waste Services landfill tax credits. Biffaward's aim is to support projects that show an innovative use of a community amenity to enhance, maintain or introduce real community led social, economic or environmental improvements.

The Small Grants Scheme provides grants of between £250 and £5,000 (the total cost of your project must be no more than £10,000).

The Main Grants - Community Scheme provides grants of between £5,000 to £50,000.

Projects may include: village halls, skate parks, nature reserves, community rooms, museum

education rooms, voluntary sector led sporting facilities, internet cafes, green spaces, historic parks, provision for children and teenagers, community gardens, cemeteries and churchyards, civic spaces and species habitat restoration.

Applications can be submitted at any time.

To qualify for a grant, projects should be within 10 miles of a Biffa operation, which means that most of Bedfordshire is eligible (you should check the Biffaward website by entering your postcode).

For further details or an application pack contact the Biffaward Grants Team on 0870 036 1000, grants@rswt.org or visit their website: www.biffaward.org

FUNDING FROM LOCAL LANDFILL TAX SCHEME

UNDER THE LANDFILL TAX CREDIT SCHEME INTRODUCED IN OCTOBER 1996 LANDFILL OPERATORS CAN REDIRECT, AS PART OF A VOLUNTARY DONATION, A PROPORTION OF THEIR TAX TO FUND ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS. IN BEDFORDSHIRE THERE ARE THE TWO SCHEMES: **BIFFAWARD AND WASTE RECYCLING ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED (WREN).**



Waste Recycling Environmental Limited

WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd) administer and distribute Waste Recycling Group's (WRG) Landfill Tax Credit Scheme (LTCS) money. The minimum grant is £2,000 and maximum grant £50,000, within 10 miles of a landfill site in Bedfordshire (Arlesey, Brogborough, Stewartby) and that fulfil the following criteria:

- the provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or other public amenity (e.g. village halls, children's play equipment and skate parks, village greens and public parks, community gardens)
- the delivery of biodiversity conservation for UK species or habitats (e.g. reintroduction programme to a specific habitat, management planning for nature conservation where

this is directly linked to a specific habitat or species at a specific project site)

- the maintenance, repair or restoration of a building or other structure, which is a place of religious worship or of historic or architectural interest (e.g. places of worship, buildings or monuments of architectural or historical interest, windmills, scheduled monuments, listed buildings and structures).

Funding can be obtained for capital funds for improvement of public areas.

Deadlines for 2008:

18 July (decision notification by 7 October)
26 Sept (decision notification by 16 December)

For more information contact Project Administrator (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire), WREN, Telephone: 01953 714126 or visit www.wren.org.uk

Bedfordshire Police Authority

Partnership Trust

Small grants are available to develop community projects. The main aim is to allow local beat officers and other members of the police to become directly involved with the community to develop good relations between the two.

The grants are normally based around Crime Prevention, Road Safety or Drug Awareness programmes.

However, applications will be considered which generally come under the term of improving the quality of life of local communities.

The Partnership encourages applicants to speak to the trust administrator in the first instance to discuss their application.

Bobby scheme

Carpenters go into the homes of elderly people (over 60) to improve security.

Contact: Janet Heinsen, 01234 842619, janet.heinsen@bedspolicepartnership.org, www.bedspolicepartnership.org/home.htm Or Brain Prickett, 01234 842612.

Bedfordshire Crimebeat

Grants of up to £500 are available to support groups involving young people in helping to solve some of the problems that face communities - like solvent abuse, vandalism, shoplifting and bullying. Through Bedfordshire Crimebeat young

Lions Club

The Leighton Buzzard Lions raise money for local charities by various means.

Contact: Secretary - Ivor Poole, 01525 210665; ivor.poole@btinternet.com www.lions105a.org/clubs/

Youth Projects

Grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 are available from Bedfordshire Police Authority for work with young people.

Projects must address one or more of the following aims:

- reduce crime and/anti-social behaviour committed by young people
- reduce the risk of young people becoming involved in crime
- reduce the fear of crime amongst young people
- reduce the fear of crime amongst other members of the community caused by young people.

There are two deadlines, one at the end of November and the other at the end of April, decisions will be made in the month following deadlines.

For an application pack and/or for an informal chat about your project, contact Bedfordshire Police Authority, Bridgebury House, Woburn Road, Bedford, MK43 9AX. Telephone: 01234 842066, Fax: 01234 842068.

people (under 25) can apply to help to make their local area safer, more attractive and, as a result, a better place in which to live.

For more information contact: Jane Regan on 0300 300 8000

Rotary Club

The Leighton-Linslade raise money for a variety of local charities.

Contact Alan Knowles on 01525 370253 or secretary@leightonlinsladerotary.com



“SPEAK TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THEIR FUNDING BID OR SPEAK TO OUR FUNDING ADVISER FOR TIPS ON EFFECTIVE BID WRITING.”

“CONSIDER WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER LIKE GROUPS. THIS MAY FURTHER IMPROVE THE SERVICE YOU WISH TO OFFER AND COLLABORATIVE WORKING DEMONSTRATES COMMITMENT, YOUR ORGANISATION'S WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH OTHERS AND PLANNING.”

Chalk Arc Initiative

The Chalk Arc Initiative aims to develop new and improved greenspace and access opportunities across the north and west of Luton and Dunstable, encompassing the villages of Whipsnade, Totternhoe, Charlton and Streatley. The increase in open space, and our better use of it, is essential as our area gets increased housing growth.

The Initiative has allocated £100,000 towards a Community Grant Scheme that will allow local groups, communities or companies to develop public facilities. These can be new green spaces or access

routes for improvements to existing ones, protection or improvement of landscape or wildlife habitats or projects associated with our historic heritage or encouraging the work of local communities in education, information or improvement of these sorts of issues. Grants of between £750 and £25,000 are available, normally to 75% of the overall project cost.

They are receiving applications now and the deadline for works to be completed and money spent is the 31st December 2007. For more information ring 01525 378101 or email chalkarc@greensandtrust.org, www.chalkarc.org



East of England Community Grants

Applications are now being invited from small voluntary organisations and community groups to the East of England Community Grants fund. Grants of up to £12,000 are available to work with people aged 16 years or older who are unemployed or economically inactive, people who face barriers to employment, and to mainstream learning and skills provision. There is no maximum age for participants.

This programme is for projects which are engaging people that face barriers to employment and mainstream skills provision, and

helping them to overcome these barriers. The Community Fund is open to organisations working in Bedfordshire and Luton - your organisation does not have to be located in these areas however the people taking part in the project activity must live in one or more of these areas, and the funded activity must take place in one or more of these areas.

For more information on the fund and for an application pack please visit: www.grantsadmin.co.uk/eastengland_grants.

Voluntary and Community Action

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www.action-centralbeds.org.uk**

How can our Funding Advice Service help?

We can help you discover which grant making trusts, foundations or funders are the most appropriate for your organisation to approach for funding, help you to fill out the application form or provide help and support with any funding related issues.

Please give us a call on 01525 850559 to arrange a meeting so we can guide you through the maze of funding opportunities available.