

A new small grants programme for communities across Derbyshire



Do you have an idea to involve different groups of people from your local community?

Are you looking for a one off small amount of money to make it happen?

Partners working together in Derbyshire are making small grants available to local community, faith and voluntary groups across Derbyshire to encourage people from different backgrounds to come together. The Derbyshire Bringing People Together fund is available to make inspiring ideas reality.

Examples of how the fund could be spent are:

- Activities that bring young people from different backgrounds and areas together.
- Older people's groups sharing experiences with local school children.
- Activities that help neighbours get to know each other better.
- Activities that connect schools with the wider community.

These are just examples, but projects are likely to involve arts, food, heritage or community benefit, and be aimed at promoting a sense of belonging and community.

Background

Community cohesion is the glue which binds communities together. This is strengthened when people get on well together, respect each other and feel they can influence decisions in their area. It can be weakened when people feel that they do not enjoy the same life opportunities as others.

Community cohesion occurs where there are strong and positive interactions between people from different backgrounds but sometimes it needs a helping hand. Fortunately in Derbyshire many local people have told us that community spirit is still strong. However, local people do worry that this is diminishing and recent evidence suggests that fewer people in Derbyshire feel that people from different backgrounds get on well together than in many other areas across the country.

Agencies across Derbyshire are working together to improve community cohesion. However, local community groups have a significant role to play in helping to bring people together and so partners are making small grants available to local community, faith and voluntary groups across Derbyshire to improve and/ or enable new activities to take place.

Criteria for proposals for funding

The funding is available to support the costs of projects that will help people from different backgrounds to get on well together in their local area. It is a one off funding pot for projects which will be delivered before the end of September 2010. The following sections outline what will be taken into consideration when judging applications.

Themes

We are looking for activities which:

- Encourage the participation and engagement of local people
- Encourage people from different backgrounds to work together towards achieving a common goal
- Improve understanding about people from different backgrounds
- Integrate newcomers to an area into the local community.

When thinking about suitable projects the list below highlights factors that local research suggests affect peoples understanding of the term 'different backgrounds'. Those projects that take into consideration the following factors will score more points:

- Nationality and ethnic background
- Age, for example bringing together younger and older people
- Economic background, for example bringing together people who undertake different types of work and receive different incomes

- Social background for example, bringing people together with different family values, upbringings, level of education etc
- Housing type and location, e.g. bringing people together from different housing areas, private, rented, council owned
- Length of residency for example, bringing together people who have lived in the area for a long time and those who have moved into the neighborhood more recently

General criteria

- Is open to anyone from Derbyshire
- Will bring together residents from your community from different backgrounds
- Will require a one off grant of anything from £100 to £2,000
- Applications cannot be made that benefit a sole individual or single community of interest
- Funding cannot be used to promote any faith or political belief system. For example recruiting a wider congregation
- As far as possible, funding should be spent within Derbyshire with goods and services being obtained from local suppliers where practicable
- Where funding is awarded, recognition of the 'Bringing People Together' brand should be given in any publicity material for the project and related activities.
- Applications will be considered from all areas in Derbyshire but applications from the following areas¹ may be given higher priority.

Abbotsford	Burbage	Heanor and Loscoe
Barns	Cotmanhay	Heanor East
Belper South	Eckington South	Heanor West
Bolsover North West	Elmton-with-Creswell	Holmewood and Heath
Bolsover West	Hallam Fields	Ilkeston Central
Ilkeston North	Pleasley	Shirebrook South East
Langley Mill and Aldercar	Ripley	Shirebrook South West
Linton	Ripley and Marehay	Somercotes
Little Hallam	Rother	South Normanton West
Old Glossop	Scarcliffe	St Leonard's
Old Park	Shirebrook East	Stone Bench
Old Whittington	Shirebrook North West	Woodville

Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply?

- You must be based and/or provide services in the Derbyshire administrative area (this does not include Derby City)

¹ The 2008 Place Survey asked the question 'to what extent do you believe you area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together?' People in these areas were the least likely to agree, suggesting they are currently less cohesive than other areas in Derbyshire.

- You must have a Child Protection / Vulnerable People policy / statement if you intend to work with children, vulnerable groups or young people
- You will need to have a bank account with a minimum of two members of your group as authorised signatories
- Independently examined accounts should be made available if requested.

We cannot fund the following:

- Existing wages
- Running costs, bills, rent, although we can pay for the hire of venues and facilities
- Grant making trusts
- Political groups
- Businesses.

Approval process and timescales for submitting proposals

Proposals can be submitted at any time until 16 July 2010. All proposals received will be considered on a rolling basis by a small selection panel and applicants will be informed of the outcome as soon as is possible. All proposals should be for projects that will be completed by 30th September 2010.

The panel will meet at the end of February, March, May and July 2010 to consider the applications and score them, based on a structured evaluation. The following dates are when the panel will meet to consider proposals; all applications submitted up to the Friday beforehand will be considered at the panel meetings.

- 19 February final submission for consideration by the panel on the 25 February
- 19 March final submission for consideration by the panel on the 24 March
- 21 May final submission for consideration by the panel on the 26 May
- 16 July final submission for consideration by the panel on the 21 July.

Payment & monitoring details

Payment will be made by cheque into the organisation's bank account. All funding will be paid in advance. Projects will be required to submit a basic monitoring form once the project has been completed.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted on the Bringing People Together Fund application form; these are available from Call Derbyshire 08456 058 058 or they can be downloaded at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/partnershipforum. Alternatively you can request a paper copy by writing to Policy and Research, Derbyshire County Council, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG.

Please complete each section of the application form and remember to outline how your project will help to improve people from different backgrounds getting on well together.

If you require any assistance or support in filling the application in please contact your local Council for Voluntary Service.

- Links (Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire): 01246 274844
- Community Voluntary Partners (Bolsover): 01623 747147
- Derbyshire Dales CVS: 01629 812154
- High Peak CVS: 01663 735350
- Amber Valley CVS: 01773 512076
- Erewash Voluntary Action: 0115 946 6740
- South Derbyshire CVS: 01283 219761

Bringing People Together Campaign – 11 April to 23 May 2010

A six week campaign aimed at promoting community cohesion across Derbyshire and labelling activities and projects under the Bringing People Together banner will run from 11 April 2010 – 23 May 2010. The campaign will run over term time and holidays, a time when lots of local events take place which could help address some of the factors affecting community cohesion. During this time the Bringing People Together brand will receive press and media coverage across Derbyshire and partner newsletters and websites will also be promoting related activities. You may want to add value to your project by running it as part of the campaign. If so, please submit your application in time for it to be considered by the selection panels taking place at the end of February and March 2010.

Further information

If you require further information regarding the fund, then please contact Louise Collins at Derbyshire County Council, 01629 538254, louise.collins@derbyshire.gov.uk

Further information on community cohesion and the Derbyshire Partnership Forum, including partners involved with this agenda is available at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/partnershipforum