



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Communities Fund 2017-18

“Engaged and active communities are not the *by-product* of a successful city rather they are a *prerequisite* for its success”

Ref: Brighton & Hove City Council Communities & Third Sector Development Policy 2014-17

The BHCC Corporate Plan 2015-19 sets out principles around increasing equality and active citizenship. These include “recognising the role third sector partners play in engaging our communities and most vulnerable residents.”

As part of this commitment council is moving from a Three Year Strategic Grants Programme to a third sector commissioning model supported by a dedicated Communities, Equality & Third Sector Prospectus 2017-20.

This model will be complemented by a new **Communities Fund 2017-18** administered by council’s Communities, Equality & Third Sector Team. The Fund will invest **approx. £tbc pa.** in support of local community groups, voluntary organisations and not-for-profit social enterprise.

It is our intention to recognise the positive impact of voluntary action enabled by *sustainable & equitable* third sector partners. This will be an open & accessible fund. Thus applicants can address any of three key *outcomes* and need to demonstrate how they will achieve at least one:

- **Improving Wellbeing**
- **Building Cohesion**
- **Promoting Fairness**

Successful applicants will later be asked to document how the Communities Fund has helped them secure those outcomes and improve the lives of local people. *

** BHCC Communities, Equality & Third Sector Team will work in partnership with local infrastructure providers such as the Resource Centre, Community Works, Hangleton & Knoll Project and the Trust for Developing Communities to ensure these ‘outcome measures’ are appropriate to the size & scope of the applicant and level of funding secured.*

Brighton and Hove has a dynamic & diverse third sector.

To reflect this strength BHCC Communities Fund comprises *three* distinct funding schemes. These will recognise & commit to local third sector:

- **Engagement**
- **Resilience**
- **Collaboration**

Appendix 2

○ The Engagement Fund

Total Budget approx.	<i>£tbc pa.</i>
Funding Available	up to £2,000
Applicant Income	up to £20,000 pa.
Application Deadlines	<i>3 deadlines tbc</i>

BHCC Engagement Fund recognises the potential of local community groups to engage & empower local residents.

The fund will invest a total of *£tbc* in support of volunteer-led endeavour from new & emerging partners in neighbourhoods and across the city as well as more established work delivered by organisations with an income of up to £20,000 pa.

Engagement funding of up to £2,000 is available.

There is a simple on-line application form to complete. Applicants can apply in their own words supported by guidance notes. Decision could be made within 6-8 weeks should applicants successfully demonstrate how they will achieve at least one of the three key *outcomes*:

- Improving Wellbeing
- Building Cohesion
- Promoting Fairness

In addition successful applicants will later be asked to demonstrate how engagement funding has helped them build towards a *resilient* model for future work.*

nb. BHCC Engagement Fund is also supported by the Phillip Hedgcock Bequest – a charitable trust fund administered by the Communities, Equality & Third Sector Team (alongside corporate investment from BHCC Textile Recycling Fund etc. tbc)

○ The Resilience Fund

Total Budget approx.	<i>£tbc pa.</i>
Funding Available	up to £10,000
Applicant Income	up to £100,000 pa.
Application Deadlines	<i>2 deadlines tbc</i>

BHCC Resilience Fund recognises the capacity of local community groups & voluntary organisations to achieve an enabling & resilient model for work of benefit to local residents.

The fund will invest a total of *£tbc* in support of established work across the city and in neighbourhoods delivered by organisations with an income of up to £100K pa. as well as new & emerging endeavour that brings documented value including positive economic and / or environmental impacts.

Resilience funding of up to £10,000 is available.

There is a structured on-line application form to complete complemented by guidance notes. Decision can be made within 10-12 weeks should applicants successfully demonstrate how they will achieve at least one of the three key *outcomes*:

- Improving Wellbeing
- Building Cohesion

Appendix 2

- Promoting Fairness

In addition successful applicants will later need to demonstrate how resilience funding has helped them maximise their capacity to *engage* in building towards a *collaborative* model for future work.*

○ The Collaboration Fund

Total budget approx.	<i>£tbc pa.</i>
Funding available	up to £20-25K across each of 9 core themes
Applicant Income	n/a (partnership required)
Application Deadlines	n/a (any time during 2017-18 please see below)

BHCC Collaboration Fund recognises the role of local community groups, voluntary organisations & not-for-profit social enterprise in forming operational / strategic partnerships to support the city's most vulnerable residents.

The fund will invest a total of *£tbc* in support of building partnership practice to address 9 broad themes:

- Advice & Learning
- Age & Intergenerational Working
- Community Infrastructure & Development
- Culture & Leisure
- Gender, Ethnicity & Sexuality
- Equality, Inclusion & Fairness
- Innovation & Creativity
- Physical & Mental Health
- Economy, Environment & Safety

Collaboration funding of up to £20-25K is available across each of these themes.

It is anticipated that there will be a wide range of potential partnership proposals.

Thus there is no structured application form to complete at expression of interest stage – a simple on-line 'statement of interest' pro-forma is provided. Applicant partners will already have documented capacity to deliver an *engaging & resilient* model that achieves at least one of the three key *outcomes*:

- Improving Wellbeing
- Building Cohesion
- Promoting Fairness

However all expressions of interest will require a named third sector lead, plus like supporting partners, as well as identified advocacy and support from specialist officers at council alongside the Communities, Equality & Third Sector Team.

This collaborative cross-sector model can therefore support a rolling programme of flexible funding through 2017-18. Partnerships invited to submit a final bid to the Collaboration Fund will be provided with additional support & guidance as appropriate at that stage.

In addition successful applicants must later demonstrate how collaboration funding has helped benefit the city's most vulnerable residents in *building & consolidating operational / strategic partnerships*. Put simply those partnerships that can maximise wider local, regional & national funding initiatives as well as more immediate commissioning & contract opportunities ahead. *



Communities Fund 2017-18

Notes to Applicants: Action, Activity & Outcome

It is our intention to recognise the positive impact of voluntary action enabled by *sustainable & equitable* third sector partners.

To ensure delivery of an open & accessible fund applicants can address any of three key *outcomes* and need to demonstrate how they will achieve at least one:

- **Improving Wellbeing**
- **Building Cohesion**
- **Promoting Fairness**

Brighton and Hove has a dynamic third sector. We will therefore support a wide range of voluntary action delivered by diverse partners. Early suggestions around activities that may underpin identified outcomes include:

- **Improving Wellbeing**
 - ✓ Community arts projects such as audience development workshops or performances
 - ✓ Sports clubs, activity / recreational initiatives or social groups
 - ✓ Pre-school / out of school activities, adventure pursuits, health education & counselling support for young people
 - ✓ Local history & heritage initiatives
- **Building Cohesion**
 - ✓ Community associations & centres
 - ✓ Social / support groups for communities of interest or identity eg. BME, LGBT, younger and / or older people etc.
 - ✓ Support for residents with physical or mental health difficulties
 - ✓ Improving the built or natural environment
- **Promoting Fairness**
 - ✓ Advice services & centres
 - ✓ Developing the skills of residents to enhance their employment prospects eg. volunteer training programmes
 - ✓ Supporting victims of crime & provision of diversionary activities for those at risk of offending
 - ✓ Recycling / re-use projects & raising awareness about local and healthy food

**BHCC Communities, Equality & Third Sector Team will work in partnership with local infrastructure providers such as the Resource Centre, Community Works, Hangleton & Knoll Project and the Trust for Developing Communities to ensure associated 'outcome measures' are appropriate to the size & scope of the applicant and level of funding secured.*

Finally BHCC Communities Fund also comprises *three* distinct funding schemes. These will recognise & commit to local third sector **engagement, resilience & collaboration**. Applicants may find the following **reference documents** helpful:

- Brighton & Hove City Council Corporate Plan 2015-19
- BHCC Equality & Inclusion Policy
- BHCC Communities & Third Sector Development Policy 2014-17
- 'Joining the Dots: a Triple Impact Strategy B&H 2010-15' & 'The Power of Volunteering – a Vision for B&H' 2016