



## **Bi-Weekly Club Newsletter**

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### **The Leicestershire Fund**

#### What is it?

This new fund is aimed at small groups and projects, where a grant can make a real difference to improve the quality of life and life chances in Leicestershire (including Leicester).

#### How much can we apply for?

Grants of £500 to £5,000 are available to help groups working to improve the quality of life and life chances in Leicestershire (including Leicester).

#### Who can apply?

- You need not be a registered charity, but must be a group with clear charitable aims and a set of rules (a constitution).
- Your group must have its own bank account, with at least two signatories, and you must be able to provide us with up-to-date financial information for your group.
- Your group must have at least 3 people on its management committee or board of trustees.
- Your group must operate in Leicestershire and be locally run.
- You must have a specific project, which will end within 1 year of the grant being awarded.
- The grant may be used as partnership (or match) funding where it makes up 25% (or more) of the funds you need. We do not intend the grant to be a very small part of a very large project.

#### What is eligible?

The grants are to help projects involving or set up by people in the local community, to provide services or activities for them. They are aimed at small groups and projects, where the grant can make a real difference.

#### What don't they fund?

They are unable to fund:

- Individuals
- General appeals (you must have a specific project in mind)
- Statutory organisations like schools, colleges or local councils (N.B. PTFAs, Friends organisations and Parish Councils can apply for projects which do not overlap with statutory responsibilities).
- National charities (except independent local branches)
- Projects taking place outside Leicestershire or not mainly for Leicestershire communities
- Activities promoting political or religious beliefs

- The purchase of minibuses or other vehicles
- Animal welfare
- Retrospective funding (projects that will have started before an application can be processed or repayment of money you have already spent)

#### Want to apply?

There are 2 parts to the application:

**Part A** can be completed online: visit [www.llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk](http://www.llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk) to register. The form asks you for information about your group and your project. Do read the notes on how the online form works before starting. Once you have started the application online, there are guidelines about each question when clicking on this icon:

**Part B** will be e-mailed to you once you have completed Part A. It needs to be sent back by post as it contains a declaration you need to sign personally, and documents they need to see. Your application will only be considered by our Grants Panel if they have received **Parts A and B** by the application deadline.

#### How long will it take?

The next deadline for applications is 19 August 2010 for consideration at the Grants Panel on 9 September 2010.

#### What makes a good application?

The following will be taken into account:

- That all the sections of the application form are completed (Parts A and B) and that the group and project meet all the points listed and what kinds of groups can apply.
- Delivers Programme Outcomes: this means whether your project contributes to improved quality of life and life chances for a Leicestershire community.
- Meets Programme Outputs: e.g. the services or activities your project will offer.
- Evidence of need: this means showing us any research and consultation you have carried out; support for your project from people in the community; whether there are other similar projects nearby, to avoid duplication.
- Beneficiaries – the numbers of users you will reach, their diversity, and whether the application represents value for money given your budget.
- Management – the strength and relevant experience of your management team and whether your proposed project is well planned and realistic
- Finance – your group's track record, whether it is likely to be viable longer term and whether your proposed budget is realistic and accurate