

Supporting Communities in Kent

The trustees invite applications from charities and other not-for-profit organisations that are working within one of the following six programme areas:

- **Safer communities**

The Trust will make grants to -support community safety projects that have a demonstrable benefit to communities in Kent. Projects should be focused on: reducing levels of crime; tackling anti-social behaviour; addressing the problems of drug and alcohol abuse in communities; reducing the incidence of re-offending or providing support for victims of crime.

- **Protecting and supporting older vulnerable people**

Demographic trends show that Kent's population is living longer. Over 120,000 people in Kent are aged 75 or over. This programme will support projects that improve the lives of older people in Kent and in particular, those that are vulnerable or isolated. The Trust will make grants to projects that enable older people's voices to be heard, improve their quality of life, protect them from abuse or enable them to live independently in the way they choose.

- **Refugees and asylum seekers**

The Trust will support projects that encourage the integration of asylum seekers and refugees into Kent communities and provide them with the opportunity to play a full and active part in community life. The Trust is particularly interested to hear from projects that provide services for older refugees and asylum seekers, or those that provide services for young people and children, improving their education and sense of identity.

- **Caring for carers**

The Trust will make grants to organisations that provide respite breaks or other support services for carers. For many, taking on a caring role at home can mean facing a life of poverty, isolation, and depression. The Trust will fund projects that give carers practical or emotional support and help them manage the impact that caring has on their lives. Priority will be given to projects that address the needs of 'hard to reach' carers, such as young carers or those from ethnic minority or refugee communities.

- **Transition to independence for young people leaving care**

Research by the Social Exclusion Unit has shown that young people leaving care are less likely to be involved in education, training or employment and are more vulnerable to social exclusion in later life. Through this programme we will make grants to a range of projects that make a significant difference to young people leaving care. Projects may be focussed on meeting young people's economic, educational or emotional needs as they make the difficult transition to independence.

- **Encouraging active living**

Funding is available for projects that make it easier for people to enjoy physical activity as part of their daily lives. Priority will be given to projects that increase opportunities for physical activity among children, adolescents or older people living in low-income communities.

Who can apply?

Charities and other properly constituted not-for-profit organisations, including parish churches, based and working in Kent can apply provided that their project/work fits within one of the six priority areas listed above.

Eligibility criteria

- We are looking to fund organisations that make a high impact and achieve positive and long-lasting change
- We will only make grants to organisations that offer value for money and a sustainable service.
- You must be able to demonstrate local community support for your work or project.
- In recognition of the current economic climate we will consider requests to fund the core costs, including staff salaries and overheads, of organisations whose work falls totally within one or more of our six programme areas. Your application does not need to be for an innovative idea or new service.

If you require clarification or guidance about eligibility please email: grantadmin@cfct.org.uk

Extra priority

Extra priority will be given to organisations:

- operating with low overheads
- using innovative approaches to tackle long-standing issues
- collaborating with other local voluntary organisations
- offering matched funding opportunities (we are particularly interested in working with other funders to deliver solutions)
- tackling work that is unattractive to the general public or unpopular with other funders
- able to demonstrate the effective use of volunteers

Scale of grants

The minimum grant offered normally will be £2,500 and the maximum £75,000. Please note that the average grant made by the trust in recent years has been c. £15,000 and therefore, statistically, larger applications have a lower chance of success.

Exclusions

We will not fund:

- Individuals directly
- Animal welfare charities
- Events such as conferences, seminars and exhibitions.
- Expeditions and overseas travel
- Fee-charging residential homes, nurseries and care facilities
- Festivals, performances and other arts and entertainment activities
- Fund-raising events
- Hospitals, Health Service Trusts, medically related appeals and medical equipment
- Loans or repayment of loans
- Commercial ventures or publications
- National charities - unless they have a project located and operating within Kent
- Mini-buses other than community transport schemes
- Research - academic and medical
- Retrospective grants
- Schools other than pre-school and after school clubs
- Work that duplicates existing local provision
- Sponsorship - organisations and individuals
- Large capital, endowment or widely distributed appeals.

Applications

Applications must be submitted via the Trust's online application form. Applicants are asked to visit www.cfct.org.uk and use the appropriate online application form to make their application. Please note that all successful online applicants will receive an email acknowledging their application. Please contact us if you have any problems submitting your application or if you do not receive an acknowledgement email.

Decisions

Applications will be processed on a rolling basis, usually within six months, but they may take longer on occasion. **Please note** - you must respond promptly, succinctly and factually to any queries we raise relating to your application. All applicants will receive a letter informing them of the Trustees' decision as soon as it has been made.

We regret that the number of applications in relation to the limited funds available is so large that many good proposals, even though they fit our priorities, have to be turned down.

If you have a question that is not answered in this guidance, please email David Williams grantadmin@cfct.org.uk

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