

Wessex Water Recovery Fund

1. What is Dorset Community Foundation?

Dorset Community Foundation manages funds on behalf of individuals, companies, charitable trusts and statutory agencies. This enables us to make grants to charitable groups in Dorset. We have many grant programmes to which groups can apply.

2. About the Wessex Water Recovery Fund

For this year only as a response to the challenges faced by local communities Wessex Water Foundation are providing a Recovery Fund that will support local projects or services strengthening our communities following the coronavirus outbreak. This community fund will support local organisations who are looking to respond to the needs of people in their community and wishing to build resilience for the future.

The fund will seek to support a wide range of local rather than national projects and particular priority will be given to those that are working to:

- support people in financially difficult circumstances
- help build stronger communities
- support the green recovery with new initiatives
- restoring and protecting nature and wildlife for community health and wellbeing

We particularly welcome applications from BAME groups.

3. What you can apply for

You can apply for a grant towards core costs and project costs for a 12 month grant period, that will better equip your project/service for the future. For example, you could apply for a grant for:

- Training required for staff and volunteers
- Resources needed for working in new ways
- Partnership working with other charities or community groups.

4. Who can apply?

The Fund is for voluntary and community groups with charitable aims, registered charities, community interest companies, town and parish councils and schools. Funding is limited to local organisations based and working in the Wessex Water area. Applicants to Dorset Community Foundation must be based and working in Dorset or Ringwood.

We would not normally fund if an applicant organisation is holding more than 12 months of its annual expenditure in unrestricted reserves. If the organisation is holding significant reserves the applicant will need to make clear why these reserves cannot be used to cover the cost of the activity.

If your group is a community interest company please refer to the additional guidelines for CICs in our full grant-making policy (appendix 1), available on our website.

5. How much do we award?

Grants available up to £2500

6. What we don't fund

- Applications from individuals
- National organisations
- General appeals
- Activities which are a statutory responsibility
- Political groups or activities promoting religious beliefs
- Animal welfare
- Arts or sports projects with no significant community or charitable element
- One off events with no significant community or charitable element
- Medical research, equipment or treatment
- Projects that take place before a grant can be awarded
- Activities that raise funds for other organisations

7. How to apply?

The closing date is **12 midday on Friday 4th December 2020**. Please apply online from our website. You will need to provide the following:

- A constitution/governing document/set of rules that sets out the purpose of your organisation and how it is managed.
- A recent copy of a bank statement no more than 3 months old in order to evidence a bank account in the name of the organisation. The bank account must have at least 2 unrelated signatories. Alternatively if you belong to a small organisation that does not have a bank account, another charitable organisation can hold the funds for you but you must provide written authorisation from the organisation that will do this.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records that show your organisation's balance of funds, income and expenditure. If you do not have financial records that cover a full year, then you will need to provide the records you currently have.
- A safeguarding policy relevant to your organisation's work.
- The contact details of a referee. The referee should know the work of the applicant organisation in a professional capacity but not be directly involved in this work.

If you are not a formal group, and cannot provide the above, you can apply under the umbrella of another charitable organisation provided it is able to:

- Supply the above documents
- Take responsibility for the application being made
- Take responsibility for receiving, overseeing and reporting back on the use of any grant awarded.

This will not affect the umbrella organisation's ability to apply in its own right.

8. What will happen next?

Once we have received your application (including all supporting documents) it will be assessed by a member of staff. They may contact you for further information or to arrange to discuss the application in more detail. The application will then go to a community panel for a decision. You will be notified of the outcome **by the end of January 2021**.

Monitoring and Evaluation

All successful applicants will be sent an online End of Grant report form, due at the end of the grant period, which is 12 months. This report asks for details of how the grant was spent and what was achieved.

Publicity and PR

If you are awarded a grant, Dorset Community Foundation and Wessex Water may publicise the grant made to your organisation. DCF's Privacy and Data policy can be found on our website at <https://www.dorsetcommunityfoundation.org/privacy-security-policy/>

Contact details

If you need more information or wish to discuss your application before you apply please contact the Grants Manager, Ellie Maguire: grants@dorsetcf.org 07592 032666