



Social
Enterprise
Kent

Bet+er Lives Together
East Kent
Health and Care Partnership

Cost of Living Fund - Information for Applicants

About the Fund

Social Enterprise Kent is the lead partner on the Cost of Living programme which is funded through the East Kent Health Care Partnership, NHS Health Inequalities fund. This programme, running in east Kent, seeks to tackle health inequalities across the region through addressing a wide range of issues that affect people's mental and physical health. These issues include, but are not limited to housing, employment, healthy eating and managing finances. The programme seeks to empower individuals to make positive changes to their lives through addressing and overcoming these barriers.

The Cost of Living Fund will enable organisations and groups to apply for up to £5,000 to fund a new activity or extend a current activity that tackles issues related to **healthy eating**.

Lack of access, knowledge and skills around healthy eating and cooking has a significant impact on people's physical and mental health, including having a detrimental effect on the growth and development of young people. This fund seeks to address food poverty and challenges by funding local, community-based organisations to run projects which tackle food and diet related issues in communities across east Kent.

Who is eligible

The Cost of Living community fund is open to any grassroots charity, community group or organisation that has an annual turnover of less than £2,000,000, and is based in one of the districts in east Kent: Dover, Folkestone and Hythe, Canterbury, Thanet or Ashford.

If your organisation is not based in east Kent but your work supports people living in east Kent, your application will be considered. However, the primary aim of the funding is to fund local grassroots organisations to make sustainable changes within their communities.

What we can fund

This fund is for projects related to healthy eating only. We welcome applications that address any element of healthy eating, This could be but is not limited to, accessing food, cooking on a budget, healthy eating in different cultures, educating young people around healthy eating, and any other projects that promote healthy eating/cooking/access to food.

We are particularly interested in supporting projects that will tackle specific health issues linked with poor diet, for example, if there is a high prevalence of diabetes or hypertension in a particular community, the project would work with community members to address this.

Organisations can apply for up to £5,000 for a new activity, or to extend an existing activity if there is evidence to demonstrate the need for this.

Strong applications would show what the need for the activity is and how it is supported by and likely to be of interest to local people. Activities must not duplicate those already happening locally unless there is a strong reason to do so.



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What information we need from you

Please complete the Cost of Living Community Fund application form to provide details about you and your project. This should include;

- What your project wants to achieve and how.
- Which community of people will be involved in the project, how they will be involved and how many?
- What is the need for the project and how you can demonstrate that.
- How you will engage with the project beneficiaries to include them in the project?
- Breakdown of costs.

The below themes will be used to assess your application:

- **Healthy eating focus:** Is the focus of the project on one or more elements of healthy eating?
- **Supported by your target group:** Can you show that the idea is supported by the group of people that your project is aimed at? How have they been involved in what you want to do?
- **New projects:** Can you show that this is a new project and not something that is already running in your area? Or is it an existing project that will be accessed by new people?
- **How the project will make a difference:** What is the problem you are solving? How do you know it is a problem? How is what you are planning, going to make a difference to peoples' lives?
- **Beneficiaries:** Have you thought about how many people you can support vs how much it is going to cost? Where will those people come from? We are looking to support projects that address need in areas of deprivation, health inequalities, inequality of access to services.
- **Health inequalities** – Will your project improve participants' health and wellbeing and subsequently tackle issues linked with health inequalities?
- **Sustainability:** Have you thought about what will happen when the funding ends? What plans can you start to put into place now to enable your great idea to carry on?

Can I apply for funding for more than one project?

You are welcome to apply for funding for different projects. Please submit separate application forms for each activity, with separate cost breakdowns. All applications will be reviewed separately on their own merits.

Can I apply for partial funding for a project which will cost over £5,000?

Yes, providing your project meets the aims of this fund.

Is there a minimum amount of funding that I can apply for?



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No, but the maximum you can apply for is £5,000

When will I find out if my application is successful?

We will let you know as soon as possible the outcome of your application. If it is unsuccessful we will work with you to help you understand how it could be made better, and you are welcome to apply again.

If my application is successful, what happens next?

You will be contacted to discuss your activity in more detail and for your bank details. We will also talk to you about how your project is to be evaluated.

We will contact you through the life of your project to find out how it is going and to gather some information as agreed with you. We may also want to visit to speak to the people involved and find out what difference the project has made to them. You may also be asked to complete an evaluation and monitoring questionnaire to help us evaluate the funding and improve the application process. By accepting the funding, you agree to work with us and participate in this evaluation process.

Ongoing support for groups is available from Social Enterprise Kent.

Any further questions?

If you need any more information about the Cost of Living Community Fund, or would like to ask anything before applying, please contact:

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