

Community Building Grants 2025/6 – 202/27

This programme is funded by Bradford Council and the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

- Funding will be used to support community buildings across the district with an open call out for submission of grant application requests anticipated to be launched in September 2025 determined through the district's five Area Committees supported by the 5 Area Co-ordinator's Offices.
- Applications must be for a minimum grant of £5,000 with a maximum of £13,000 across the district (amount remains the same for organisations with more than one building but may be higher with the discretion of the relevant Area Committee).
- Applications for the Community Building Grants will only be considered from voluntary and community sector organisations registered or in the process of becoming registered with the Charities Commission based within the Bradford District. Businesses and statutory organisations will not be eligible to access this funding.
- A community facility must meet the following definition; 'A building / part of a building or land operated by local community members, with volunteers and in some cases alongside paid staff, that it exists to provide a range of local services for local people and run by local committees meeting the needs of all in the community or interest group'.

Eligible to apply for a Grant

Community Building Grants are only to be awarded to organisations that demonstrate they can support communities in the following ways:

- Meeting space for community groups
- Local base to deliver a range of services
- Places to deliver activities
- Provide access to practical resources
- Have appropriate policies / procedures in place.

The main priority of community building grant is to support organisations with low level of resources, which do not attract enough funds to pay the full cost of running the facility without grant assistance.

Preferences

Preference may be given to fund eligible community resources that do not have any paid workers associated with it.

Not eligible for this Grant

Community Building grants will not contribute to the running of the following:

- a) Facilities not serving everyone within the local Community by being exclusive and having membership restrictions, however it will be recognised that some organisations limit some of their activities to single group usage e.g. women only sessions at some points in the week
- b) Facilities with substantial reserves that could be used to pay for the community building costs.
- c) Schools, Academies, Nurseries and other educational institutions are not eligible for this funding.
- d) Allotments are not eligible for this funding.
- e) Parish Councils are not eligible for this funding.

Grants will be awarded for up to two years (subject to Council budget for 2026 / 2027).

Community facilities who receive a contribution to their running / utility costs through this grant will be expected to be well run, with respect to the following:

- Must have all relevant policies in place
- To be accessible to everyone from the local community
- Well maintained, safe and clean facilities
- Have a responsible charging policy, appropriate to the facilities available
- Have robust financial systems and controls in place
- Run by a strong and responsible voluntary management committee
- Open to work in partnership with other agencies
- Aspiring to become DDA compliant wherever possible
- Generic community activities as opposed to Facilities designed for a limited section of the community
- Must be available for bookings
- May be a District wide community of interest group

Criteria and conditions of organisations receiving funding

These criteria will form the basis for making recommendations for grant allocation. The following will be assessed to determine the suitability of the organisation seeking funding.

- That the group has provided monitoring returns for any previous grant funding received from Bradford Council including UKSPF.
- **That they agree to complete monitoring and financial forms for including providing all invoices, receipts and bank statements to show defrayal of spend**
- **Please do not apply for this grant if you are not willing to comply with this requirement**
- **That you acknowledge Bradford Council and the UKSPF as funding providers in all communications including on your website and publicity materials for activities. Guidance on logos and branding will be provided to the successful applicants.**
- Bradford District based Voluntary Sector Organisation and registered group in Bradford District
- Meets the eligibility criteria / all requested paperwork is in order
- A good track record of running a community building and extensive community services

MONITORING AND PERFORMANCE

The successful applicants will be monitored through the close working relationship with the Area Co-ordinator's Offices.

There will be a requirement to take part in an annual monitoring visit, which will cover the production of all eligibility criteria documents / procedures.

There is a requirement to submit your most recent

1. Audited Annual Accounts with this expression and for successful groups to provide
2. Copy of your current Public (and where necessary) and Employer Liability Insurance schedule/s
3. Budget Forecasts for 2025/26 and 2026/27

Organisations receiving funding will be expected to comply with all conditions of the grant agreement.

Draft timetable for Community Building Grants Process

This is the proposed timetable for the Community Building Grants 2025 / 2026:

Key Event Timetable	Date to complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call out for grants launched 	15 September 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous groups funded through Community Buildings complete monitoring required and submission of all financial returns Community Building Application form and guidance published 	3 October 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for Community Building Application form to be returned 	3 October 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area Committees' Grant Advisory Group meet, to review all submitted applications Additional information may be sought from the Group before decision can be made, if the need arises Recommendations determined 	Mid-October 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All applicants to be notified of the final outcome from the process 	Week commencing 20 October 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants returned signed Grant Agreement with acceptance of conditions This includes agreeing to provide invoices / receipts for all expenditure and providing copies of bank statements 	31 October 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants will be awarded initially for 6 months up to 31st March 2025 (and an additional 1 year subject to Council budget for 2026/27). 	October 2025 - 31 March 2026 eligible period for spend (or from date of signed contract)

For further information, any specific questions, assistance or to discuss whether this grant is appropriate for your organisation please contact:

General **Community Building Grant (CBG)** contact Ward Officers through the Area Co-ordinator's Offices on:

- Bradford East 01274 431066
- Bradford South 01274 431155
- Bradford West 01274 432597
- Shipley 01274 437146
- Keighley 01535 618008