



# **Bolton Community Homes Community Investment Grants 2021**

**Information and Guidelines.**



## Background

Bolton CVS is working with Bolton Community Homes (BCH) to deliver their Community Investment Grants of up to £500 that benefit BCH customers.

### **Bolton Community Homes**

Bolton Community Homes include the following Registered Social Landlords:

1. Clarion Housing Group
2. Onward
3. Great Places
4. Irwell Valley
5. Places for People
6. Mosscares St Vincents
7. Bolton at Home
8. Salvation Army Housing Association (SAHA)

The areas Bolton Community Homes would particularly like to benefit are tenants from one or more of the listed Social Landlords living in the following areas:

- Horwich and Blackrod
- Westhoughton and Chew Moor
- Harper Green
- Farnworth
- Kearsley
- Great Lever
- Rumworth
- Little Lever
- Darcy Lever
- Brightmet
- Tonge with the Haulgh
- Halliwell
- Crompton
- Hulton

## Deadlines and how to apply

Fund Opens:	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Deadline for applications	Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.
Applications are made online	<a href="#">Click here</a> to apply
Notification of outcome	You will be notified within 4 weeks of your application being submitted

## What we will fund

The funding is to support projects that will benefit Bolton Community Homes customers, making a difference in their lives and local communities. Funding can help you in many ways, for example, to buy new equipment or materials, to run a community event, to launch a new group or to help promote existing groups locally.

Your project **must** help people in at least **one** of the following ways:

**Anti-Poverty** – supporting people to relieve financial pressures and reduce poverty - for example, a sewing group helping with school uniforms.

**Community Cohesion** – to help make the community stronger and to encourage communities to come together – for example, organising a family fun day.

**Environment** – improving the local environment by keeping it clean and tidy - for example helping maintain gardens and communal areas or organising a clean-up.

**Healthier and Active Ageing** – improving residents' (and older people's) health and wellbeing – for example, dance classes to improve fitness.

**Youth** – increasing the opportunities/activities available for young people - for example, running a youth group.

We will score your application based on how well your project will contribute to these themes so please make sure that you tell us in your application form. You only need to meet one of these themes. In fact, it

is **better to meet one theme very well rather than all of them loosely**. If you're unsure which theme your project fits please contact us for guidance.

### What we cannot fund

- Individuals or private companies.
- Projects that do not benefit tenants of one of the Bolton Community Homes listed above.
- Utilities including rent, gas, electricity and water bills and maintenance costs (including maintenance equipment).
- Items which only benefit an individual, for example bursaries and kit and equipment that is not shared.
- Equipment for one off events.
- Salaries for permanent employees (but you can apply for funding for temporary contract/freelance workers, for example artists, sports coaches etc.)
- Activities specifically promoting religious beliefs or political views
- The cost of projects that take place or are paid for before a grant from us is confirmed
- Projects with high ongoing costs or that require specialist skills to maintain.
- General fundraising appeals/ fundraising on behalf of another organisation.

## Who is Eligible to Apply?

These are the minimum standards you must meet to be eligible to apply for funding. If you need help with any of the points below, please don't hesitate to contact the team at Bolton CVS as we are here to help.

### To be eligible to apply, an organisation must:

1. Be either:
  - A constituted voluntary or community group\*
  - A registered charity
  - Another type of constituted not for profit organisation.
2. Be based and/or provide benefit to people living in the **Metropolitan borough of Bolton** (Bolton Council's local authority area).
3. Organisations must be up to date with the monitoring returns for any grants managed through Bolton CVS. \*\*
4. Have a bank account in the name of the group (not an individual) with at least 2 signatories of people who are not connected or living at the same address.
5. A minimum of 3 committee members or trustees if you are a community group or charity.
6. If your costings include payments to a trustee or committee member, your governing document must allow this and you must have appropriate procedures in place to manage any potential conflict of interest.
7. We expect you to have appropriate insurance for your groups' activities.

If you run sports activities your sports coaches (volunteer or paid) must be registered with Bolton Council's **Register of Sports Coaches** or another suitably recognised body.

\*For unconstituted groups, please get in touch with the team. We will ask you to tell us who is involved in your project and the name of an organisation that will be able to hold the funding on your behalf, if successful.

\*\*We understand that there can be a variety of reasons why monitoring may be late or incomplete. Our development team are here to support organisations who need support with their monitoring. If your organisation has a track record with late, incomplete or inadequate monitoring returns, we reserve the right to provide this information to the grant assessors.

## Working with Children and Young People or Vulnerable Adults

If you are working with children or young people and/or vulnerable adults your group or organisation needs to have a named committee member or trustee responsible for safeguarding. Your Safeguarding Policy must outline clear steps to take in the event of an incident or disclosure, including who to inform and how to contact them.

If you run sports activities your sports coaches (volunteer or paid) must be registered with Bolton Council's **Register of Sports Coaches** or another suitably recognised body.

If you are unsure about this, please get in touch as we can provide assistance and training.

## What happens Next

Once we have received your application we will complete initial checks to ensure:

- That you meet our minimum standards for eligibility.
- Your application is eligible to apply for the fund.
- That you have completed all outstanding monitoring for any other applications you have that are managed by Bolton CVS.
- That you have answered all the questions.

If you meet all the above your application is then passed for assessment. Each application will be assessed separately by volunteer trained grant assessors who will score your application according to the set criteria. The total scores are then collated and the decision will then be made.

Information about the Grant assessors:

- Assessors are individuals from Bolton's Community Homes partners, community volunteers and/or representatives of Bolton-based voluntary and community groups and organisations.
- Assessors regularly change – we don't have the same assessors each year or for each funding round.
- All assessors are volunteers and volunteer their time.
- All assessors are provided with training and support from Bolton CVS.
- No Bolton CVS staff, volunteers or trustees are involved in panel decision making.
- We do not invite members of Bolton Council or those standing for election to assess funding applications.
- Conflict of interest is managed through an open and transparent 'declaration of interest process'. Conflicts of interest are recorded when appointed as an assessor and at each panel meeting.

## **Our contact details**

If you need help with the application form, please contact Bolton CVS  
T: 01204 546 048. [Funding@boltoncvs.org.uk](mailto:Funding@boltoncvs.org.uk).

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