**Reach Rushcliffe Fund 2020 - 2024**

 **Information Sheet**

 **What is the Reach Rushcliffe Fund?**

The Reach Rushcliffe Fund has been provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council to support local initiatives that aim to tackle loneliness and social isolation.

We are now inviting town and parish councils, local groups and organisations to put forward proposals for setting up, sustaining or expanding projects that take innovative approaches to tackling loneliness within the Borough.

Loneliness is fast becoming one of the greatest social challenges nationally and whilst often associated with older people who live on their own, it can affect anyone of any age and linked to issues such as obesity, smoking and can increase risk of dementia.

**What types of projects are likely to be successful?**

Proposals must demonstrate how they will tackle loneliness:

1. The project must be evidence based – the proposal must include evidence of need (how did you identify the need and whom have you consulted?) and be clear about how the project will make a difference to the health & wellbeing of participants.
2. Projects will need very specific aims, objectives and measureable outcomes and need to be able to indicate how these will be monitored and evaluated.
3. The project must be accessible and culturally relevant to the target group, be community led and build in plans for the on-going sustainability of the project.

**How much can a group or organisation apply for?**

Typical applications range from between £500 - £2000, although larger applications will be considered. Please note applications are limited to one project per organisation.

**How will funding be accessed?**

Please complete a proposal using the electronic application form. An acknowledgment of receipt of your application will be sent to you via email. You can expect to hear a response from within 10 working days. Once an application is sent, this will be reviewed by the approval board. Proposers may be asked for additional information, further clarifications or modifications before the final agreement.

**How will groups or organisations be supported?**

The Council is keen to hear from a wide range of groups. We recognise that some small groups may need additional support to plan, deliver or evaluate their project, so please do get in touch to discuss your ideas.

**Funding Conditions**

* Reach Rushcliffe funding is available for one year only, the funding must be spent the end of April 2024. The expectation is that the project or group will become self-sustaining after that time or seek another source of recurrent funding.
* To qualify for a grant the group must be set up formally and have a bank account in the group’s name. Groups and organisations will need to keep receipts/records of spend as these may be requested.
* If your project will involve children, young people or vulnerable adults, please send a copy of any relevant policies (e.g. Child Protection or Working with Vulnerable Adults) and ensure that all essential checks are in place.
* All groups and organisations that receive funding will be required to send brief midpoint email update and final report/evaluation. The final report will need to illustrate how outcomes were achieved and provide a breakdown of how the funding was spent. The application will need to identify how the outcomes will be measured and evaluated (methods can include photos, questionnaires, quotations, case studies, press releases etc.)
* All groups and organisations that are successful will be required to include the Rushcliffe Borough Council’s logo on all publicity materials along with the following statement ‘This project has been funded by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Funding cannot be given:

* To profit-making organisations
* To organisations that are politically affiliated or for projects that promote a particular religious group (faith organisations can apply, but the project should not promote any particular religious views)
* To fund core or running costs of an existing organisations, although start-up costs for a new initiative may be considered

**For any queries about the Reach Rushcliffe Fund please contact the Community Development Team via** **CommunityDevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk**