

## **Rushcliffe Community Wellbeing Fund 2026/7**

### **Guidance for Applicants**

#### **What is the Rushcliffe Community Wellbeing Fund?**

The Rushcliffe Community Wellbeing Fund has been provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council, to support local initiatives that help to tackle social isolation, loneliness and cost of living pressures in the Borough.

We are now inviting town and parish councils, local groups and community organisations to put forward proposals for setting up, sustaining or expanding projects that improve inclusivity and wellbeing within the Borough.

Projects could include new or expanded volunteering initiatives, practical activity outdoors or indoors, sport, green-space improvements, arts, heritage, cultural, community and befriending activities, preparing and sharing food and support that reduces people's cost of living, including through energy-saving measures.

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

Proposals must demonstrate how they will improve wellbeing:

1. The project must be evidence based – the proposal must include evidence of need (please tell us how you identified need and whom have you consulted). It should also be clear how the project will make a difference to the wellbeing of participants.
2. Projects will need very specific aims, objectives and measurable outcomes and need to be able to identify 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?**

Applications are welcomed for grants from £500–£2,000. Please note that organisations may only submit one application per project; however, organisations that have previously received funding may apply again for a different project. Matched funding is welcome but is not required.

#### **How can funding be accessed?**

Please complete a proposal using the Rushcliffe Community Wellbeing Fund application form and submit this by email to:

[CommunityDevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityDevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

An acknowledgment of receipt of your application will be sent to you via email.

Once an application is received, this will be reviewed by the project board. Proposers may be asked for additional information, further clarifications or modifications before a final decision is reached.

The deadline for applications is Friday 2 October 2026.

Please note that applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and funding may be awarded before the deadline, so early submission is encouraged. The fund may also close early if all available funding is allocated prior to the deadline.

### **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**

- Rushcliffe Community Wellbeing funding is available for one year only; the funding must be spent and the project completed and reported upon before the end of March 2027.
- Funding recipients should outline plans for the long-term sustainability of the project. These plans should outline strategies for ongoing funding, resource management and stakeholder engagement beyond the duration of the initial funding period.
- Projects must take place solely within the Borough of Rushcliffe
- To qualify for a grant the group must be formally constituted 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.
- Quotes for work proposed, over a value of £500, will be required. If unable to obtain quotes we ask applicants to set out how estimated figures have been reached
- 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 a brief mid-point email update and a final report and evaluation. The final report will demonstrate project delivery and provide a breakdown of how funding was spent. It will include reports on the delivery of numerical outputs and outcomes, identified in your application and agreed at the start of the project. It will also include an element of project evaluation (methods can include photos, questionnaires, quotations, case studies etc).

- Payment of grants will be made 50% at the beginning and 50% at the end of the project. These terms may be amended at officers' discretion, where successful project delivery depends upon this. Receipts or receipted invoices will be required as part of the project delivery report.

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 existing organisations, although start-up costs for a new initiative may be considered.

**For any queries about the Community Wellbeing Fund please contact the  
Community Development Team via  
[CommunityDevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityDevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk)**