

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY LED PLANS

How much will I need?

Community Led Plans require relatively little initial funding to develop. Typically some funding is needed for publicity, room hire, refreshments, consultation, and printing costs. Printing costs are less now that electronic copies of parish plans are in wider use.

There are a number of ways your community can raise funds to cover the cost of developing your plan:

ACRE's Community Led Planning Toolkit includes guidance on how to draw up a budget.

Copies of the toolkit and further advice are available from Community First's EnAct Team (see below).

Grants

Possible sources of funding for your plan include:

DETAILS OF GRANT	WHERE TO LOOK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION	CONTACT
Parish or Town Council grants		
Your local Parish or Town Council may be able to offer small scale funding towards the preparation of your Plan	You may find further details on your town or village website or notice board, or in the Parish newsletter.	Your Parish or Town Clerk.
Swindon Borough Council grants		
Offers grants under three headings: <u>Grassroots grants</u> Applications for a Grassroots grant can be up to £1000 and can be used to help support events or projects in Swindon. <u>Administration grants</u> Administration grants are available of up to £500 and can be used on things like helping small groups with their running expenses, printing newsletters etc.	www.swindon.gov.uk	Partnership team T: 01793 466301 or 463248 E: achamberlain@swindon.gov.uk or jbeattie@swindon.gov.uk

DETAILS OF GRANT	WHERE TO LOOK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION	CONTACT
Swindon Borough Council Grants continued		
<u>New shoots grants</u> To support individuals or small groups who have an idea for a project which will benefit their local community. The grant will help get this project get off the ground, for example through hiring a space to allow people to come together to build their idea, or through purchasing a small amount of equipment or materials. Max grant £200	(see above)	(see above)
Wiltshire Council Grants		
<u>Community Area Grants</u> Funding is available to help provide facilities, equipment and activities that are important to the local community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to £5,000 available (more in exceptional circumstances) for your community project • Funding linked to local priorities • Up to and including £500 may be available for small projects, where there will be no need for you to find matched funding • Up to 50% of the total cost of a project, where the total cost is more than £500 • Support for organisations making applications Funding normally has to be spent within the current financial year.	www.wiltshire.gov.uk	Your local Community Area Manager (contact details can be found on Wiltshire Council's website) Note: current focus is on capital projects so may be more appropriate for projects arising out of your plan.
North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)		
<u>Sustainable Development Fund</u> Supports projects that bring environmental, social and economic benefits to the North Wessex Downs AONB. Average grants awarded are currently between £1,000 - £5,000	www.northwessexdowns.org.uk	T: 01488 685440 E: info@northwessexdowns.org.uk
Cranbourne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB		
<u>Sustainable Development Fund</u> Supports projects that bring environmental, social and economic benefits to the AONB. This is a simple and open scheme that seeks to foster innovative solutions to the challenges we face in the AONB.	www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk	T: 01725 517417 E: davidblake@cranbornechase.org.uk

DETAILS OF GRANT	WHERE TO LOOK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION	CONTACT
Cotswolds AONB		
<p><u>Sustainable Development Fund</u> The Fund aims to encourage and support community-based projects that look to provide a clear benefit to the Cotswolds AONB, with particular focus on the environment, community and/or local economy. Grants from a few hundred pounds up to £13,000.</p>	<p>www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk</p>	<p>T: 01451 862002</p> <p>E: david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk</p>
Awards for All		
<p>Awards for All is a lottery funded grants scheme funding small, local community-based projects in the UK. Offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 in any one 12 month period.</p>	<p>www.awardsforall.org.uk</p>	<p>T: 0845 4 10 20 30</p> <p>E: general.enquiries@awardsforall.org.uk</p>
Mid Counties Co-operative Grants		
<p>For the benefit of communities where the Mid Counties Co-op trades. Grants up to a maximum of £2,000. Keen to support applications from community groups undertaking projects that support the social goals of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Communities • Defending the Environment • Developing Young People • Developing Co-ops 	<p>www.midcounties.coop/Our-Values/Community/Co-operative-Community-Funding/</p>	<p>T: 01902 405700</p> <p>E: communityfund@midcounties.coop</p>
Local charitable trusts		
<p>Check whether there are any local charitable trusts in your area and find out their funding criteria</p>	<p>The Charity Commission www.charity-commission.gov.uk</p> <p>or: www.fundingcentral.org.uk</p>	<p>Your Town or Parish Council or PCC may also be able to advise on local charitable trusts</p>

Other sources of information about grant funding

There are a number of other online guides on sources of grant funding including:

- <http://www.open4community.info/wiltshire/>
- <http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk/>

Before applying

Before applying for grant funding to any scheme you need to ask yourself the following questions:

- Are you ready to accept a grant?
 - Do you have a constitution, bank account etc?

- Do you have the information to make a clear case for funding?
 - Are you clear on what you need the money for?
 - Do you know how much money you will need?
- Have you checked the grant guidelines carefully?
 - Are you eligible to apply for grant funding?
 - Does the grant giver fund the type of things you want to do?
 - What are the timescales within which the grant must be used?
 - Your bid for funding should clearly show you meet these criteria

If in doubt, talk your proposals through with the grant manager before submitting your application.

Fundraising

Local fundraising can be good source of cash and an excellent way of demonstrating community support and commitment to other funding bodies. Local fundraising events can also help to raise the profile of the community led plan in your community. Keep your fundraising activities fun, simple and always make sure that the money that you expect to make will exceed the costs of organising the event!

Sponsorship

As the development of the plan should involve the whole community, local businesses or benefactors may be willing to consider sponsoring some of the costs of its production. This could take the form of a cash donation or in kind contributions such as assistance with printing, free use of venues or provision of food and drink for consultation events.

Before approaching an organisation or individual for sponsorship, try to find out the best person to speak to (often the owner/manager, marketing or community liaison officer) and think carefully about what you are going to say. Have a clear idea of what you need and how much it is going to cost. Whilst it is always best to try to make personal contact, it is often useful to have a letter ready too - as you may well be asked to follow up your conversation with a formal request in writing.

Volunteering

Any community project relies on the goodwill and dedication of local volunteers who often donate considerable amounts of time and expertise to help make it a success. It is always worth taking note of the time that everyone is putting in as it can sometimes be counted as part of your local contributions when making bids for additional support or funding.

Further information

For further information, contact us at:

01380 732826 or 732801
enact@communityfirst.org.uk

EnAct is a service provided by:

