Community

VCSE Community & Partnership Grant

Example application

YOUR ORGANISATION

What is the full name of your organisation?
If your organisation operates under a different name, please tell us both.

Our name is Example Community Partnership CIO. We operate publicly as 'Happy Example Community Hub'

YOUR PROJECT

What is your project?

You should include;
- a project name
- what you would like to do?
- what activities or services you will provide?
- why you want to do it?

Project name: Tile Hill Money Steps.

We are seeking £5,050 to deliver a six-month program offering practical budgeting workshops and one-to-one follow up support by trained volunteer Money Mentors. Workshops will focus on understanding essential bills, how to budget with irregular income, reducing household costs, check benefits entitlement and further signposting to specialist advice where needed.

We want to deliver the project because residents using our community hub regularly tell us that they are unsure where to seek help until a financial problem has become urgent. The project will provide earlier, trusted support in a familiar community setting, helping residents take practical action before they reach crisis.

How will you deliver your project?

You should include;
-
- Key milestones and timescales
- Who will deliver the project
- Where will your project take place?
- Any partners involved and their role

Each point should be specific and supported with evidence where possible

The project will run for six months and will be delivered free of charge from our Community Hub (31 example road, CV1 00A), with monthly outreach sessions at a partner venue in Foleshill (40 partner road, CV2 00A).

- **Month 1**: Train our four volunteer Money Mentors; confirm referral arrangements with partner services; promote the programme through local groups, housing contacts and community networks.
- **Months 2 to 5**: deliver eight two-hour group workshops for up to 25 residents per session. Topics will include household budgeting, prioritising bills, reducing essential costs, managing irregular income, savings habits, benefit awareness and when to seek specialist debt advice.
- **Months 2 to 6**: offer each participant up to two one-to-one follow-up appointments to create a personal action plan, complete benefit or budgeting checks, and make supported referrals where specialist advice is required.
- **Month 6:** complete final follow-ups, collect participant feedback, review outcome information and provide ongoing signposting.

Our Project Manager will act as coordinator to organise the workshops and follow ups, ensure safeguarding, maintain referrals and carry out monitoring and reporting.

A qualified freelance financial capability trainer will deliver the workshops. Trained volunteers will support activities and follow-up conversations within clear role boundaries.

Coventry Independent Advice Service will accept supported referrals for regulated debt and benefits advice. Tile Hill Housing Network will promote the project to tenants and provide an outreach room once each month.

How will your project make a difference to local need and improve the financial resilience of Coventry residents?

You should include:
- The need or issue your project is addressing
- Who will benefit and any barriers they face
- Which programme outcome(s) your project will contribute to and how
- What outcomes you expect to achieve

Each point should be specific and supported with evidence where possible

In the last six months, 64 residents approached our hub about rising household costs or difficulty budgeting. Of these, 41 said they had waited until the issue felt urgent before asking for help. A recent survey of our monthly visitors (250 people) 80% (200 people) said they would benefit from having increased knowledge of budgeting and increased access to non-crisis support.

This project will offer support to 200 adults living in Coventry who are at increased risk of financial hardship. Due to our location and the current membership of our community hub we will to reach residents with limited digital access, people managing long-term health conditions, unpaid carers and people whose first language is not English. Sessions will be held in accessible community venues, information will use plain English, and telephone booking and interpreting support will be available where required.

The project will primarily contribute to "increased financial resilience, including improved budgeting capability"; as the main activity is workshops delivering budgeting training. The project will also contribute to both "maximisation of household income" and "reduction of household or priority debt" through the follow up one-to-one activities. Through providing early support and specialist signposting, the project will also contribute to "increased access to appropriate and quality advice services".

We will have space up to 200 participants; at least 75% will complete a personal financial action plan; at least 60% will report greater confidence managing household finances; at least 45% will complete a benefit, tariff or household-cost check; and at least 20% will access appropriate specialist advice or ongoing support. We will measure this through registration information, anonymised attendance records, referral tracking and short before-and-after confidence questions.

The project improves resilience because residents will leave with practical knowledge, a clear action plan, stronger links to trusted support and earlier routes into specialist advice. This reduces the risk that manageable financial pressures escalate into crisis.

How will the grant funding be spent?

You should include;
- A breakdown of costs
- An explanation of how each cost relates to project delivery
- Why the requested funding represents good value for money

Each point should be specific and supported with evidence where possible

Project coordinator - 70 hours at £25 - £1,750. Planning, referrals, safeguarding, volunteer support and monitoring.

Financial capability trainer - 8 workshops at £200 - £1,600. Preparation and delivery by an experienced trainer.

Volunteer training - 4 places at £150 - £600 - Equips volunteers to provide safe, consistent budgeting support and signposting.

Venue and outreach costs - 20 sessions at £45 - £900 - Accessible local rooms for workshops and outreach.

Printing and workshop resource - 200 printed workbooks tools, provision of pens, flipchart paper/markers - £200

The organisation will contribute staff supervision, existing office facilities and volunteer travel costs.

The proposal is good value for money as it directly supports 200 residents at an average cost per participant of £25.25. This is a cost significantly lower than crisis support.

The project will provide participants with skills and knowledge that will benefit them well after completion.

Additionally, volunteers trained by the project to provide financial support will be able to continue provide financial support to other users of the community hub after the delivery of the project.

What benefits will remain after the project has ended?

You should include:
- How residents will continue to benefit
- Any skills, knowledge, confidence, or support that participants will gain
- How the positive impact of the project may continue beyond the funding period

Each point should be specific and supported with evidence where possible

Residents will continue to benefit from the practical budgeting skills, financial knowledge and confidence gained through the workshops. Each participant will receive a personal financial action plan and take-home budgeting tools, which will help them continue to manage household costs, prioritise bills and prepare for unexpected expenses after the project has ended.

Residents who need additional support will have been connected to appropriate advice and specialist services. These relationships and referral pathways will remain in place, making it easier for residents to seek help early and reducing the likelihood of financial difficulties escalating into crisis.

The four trained volunteer Money Mentors will continue to provide basic budgeting guidance and signposting through regular activities at Example Community Partnership CIC. The organisation will also retain the workshop materials, workbooks and delivery plans, allowing the learning to be used in future community sessions.

The project will therefore leave a longer-term benefit through improved resident skills and confidence, trained community volunteers, reusable resources and stronger links between the Community Hub and local advice services.