

Funding opportunities for Community and bid writing advice

Funding streams

Setting up a new voluntary or community group

For help and guidance on setting up a new voluntary or community group visit: [Help and guidance | NCVO](#)

If you are setting up a new voluntary or community group and need support and guidance in setting up a constitution, membership, accounts, policies and training, we are able to deliver consultancy support in partnership with NCVO, worth up to £500.

We will need to understand how your new voluntary or community group will meet local priorities and needs in the Sevenoaks District. Please contact our Health and Communities team for further information at communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

Funding Opportunities from Sevenoaks District Council

Community Grants

Community Grants Scheme supports local charities and voluntary sector organisations that, through their work, contribute to the priorities set out in the Community Plan 2022-32. It runs annually and open for applications between September and November. If successful funding has to be spent in following financial year (i.e. April to March). The grants range from £1,000 to £5,000.

To get advance notice of this grant scheme opening and deadlines sign up below.

LSP Community Wellbeing Grants

Sevenoaks District Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) offer Community Wellbeing Grants. These are available to voluntary groups, community groups and other not-for-profit organisations providing services within the Sevenoaks District, which benefit residents of the Sevenoaks District. Any service being delivered must meet one or more of the following LSP priorities:

Priority 1 – Financial wellbeing and resilience

Priority 2 – Food insecurity

Priority 3 - Health and wellbeing

Priority 4 - Digital inclusion

There will be two rounds of this funding (with grants of up to £2,500 awarded) each financial year. Further information on the round dates and deadlines will be shared here soon. To get advance notice of the funding rounds and deadlines sign up below.

Community Mobilisation Grants

Thanks to some funding from the UK Prosperity Fund, Sevenoaks District Council are able to offer a funding opportunity for voluntary groups, community groups and other not-for-profit organisations providing services within the Sevenoaks District, which benefit residents of the Sevenoaks District. To apply your service must meet one or more of our priorities:

Priority 1 – Community-led projects addressing local priorities and fostering a sense of local pride

Priority 2 - Tackling isolation and loneliness

Priority 3 - Improving physical and mental wellbeing

Priority 4 - Promoting and encouraging community safety

Priority 5 - Improving the environment or promoting biodiversity and sustainability

There will be multiple rounds of this funding (with grants of up to £1,000 awarded) between 2023 and 2025.

The new round for applications will open on Monday 8th of January 2024. This fund is up to £1000 (revenue costs) and projects need to link to one of the 5 priorities listed above. The deadline for all applications in this round is Friday 16th of February 2024.

The application form can be found [here](#).

Please email all applications to contact@bettertogethercommunity.org.uk



Sign up for early notification of funding

To receive notice of these funds opening and details of other potential funding you can sign up to the Voluntary Sector Forum email list. An officer from Sevenoaks District Council will then send you the funding information and other news and tips that might be of use. You will also receive details of dates, locations/login details for the monthly **Voluntary Sector Forum** for community, voluntary sector and not-for-profit groups and organisations to come together, network, share information and collaborate. If this is of interest please email communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Bid writing advice

For help with bid writing visit the NCVO: [Writing your application | NCVO](#)

This will help you with tips for preparation; classic mistakes to avoid; telling your story; use of letters & videos.

There is often FREE bid writing training available from organisations including:

- [Training & Events - Funding for All](#)

If you need any further guidance please email Sevenoaks District Council at:
communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk