



Warrington Older People's Grant Programme

Background to the Warrington Community Fund

The Fund has been created by Cheshire Community Foundation, following the transfer of significant funds from two moribund charities in Warrington, which were both set up to provide pensions to the poor and needy in the Borough. Both these charities have now been closed down. For the first two years at least, the funds can only be distributed for projects which benefit older people in Warrington Borough.

A local Warrington Community Fund Grant Panel has been formed to consider all the grant applications received. The Panel is made up of people who live and / or work in Warrington, with a range of experience across the voluntary and community sector, grant making and the issues affecting older people. This Panel will be chaired by a trustee from Cheshire Community Foundation.

Aims of the Older People's Grant Programme

The Programme aims to improve the lives of people aged 50+ who live in the Borough of Warrington. We are particularly keen to support projects which will target:

- Older people living in deprived neighbourhoods
- Older people living in rurally isolated areas / areas where transport links are poor
- Older people who do not currently take part in activities or access services
- Groups of older people with shared, identifiable needs - such as men, people from BME communities, LGBT communities, bereaved people, people living alone, people with long-term health conditions, people with sensory impairments and those with additional needs

We are particularly keen that the programme enables applicant groups to:

- Target new individuals who have not used their services before
- Develop practical, low-cost, sustainable activities and / or services that can continue after the grant has been spent
- Consider new or different ways of working that can be developed or expanded in the future, to take account of the changing demographic profile and needs of older people

The Four Outcomes We Hope to Achieve for Older People

- Improved physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Reduced social isolation
- Increased independence and capability
- Greater sharing of older people's skills, experience, wisdom and time with others in a positive way

Examples of Projects the Grant Programme Could Support

- Inter-generational projects where older people can share their skills, knowledge and time with younger people
- Good Neighbour schemes / Befriending Projects / Time Banking Projects
- Regular social, activity and interest groups targeting older people e.g. gardening, dancing, ukulele playing
- Community-based projects which include people living in local sheltered housing or residential care
- Projects promoting older people's health and wellbeing
- Projects supporting older people to deal with debt or other financial issues

Eligibility

Applicants must be voluntary, community or faith-based organisations delivering in Warrington - with a constitution and bank account. New groups without a constitution or bank account would need to nominate an established group that would be responsible for holding and administering the grant on their behalf. Applicant organisations do not need to be registered charities but their constitution or other governing document must show that they are set up for community benefit and their aims are broadly charitable.

Grants can only be awarded for the benefit of people living within Warrington Borough. Projects must last for up to 12-months maximum. The Foundation cannot offer funding for more than 12 months at a time. Although further funding after 12 months may be considered, subject to receipt of satisfactory monitoring, we would like to see that groups are taking steps to identify other sources of income after the initial 12-month grant period.