

Grand Funding Application: Community Cohesion Fund - Small Grant Application (up to £5,000)

Project Name:	
Name of Organisation:	
Legal Status:	
Charity no. (if applicable):	
Contact Name:	
Contact Email:	
Contact Number:	

**Closing date for receipt of completed documents:
Monday 29th June at 12noon**

About the Wyre Community Cohesion Fund

The Wyre Community Cohesion Fund is a fund established to build community relationships and social trust and to promote cohesion between communities.

Cohesive communities are places that:

- offer a common vision and a sense of belonging for all
- positively value diversity

- provide equal opportunities to people from different backgrounds and
- provide an environment where strong and positive relationships can be developed between people from different backgrounds.

The fund and associated grant administration process will be administered by Community First Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde on behalf of Wyre Council. Grant funding of £150,000 will be available.

Launching on 11th May 2026, applications will be open for an 8-week period, closing at midday on Monday 29th June 2026.

Applications are welcome from local organisations within the VCFSE sector based in or delivering work in Wyre. Projects should align with one or more of the following themes:

- A focus on creating community cohesion and a sense of togetherness
- Improving local partnership approaches to supporting community resilience by funding projects that strengthen social capital.
- Initiatives that strengthen community connections, promote unity and shared values.

Examples of likely eligible expenditure for the Wyre Community Cohesion Fund include projects that:

- improve community cohesion and understanding between individuals, communities and groups from different backgrounds, beliefs and cultures in Wyre.
- bring people together from different groups, including those of different faiths, around a shared goal/objective, such as volunteering, befriending or mentoring schemes.
- connect young people from different backgrounds in safe spaces.
- activities that bring different parts of the community together to listen, share and interact e.g. events/workshops where individuals can hear directly from people who are 'different' from them e.g. refugees directly sharing their experiences.
- inter-community projects aimed at connecting people of different backgrounds and improving community connections, for example activities that support mental health through gardening, art, singing or sports projects.
- build communication pathways between communities that promote ongoing dialogue and a shared identity, for example sessions providing English Language provision or improving English language skills.
- build partnerships with the aim to work collectively on projects
- increase personal confidence interacting with others or build trust in others.
- enable communities to build networks and deliver projects/ activities that foster greater cohesion.
- Increase safety and respect for individuals and communities
- reduce the risk of hate crime, macro/micro-aggressions and radicalisation

Eligibility

The funding is available to organisations that are:

- A voluntary and community constituted group with a volunteer management committee with a minimum of three unrelated members that meets on a regular basis (at least three times per year) or
- A registered charity, with a board of trustees, or
- A registered Social Enterprise Community Interest Company (CIC) operating on a not-for-profit basis. (Applicants may be asked to produce copies of their Community Interest Statement, details of the Asset Lock included in their Memorandum and Articles of Association and copy of their latest annual community interest report.)

Applicant organisations must also:

- Provide local community activities or services within the borough which benefit Wyre residents
- Have a formal constitution or a governing document
- Have a bank account requiring at least two unrelated signatories
- Operate with no undue restrictions on membership
- Have a safeguarding policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults where appropriate.

Assessment criteria

As well as meeting the priorities and aims, the project must also:

- Take place in the Wyre District
- Involve local communities
- Demonstrate a need for the project
- Be a new project or show how it adds value to an existing project

An organisation may only submit one application per grant round.

Any award must be spent and claimed within 12 months of the offer letter date.

Applications should also try and demonstrate:

- The group/organisation's previous experience/expertise etc
- Engagement with the local community
- Lasting impact
- Any volunteer contributions

Timetable

Funding Open	11th May 2026
Deadline for Applications	29th June 2026
Scoring	W/C 29th June 2026
Award Notification	W/C 13th July 2026

Pass / Fail Questions:

	It is an essential requirement of this contract that the successful bidder is able to demonstrate the criteria below:	Pass / Fail
a)	Insurance Levels (required at the contract Commencement Date) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employer's (Compulsory) Liability Insurance = £5m• Public Liability Insurance = £5m <p>*It is a legal requirement that all companies that employ staff hold Employer's (Compulsory) Liability Insurance of £5 million as a minimum. Please note this requirement is not applicable to Sole Traders or organisations that don't employ staff.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
b)	Please confirm that you have in place, or that you will have in place by contract award, the human and technical resources to perform the contract to ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and to ensure the protection of the rights of data subjects.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
c)	Please confirm your acceptance of the Terms and Conditions attached.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Please respond to all information included below.

Quality questions will be scored on a 0-5 basis

0	No response provided/ does not address any of the issues
1	Very poor response with minimal issues addressed
2	Poor response with few issues addressed
3	Satisfactory response with majority of issues addressed
4	Good response with all issues satisfactorily addressed
5	Outstanding innovative response

About your organisation

Please tell us about your organisation, its aims and describe your experience delivering similar work.

Your response should include details of what activity was undertaken, why it was chosen and how successful outcomes were achieved. Where possible, include an example that could be considered a sensitive community topic.

Assessment Criteria:

- Organisational objectives are relevant to funding objectives.
- Example of previous delivery showcases evidence of building community cohesion.

Respond below in no more than 750 words:

Project proposal

Please describe your project idea.

Your response should include the aims and objectives of the activity, the communities you plan to work with, outputs you aim to achieve, timeline and how many people you aim to work with.

Assessment Criteria:

- Identification of target community and understanding of that community reflected within the project proposal.
- Design of proposal/activity.
- Identification of community barriers and relevant mitigation.
- Clear project aims.

Respond below in no more than 1000 words:

Community Cohesion

Please explain how your proposal will achieve cohesion within the community outlined in the project proposal above. Consider the long-term outcomes.

Assessment Criteria:

- Understanding of the barriers to community cohesion.
- How success will be measured and reported.
- Equalities considerations.

Please respond below in no more than 600 words

Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

Name of Organisation

Location of Activities

The above-named organisation is set up to develop and promote voluntary/community/faith sector activities. We recognise that, in our society, both groups and individuals have been, and continue to be, discriminated against. Therefore, we aim to secure genuine equality of opportunity in ALL aspects of its activities. The following statement aims to ensure that no group or individual receives less favourable treatment or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements that cannot be shown to be justifiable.

The above-named organisation opposes discrimination on the grounds of age, race, gender, status, sexual orientation, religion, disability, marital status, income or circumstances, language, HIV or other health related issues, and ALL forms of direct or indirect discrimination that restricts or hinders the promotion of equal opportunities. The organisation is committed to achieving equal opportunities in all aspects of its existence, by compliance with, and in the spirit and ethos of equal opportunities legislation.

Signature

Date

WYRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY COHESION

DECLARATION, please ensure **two non-related people authorised to sign on behalf of your group sign the application form.**

I confirm that the information contained in this form is accurate.

Name (in block capitals)		
Signature		
Position in group		
Date		

Application Checklist

Have you included the following with your application?	Yes	No
A fully completed application form		
Your group's rules or constitution or Charity or Social Enterprise registration.		
Your group's annual accounts/financial breakdown/forecast		
Your bank account has at least two unrelated signatories		
A copy of your group's Safeguarding policy		
All other relevant documents		

Please return your completed application form to:

Matt Winder
Community First Blackpool Wyre & Fylde
95 Abingdon Street, Blackpool, FY1 1PP
E-Mail:
matt@communityfirstbwf.org
Tel: 01253 301004