



## **Homes for Ukraine Community Support Grant Fund**

### **Application criteria and guidance**

The Homes for Ukraine (HfU) Community Support Grant Fund is a new source of funding for community groups and voluntary organisations based in East Sussex working to support Guests and Sponsors signed up to the Governments' HfU programme.

Applicants are accepted only from groups and organisations:

- already established to support HfU, or
- have already adapted their activities/services to support HfU, or
- set up as a result of a local involvement in the HfU programme.

The fund is particularly interested in funding community groups and voluntary organisations operating at a Village, Parish, Town or Neighbourhood geography.

Community groups and voluntary organisations receiving a grant must commit to working in partnership with local networks and community hubs supporting Guests and Sponsors signed up to the HfU programme in the stated local geography.

This funding offers grants across four identified themes of Transportation, Social Interaction, Wellbeing Activities, and Accessing Services.

Community groups and voluntary organisations based in East Sussex delivering activities/services to support Guest families, children and young people, and Sponsors can apply to the fund.

All community group and voluntary organisation applicants must provide the following information with their completed application:

- A set of rules, constitution or set of governing rules.
- A bank statement from the last three months;
- Accounts or a record of expenditure from the last financial year (including Proof that the annual income is under £1,000,000 and Proof of total Reserve Funds)

If your community group is set up as a result of recent local involvement in the HfU programme you can still apply but will need to work with an established community group and voluntary organisation, when submitting your application.

### **What can you apply for?**

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to community groups and voluntary organisations based in East Sussex delivering activities and support under the themes identified and meeting the above criteria. £78,000 is available in each District and Borough area.

Whilst this funding is aimed at smaller organisations operating in East Sussex, we are allowing applications from community groups, voluntary organisations, charities, and social enterprises with an annual income from last year of up to £1 million, providing they can demonstrate a strong proposed presence within the local geographical area that they are applying to work in.

Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis, with decisions expected within three weeks of submission.

## **Funding themes - examples and ideas:**

### **Transportation**

- Providing transport, such as community transport, for guests to access activities and services in other localities e.g., from rural areas to a main conurbation
- This can also include rail and bus services to access services, benefits, education, and employment opportunities.

### **Social interaction**

- Organising meeting spaces for guests, sponsors, a community group or voluntary organisation to deliver an activity or service
- Connecting young people to each other and to activities to prevent social isolation.

### **Well-being activities**

- Social, recreational, and wellbeing activities and materials for guests as well as befriending services to help people connect with others from their home country
- Access to English language courses and other educational activities.

### **Accessing services**

- Access to a local foodbank or food partnership activity, access to support to register for universal credit, providing mental health, wellbeing, and trauma support
- Support associated with signposting, form filling, making appointments, interview preparation and CV writing.

### **What we are unable to fund?**

- Statutory services incl. schools, parish councils, public sector social care & environmental health
- Organisations based outside of East Sussex unless there is strong evidence that beneficiaries will be Guests and Sponsors signed up to the HfU programme within East Sussex communities
- Organisations that discriminate based on ethnic origin, race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation
- Only benefit one individual
- Are focussed on making profits and sharing these profits privately
- Are raising funds for works or equipment already committed, bought, or completed
- Activities that have already taken place
- Overtly or exclusively promote a political agenda
- Overtly or exclusively promote a religious agenda
- Include purchase of alcohol or illegal substances

**Application process** : Applications should be submitted to your local Voluntary Action.

**Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA)** - covering Hastings Borough

**Rother Voluntary Action (RVA)** - covering Rother District

**3VA** - covering Wealden District, Lewes District, and Eastbourne Borough

### **Monitoring Requirements**

Grant recipients will be expected to provide a written summary based on their stated activities/support two months after receiving the grant. The written summary should be no more than one side of A4, and provide information on the activity/support provided, highlighting any concerns and issues that were dealt with, and the positive outcomes for HfU Guests and Sponsors. Please note that monitoring summary will be shared with East Sussex County Council.

**Contact for organisations/activities in Hastings Borough:** To get an application form; for further help and support; or to submit an application form; contact:

Email: [hfucommunitygrants@hastingsvoluntaryaction.org.uk](mailto:hfucommunitygrants@hastingsvoluntaryaction.org.uk)

Phone: 01424 444010