



Exeter  
City Council



## Exeter Community Grants Programme 2019

- April 2018: Council identified the need to review and modernise its grant giving: built over a number of years: whilst well intentioned but unsustainable & inequitable.
- Oct 2018: Independent listening exercise report published
- Feb 2019: Interim arrangements 2019/20 following the new budget also £260k ring-fenced for local Arts Council National Portfolio Orgs
- March 2019: formal proposals published & further independent consultation process
- June 2019: Final Draft Exeter Grants Programme now under consideration

- Overall approach and principles
- Priorities
- Openness and transparency
- Contracts for more strategic service requirements
- Support for Information and advice and Infrastructure Support Services
- Single city fund
- An approach that maximises the value of the Council's spending and ensures the sustainability of community groups
- Councillor Ward Grants
- the Council's 'bottom up : ABCD' approach to community development *Wellbeing Exeter* and *Community Builders*

- Ability of everyone to benefit from the proposed use of digital platforms
- Ability of some groups and projects to be able to raise match funding
- Some commentators felt that the proposed maximum limit on the large grants fund of £30,000 could mean that some larger community projects may be disadvantaged
- How arts and cultural projects will be supported in addition to the ring fenced funding for the Arts Council National Portfolio Orgs
- Importance of measuring impacts, sharing learning and improving communication
- Decision making and governance, in particular the need for transparency, openness and improved communications

1. Establishment of a grant funding approach that will maximise the value of the council's spending and ensure the sustainability of community groups.
2. A balance of awarding grants with contracts for more strategic services.
3. A clear 'bottom up' approach to community development: Asset Based Community Development.
4. Good governance that recognises the specific accountability of elected members but enables the Council and community to decide on priorities together.





***Exeter Grants Programme*** will support *communities* to use their passion, skills, experience and knowledge on:

- Helping people to help themselves and each other
- Building on the strengths of people and communities
- Connecting people and organisations within and across communities



- Reducing disadvantage and inequality
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Increasing individual and community resilience (the ability to manage)

## Key priorities

1. Address inequalities
2. Improve health and wellbeing
3. Get people active
4. Support communities working together to address local needs
5. Encourage volunteering
6. Improve where we live







	Fund	Max	Duration	Match		Purpose
<b>Exeter Ward Grants</b>	£65,000	<b>£500</b>	1 year	✗		Community projects/events
<b>Exeter Community Buildings Fund</b>	£150,000	<b>£5,000</b>	3 years	✓	50%	Running Costs
<b>Exeter Small Grants Fund*</b>	£100,000	<b>3,000</b>	1 year	✓	20%	Community projects/events/equipment
<b>Exeter Large Grants Fund</b>	£110,000	<b>30,000</b>	1 year	✓	50%	Community projects/building refurb
<b>Exeter Move More Small Grants</b>	£55,000	<b>£300</b>	1 year	✗		Community projects/events/kit etc.

*Match funding % can be reduced by the Grants Panel for projects within the top 20 LSOA's*

*\* Match can be volunteering hours*

## *Independent Information, Advice and Advocacy Service*

Address the demands of development by increasing access to good quality information and advice service for residents.

A particular focus on increased digital inclusion for people whose circumstances make it difficult for them to access services and the opportunities they could benefit from.

## *Exeter Voluntary and Community Sector Support Service*

To build capacity to develop a sustainable community and voluntary sector.

A particular focus on supporting groups to use their skills, local knowledge and expertise to improve things for everyone in the city: individuals as well as geographic communities and communities of interest.

## **Exeter Grants Panel**

Responsible for strategic direction & ensuring that grant awards are made in line with the framework

## **Chair (Portfolio for Communities)**

Accountable for ensuring decisions & recommendations are fair & transparent & that the underpinning system & processes are proportionate to the funding required but that they also recognise the accountability of elected members.

## **Membership**

Panel membership will reflect the political make-up of the Council & will include community representatives and advisers

## New Exeter Community Programme Website

Criteria for grants will be set annually and an annual report will be published setting out:

- Impacts from previous year's grants programmes
- Recommended priorities for the forthcoming year's programme.
- Proposed budgets for the forthcoming year's programme.
- Membership of Community Grants Panel for the forthcoming year.

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Contracts Awarded for Commissioned Services	August 2019
Inaugural Exeter Grant Panel Terms of Reference & Operating Policy & Procedures agreed & published	September 2019
Voluntary & Community Sector Support Service mobilised	October 2019
Exeter Grant Programme Website and City Fund Launch	November 2019
Exeter City Fund First Awards	December 2019

