

The Essex Fund criteria - 2019

This guidance is to help organisations applying to the Essex Fund which is managed by Essex Community Foundation (ECF). We would encourage you to also read ECF's standard guidelines which are available [here](#) on our website before starting your application.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your funding request, then please contact the ECF grants team on 01245 356018 grants@essexcf.org.uk.

Aim of Fund

Essex County Council established the Essex Fund with Essex Community Foundation to improve the quality of life for people living in the administrative county of Essex (excluding the boroughs of Southend and Thurrock) by awarding grants to voluntary and community organisations.

Criteria of the Fund

The Fund will consider applications from organisations that can demonstrate at least one of the following:

- Support to carers
- Improvements to the environment
- Provide community resource
- Help and activities for young people (including projects that increase awareness and participation in activities which explore culture and heritage)

Priority may be given to:

- Smaller organisations with an annual income of £100,000 or less
- Organisations and projects supporting disadvantaged communities
- Organisations that are led by the local community

Who can apply?

- Voluntary and community organisations, registered charities and social enterprises. Your organisation or project must benefit local people in administrative Essex (excluding Southend and Thurrock)

How much can we apply for?

Grants of up to £10,000 are available for one year.

What can be funded?

- The application must demonstrate a clear link to the criteria of the Fund
- The application must provide clear and measurable outcomes (see below for further information)
- Core costs, project costs or capital costs can be considered

What are 'outcomes'?

Outcomes are the changes that occur as a direct result of your work. For example:

- We will help local people access employment opportunities by providing IT training, CV writing and job search.
- We will increase numbers of carers receiving respite care by improving access to day care facilities.
- We will improve the mental health of children and young people who have experienced severe bullying by providing an intensive counselling programme

Who is unable to apply?

- Individuals
- Statutory organisations
- Private companies that are for profit

What cannot be funded?

- Projects or activities that do not benefit local people in administrative Essex (excluding Southend and Thurrock)
- Activity that is considered a statutory responsibility

How to apply

Please use **the Foundation's application form**, which is available at:

www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk/grants/our-grantmaking/apply/

How are grant decisions made and when will I hear?

The deadline for complete applications to be submitted is 5pm on **Friday 18 January 2019**. ECF will assess all grant applications and present these to the Essex Fund panel on 5 March. This panel is chaired by the ECC Chairman and includes ECC Cabinet Members with support from the corporate executive team.

ECF will then write to you with the outcome of your application within a couple of weeks. All applicants receiving a grant from the Essex Fund will be invited to an awards evening in Chelmsford on **Tuesday 9 April**.