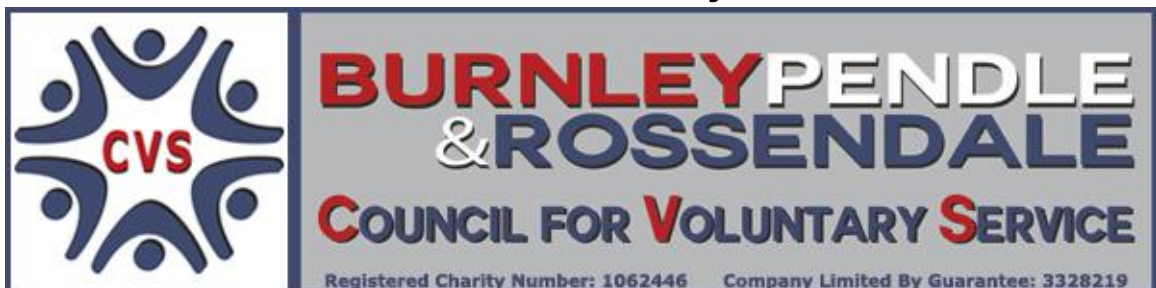




Large Grants Programme

Application Guidance 2026/27

Administered by



Introduction

This Support Pack has been compiled by Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) who have been appointed by Eric Wright Charitable Trust to deliver a community small grants programme. The programme is aimed at local organisations with an annual turnover of less than £50,000 within the VCF sector providing activity to address locality community cohesion, reduce social isolation and make a positive difference to the lives and wellbeing of people of all ages.

Aims

Projects should strongly support specific local needs in the following key areas:

- Increasing opportunities to participate in local community action and activity.
- Keeping people well and feeling part of their community.
- Increasing resilience and improving mental wellbeing, enabling individuals and families to cope well, overcome barriers to achieving their potential and increase their skills.
- Support people who are more vulnerable, such as those with long term conditions, who are frail and/or have complex needs.
- Promoting greater partnership working between the community and services, and other VCF organisations
- Reduce social isolation, with a positive impact on health and wellbeing.

And should help to tackle one of the following priorities:

- Young people's mental health and wellbeing, particularly in schools. PTFAs are well placed to offer additional support by applying for funding to provide extra measures to assist young people.
- Obesity in children.
- Financial support/debt management for families.
- Cooking on a budget/healthy meals for families.
- People with learning disabilities health and wellbeing. This group were disproportionately represented as a high-risk group during the pandemic.
- Loneliness/befriending/mental wellbeing in older people.

Who can apply to the Grant Programme?

The grants are being made available to community projects in Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale. There is a strong focus for small grassroots groups that are providing effective community cohesion programmes.

Groups will have to demonstrate they have successfully delivered a funded project previously.

How much money can groups apply for?

Longer-term community grants from £1,000 to £5,000 for constituted community groups who are proposing to deliver a project of 12 weeks or longer.

Turnover for your organisation should be less than £50,000. Organisations that have a turnover above £50,000 per annum will not be considered.

There will be no appeals or deferred applications. Applications will be either successful or unsuccessful. Unsuccessful applications will receive limited feedback. If unsuccessful you may apply again in further rounds (subject to available funds).

New ideas. This funding proactively encourages small groups to pilot their ideas with a view to gathering evidence of benefit to apply to larger funding streams aiding sustainability of the project for the future. As long as you are working with BPRCVS to develop your group you will be eligible to apply.

BPRCVS will help support groups through the application process if required.

All funds awarded must be spent by 29 January 2027

What can't be funded?

- Activities that promote political and religious messages.
- Activities that commence or equipment purchased prior to confirmation of grant funding approval.
- There is a maximum of 15% spend on capital equipment. Any capital equipment must be 100% related to the delivery of the project. This grant is for the delivery of community activities / events / services.
- There is a maximum of 5% contribution to core costs / management costs. This small grant programme is primarily for direct community delivery.

For further advice and guidance in completing an application contact our group support team at BPRCVS, groupsupport@bprcv.co.uk or telephone 01282 433740

Submitting your application.

For application forms and guidance please visit the [website](#).

You can access the application form via the link to our Microsoft Forms. If you have a Microsoft account you will be able to edit the form, if not the form will need to be completed in one sitting. Names submitted on the form will be accepted as electronic signatures. If you are unable to complete the electronic application, please contact the Group Support Team by email groupsupport@bprcv.co.uk to discuss.

Completing the form.

The online application form takes around 30 – 60 minutes to complete, depending on your experience. If you have a Microsoft account, you will be able to revisit the form before submitting. If you do not have a Microsoft account, the form will need to be completed in one sitting (you may choose to type up your project information in another document first so you can 'copy & paste' into the application form). To help you prepare, here is a list of information you will need to complete the form.

- Organisation/group details: including staff, volunteer, trustee numbers and basic details of your governance structure.
- Recent turnover.
- Names and positions of two people who will lead on this project on behalf of the organisation.
- Project details:
 - Where: eg. details of venues.
 - When: detail how many hours/weeks/months you plan to run the project.
 - Who: who is running the group, staff, volunteers? Who are the beneficiaries?
 - How: details of activities, programme of events.
 - What: detail what are you planning to actually do. What are the outputs/outcomes?
 - Why: details of any research, survey or consultation taken to demonstrate the need.
- Itemised projects costs/budget details. E.G. Venue hire, 12 sessions @ £? per session / Yoga instructor 6 sessions @ £? / Stationary @ £? / Volunteer expenses @ £?

Deadlines.

The deadline for first round applications is noon on 5th June 2026. We anticipate decisions notified by the beginning of July. There may be a second round depending on available funds, after which, applications will be considered on-going, on a 'when it's gone, it's gone' basis – don't miss out!

Procedure for successful applications:

- Written notification of approval is emailed.
- Applicant to read, understand and sign the acceptance of the terms and conditions.
- Applicant to return the original signed acceptance to the Group Support Team BPRCVS.
- On receipt of original signed acceptance, the payment will be processed, usually by a BACS transfer.

Unsuccessful applicants should contact groupsupport@bprcv.co.uk for feedback and support