

Councillor Local Community Fund

The purpose of the fund is to enable Councillors to respond to local needs by awarding one-off funding to voluntary, recreational and community groups who can make a difference in their locality.

Each Councillor has £300 to award for the benefit of their area and is responsible for determining how they wish to promote and use the budget. The fund will be advertised on the council's website and shared with voluntary and community sector forums. Awards can be made to any not for profit group that is supporting the local community, with amounts ranging from £25 to £300. Ward Councillors also have the option to join up with other Councillors up to a maximum award of £900 per group.

Applications can be made at any time from 1st June to 31st December but will be awarded on a first come first served basis for use by 31 March the following year. Applications are made direct to the ward Councillor who ensures that the application form is fully completed and all of the required information is included. The ward Councillor makes the funding decision and lets the applicant know of the outcome of their decision.

Payments are made by bank transfer to an account in the name of the group/Organisation on the application form. All awarded funding must be claimed and reimbursed within the current financial year. Unspent funds will not be carried forward into the next financial year.

The funding cannot be used for projects or activities that will only benefit an individual or an individual family or a private business, political organizations or projects or activities that seek to promote a faith or belief as their main purpose. A Councillor cannot fund a group or activity if they or a member of their household are a trustee of the Organisation applying for funding.

All approved funding allocated will be published at the end of the financial year. At the point of agreeing funding Councillors will be required to sign a declaration stating that as far as they are aware making the payment to the community groups would not result in fraudulent or illegal activity or any practices that would bring Lichfield District council into disrepute.