# The Bury Fund "LET'S" Stand Together Grants

**Grants of up to £5000 for Bury VCSE groups to help them make a difference in their local neighbourhood.**

## Who can apply?

Applicants must be constituted as a voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE) organisation. You must also:

- Be based in Bury OR have a proven strong track record of delivery in Bury
- Have an organisational Bank Account with 2 signatories who are not related to each other OR have a supporting organisation that can provide a holding account
- Be fully up to date with grant reporting to Bury VCFA
- Have the relevant safeguarding policies in place
- Be able to submit a fully completed application by **Sunday, 9th November 2025**

## About this funding

The Bury Community Safety Partnership recognises that one of Bury's greatest strengths is our local communities. This funding is aimed at supporting the Bury-based voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector to deliver grassroots activities and projects within their communities that support the community safety partnership strategy. Ultimately, we aim to make people more resilient and able to thrive, increase feelings of safety, and provide a united front to those seeking harm to others or to spread hatred that has no place in our borough.

The fund has four focused areas:

**Developing Community Cohesion**
- Work with different communities to understand their differences and similarities
- Invest in ways to bring communities together to improve community cohesion and deter crime
- Develop strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds
- Empower diverse communities feel more confident in reporting Hate Crime

**Strengthening Communities and Places**
- Reduce crime and antisocial behaviour in neighbourhoods
- Reduce road danger and make our transport system safer
- Make our streets and night-time economy safer
- Make public spaces and venues safer
- Tackle inequalities within services

**Keeping People Safe and Supporting Victims**

- Improve services to victims of sexual violence
- Protect vulnerable young people
- Protect vulnerable people from criminal exploitation
- Improve how police, criminal justice and community safety services work with mental health services
- Supporting victims of Hate Crime
- Improve services to victims

**Reducing Harm and Offending**

- Prevent more young people from becoming involved in crime
- Tackle organised crime
- Reduce high harm and repeat offending
- Rehabilitate people so they don't continue to commit crime
- Tackle drug and alcohol addiction and reduce deaths from their use

We anticipate that this fund will be oversubscribed, so we will prioritise projects exploring new approaches to support residents and meet the outcomes listed above. Or that are about expanding their support. Expanding may mean reaching more people, offering additional elements to your current offer, or trying to reach a new section of the community.

*Please note that subject to funding we are hoping to launch an additional funding round with larger grants to support partnership approaches focusing on domestic abuse and/or safety for women and girls. We anticipate further information to be available in November 2025.*

**What type of projects are you looking for?**
We welcome new, innovative, and creative approaches to community needs, so it is impossible to provide an exhaustive list, but below are examples of projects that are encouraged or have been previously funded.

- Interventions that will help people feel safer in their community/public spaces.
- Using creative arts such as drama, films, poetry to understand hate crime or running awareness sessions during Hate Crime Awareness Week to promote inclusivity, cohesion and encourage people to report hate crime.
- Buddying projects for people at risk or providing a safe travel project.
- Providing weekly activities for asylum seekers and refugees, encouraging lasting and beneficial friendships, supportive relationships and individual assistance.
- Running monthly workshops which provide a listening space for participants, with facilitated training in practical tools to help recognise hate crimes and domestic abuse and to build resilience to acquire the techniques to tackle these issues.

- Project to bring Jewish and non-Jewish schools together to foster understanding of different faiths through a series of visits during Hate Crime Awareness Week.
- To provide youth activities with a particular focus on sexual health, volunteer trainee youth workers and cyber-crime prevention
- Delivering community safety messages around anti-social behaviour, serious violence and child exploitation to help young people in Bury keep safe and help reduce harm and offending
- Diversionary activities such as sports, music or workshops to address specific crime or ASB hotspots
- Training for volunteers and staff to help them support the victims of crime.

## How much can you apply for?
Individual organisations can apply for up to £5000.

## How many organisations will be successful?
We have a funding pot of approximately £50,000, so we anticipate funding around ten projects. Last year, around 70% of applications were successful; however, for this round, we have a slightly smaller funding pot, so we anticipate this will drop to our current average of 30-50%.

## Is there anything I can't apply for?

There are a few things that can't be funded. These include –

- Funding for individuals. This would include individual grants/bursaries as well as personal equipment (excluding personal protective equipment needed for group activities)
- Activities that have already taken place
- Contributions to major appeals or general appeals
- Any activities promoting political or religious beliefs
- Project where the primary beneficiaries are animals
- The purchase of alcohol
- Any activities where there is a statutory duty to undertake them or where another source has funded them.
- Projects that take place as part of the school curriculum
- Large capital appeals, including building works, CCTV and minibuses
- Day trips and excursions, unless you can provide evidence of a significant impact on the lives of individuals (broader health and wellbeing).
- Fines, financial penalties, debts or organisational liabilities.

## What policies / other documentation are required?

All organisations will be expected to have the following policies in place at the time of application:
a) Public Liability Insurance
b) Risk assessments

…and if applicable to project activities:

c) Safeguarding Adults policy
d) Safeguarding Children policy

We expect all organisations to have relevant policies in place at the time of application. Please note that Public Liability Insurance costs can form an element of your bid. If you need advice or support on developing policies, see the 'What support is available to applicants?' section below.

**Please note:** If your project involves working with children or vulnerable adults you **must** submit a copy of the Safeguarding Policy with your application.

## What support is available to applicants?

If you have any questions or concerns about completing the application form, or you would like to discuss your application with a member of the team, please contact grants@buryvcfa.org.uk

Accessibility - We want our grants programme to be accessible to everyone. If any part of our application process is a barrier to applying, please contact the Grants Team at grants@buryvcfa.org.uk

## Broader support to organisations
The Bury VCFA Capacity Building Team provides practical support to VCSE organisations with developing policies, accessing volunteers, and accessing wider funding. For further information, visit our website at: www.buryvcfa.org.uk/funding-and-development .

You can also contact the team via - fundinganddevelopment@buryvcfa.org.uk / **0161 518 5550**

## How to apply
Organisations that wish to apply will need to complete the application form and submit it by email to grants@buryvcfa.org.uk

## When is the closing date for applications?
The fund will close to applications on **Sunday, 9th November 2025.**

## How will applications be assessed?
Upon receipt of applications, Bury VCFA will conduct several eligibility checks. An independent panel will score all eligible applications anonymously.

Each panel has a minimum of three members, comprising our partners, e.g., Bury Council (who cannot form more than 50% of the panel), community assessors who are representatives from organisations previously funded by Bury VCFA (who haven't applied this time), or individuals with lived experience. No Bury VCFA Staff are involved in the process—we chair, support and facilitate but do not have a vote.

The assessment panel will meet to agree on the awards and provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

## When will we hear the outcome?

All applicants will be informed by email within 8 weeks of the closing date. Unsuccessful applicants will be provided with a summary of feedback from the assessment panel.

## If successful, when will we receive the grant?

On receipt of an offer letter from Bury VCFA, organisations will be given the money within 28 working days of the award letter.

For organisations that have not received a grant from Bury VCFA before (or changed bank account since their last award) we will also require proof of bank details, for example a scan or photo of a bank statement or paying-in slip.  Payment will not be made until this is completed.

On receipt of these documents, Bury VCFA will then issue the grant by bank transfer. The full grant amount will be paid upfront.

## How long will we have to spend the grant?

All organisations receiving a grant will have up to 12 months to complete their project and spend the funding.

## What are the reporting requirements?

All projects will be required to submit an end-of-project report within one month of project completion that captures your self-defined outcomes and the number of local participants. Alongside this, we need you to provide at least one case study, including photos, quotes or videos.

You are not expected to provide receipts with your monitoring.  However, we reserve the right to complete a financial audit of your grant, which includes checking evidence of spend, which could include receipts.  We will be conducting interim monitoring visits on a number of projects.

While we hope the project is incredibly successful, we encourage groups to be innovative and know it involves taking risks. In the event of a project not delivering what was hoped, we still want to capture learning and support from your organisation. Therefore, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss any issues with your project.

## Any further questions?

Please contact the Bury VCFA Grants Team by phone **0161 518 5550 or email** grants@buryvcfa.org.uk

# Completing Application Form

## About your organisation

**Question 1)** – Please give the full name of your organisation – no abbreviations.

**Question 2)** – Please give the registered address of your organisation. If you don't have a registered address, please provide the address of your Chair.

**Question 3)** – Please give your organisation's turnover for the last full financial year.

**Question 4)** – Please tell us how your organisation is constituted. Examples are provided below:

- Unincorporated Association or Community Group
- Company Limited by Guarantee
- Registered Charity
- Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- Community Interest Company
- Community Benefit Society
- Cooperative Society
- Other (give details)

Please note:
- All organisations must be not-for-private-profit
- Companies Limited by Guarantee must have an 'asset lock' to prevent the transfer of assets to individuals
- Some charities will also be a company limited by guarantee

**Question 5)** – Please give your organisation number (i.e. registered with the Charity Commission or Companies House). Please note that unincorporated organisations / community groups will not have an organisation number.

## Contact Information

**Question 6)** – Please give the name of the lead contact for this application/project. They will be the primary point of contact for all matters relating to this application and the project if successful.

## Payment details

**Question 7)** – Please provide details of your organisation's bank account (account name, number and sort code). The name of the account should match your organisational name.

**Question 8)** – We expect all organisations to have relevant policies in place at the time of application. Please note that Public Liability Insurance costs can form an element of your bid. If you need advice or support on developing policies, please see the 'What support is available to applicants?' section above.

Please note that you **<u>must</u>** submit copies of the following documents along with your application if you work with children or vulnerable adults:
- Safeguarding Adults Policy (only if applicable to your project)
- Safeguarding Children Policy (only if applicable to your project)

**Question 9)** – Please give your project a memorable name. This helps us identify your project should your application be successful.

**Question 10)** – Please give a brief description of your project that sums up what you plan to do (100 words max). This may be used in our publicity to publicise the award.

**Question 11)** – Please give your proposed project start and finish dates. Realistically, the earliest that projects can commence is January 2026, with all funded project elements ending within 12 months from the award.

**Question 12)** –   Please provide the ONE main area you plan to deliver your project, focusing on where you are actively delivering. We know that groups will attract residents from outside of the neighbourhood, so judge it on where delivery is taking place / where the majority of your participants/service users are from.
The following covers the main areas.

| Areas | Wards |
|---|---|
| North Bury | Elton<br>North Manor<br>Ramsbottom<br>Tottington |
| East Bury | Bury East<br>Moorside<br>Redvales |
| Whitefield | Besses<br>Pilkington Park<br>Unsworth |
| Bury West / Radcliffe | Bury West<br>Radcliffe East<br>Radcliffe North and Ainsworth<br>Radcliffe West |
| Prestwich | Sedgley Park<br>St Marys<br>Holyrood |

**Question 13)** – Please tell us if this project is new, existing, or expanding and growing. By 'new,' we mean a project that has never happened before. By 'existing', we mean a project that is currently happening or has recently finished that would be continued with this grant. By 'expanding and growing,' we mean an existing project that would be scaled up with this grant in terms of the number of activities or residents involved. It may also mean a project reaching a new group of residents.

**Question 14)** – Please tick the priorities / focused areas you plan to cover with your project.  You can tick more than one, but please focus on the main one.

**Question 15)** - Looking at the priorities and focus areas you have ticked and the examples named in this guidance, how do your activities meet or achieve these?

**Question 16)** – What do you want to do? Please provide practical details about the activities or events you plan to deliver. Please describe:
- What activities or events will you deliver (number and duration)
- Who will be responsible for planning and delivering the project
- Timescales and key milestones
- Any partners you are working with
- What this grant will pay for

**Question 17)** One of the key reasons our funding exists is to support groups and organisations in responding to what matters to people in your local community. You know there is a need for this project, but this section asks how do you know? What evidence have you collected from the community? You might have gathered feedback from your members or people who use your services, had group discussions with your local community, or noticed a gap because of increasing demand for what you offer / the requests you have been getting.

**Question 18)** – How will you reach these people and encourage them to take part? There are a range of reasons that stop different groups of people from connecting with their local community – how will you overcome them? Do you have links with other organisations to help you reach your target audience, or will you use social media, word of mouth or another way to reach them? Or something else?

**Question 19)** – The most important part of the application! What will success look like for you and your group? What difference will this project make to people or the community you support? How will you measure/know? What can you share with us?

Measuring success can be done in lots of ways. The table below shows you some examples –

| Activity / Outcome | Measure | Evidence |
|---|---|---|
| A number of workshops that bring people together from different faiths. They have a better understanding of each other. | Tracking the knowledge before the event and after. | Artwork 1-1 Interviews / Quotes Events after this Attendance lists |
| An increased number of participants reported hate crimes and knowing what to do in this situation after running a session. | Tracking how often they reported crime before and after, and how confident they feel in the police. | Participant survey (beginning and end of your project) Quotes / Case Studies Interviews |

| A series of drama workshops that talks about the consequences of crime to young people. | An initial assessment of their understanding from their first session and their final assessment at the end.it | 1-1 Interviews / Quotes Events after this Attendance lists Feedback from the school they attend |
|---|---|---|

Ultimately, we need evidence of what you have done with the funding and the difference it has made for this grant. In the monitoring form, we would also like to know any key learnings from your group or organisation—what went well? What would you do differently in the future?

We may also select your project for a monitoring visit (in person or remotely) to assess its progress and determine whether you need any support.

As these grants come from public money, you are required to keep receipts for all project spending after your project is completed. We undertake a number of spot audits each year, and you may be asked to provide evidence of your spending. Your monitoring is important. It helps us demonstrate how these grants and investments make a real difference to groups and local residents. We also report back to funders and wider partners to secure investment for the future.

**Question 20)** – This is thinking about "how" you operate and the different ways you might deliver your project to provide wider benefits for the people, economy and environment of Bury.

There are many ways to deliver added social value. For example:
- You might be creating art using recycled materials.
- Your project may include volunteering opportunities.
- As a result of your project, people may receive training or develop new skills that improve their chances of employment
- You're buying from local businesses and organisations – Getting goods and services from local companies or VCSE organisations (ensuring the funding you receive is spent in Bury and Greater Manchester). This helps support the local economy.

**Question 21)** – Please give an overview of what the money will be used on by describing each item and breaking down your calculation so we can see how you've arrived at the cost for each item. See some examples below.

Example 1

**Acceptable:**      Elton Community Centre @ £25/hour x 2hr x 6 weeks = £300

**Not acceptable:**   Venue = £300


Example 2

**Acceptable:**      Volunteer Travel Expenses @ £4/person x 2 x 12 weeks = £96

**Not acceptable:**    Buses = £100

Example 3

**Acceptable:**    Staff Session Lead – 2hrs/wk @ £20ph (inc on-costs) x 10 weeks =£400

**Not acceptable:**    Staff support = £400

**Important: If successful, it will be your responsibility to ensure that all spending is evidenced and does not exceed the limits set out in this guidance.**

## Please attach

Please confirm you are attaching relevant safeguarding policies if applicable to project activities.

## Declaration

Please confirm that you have read the **Terms and Conditions** of this grant by giving the name and role of the lead applicant.