



### **Winchester City Council Go Greener Faster Grant Scheme**

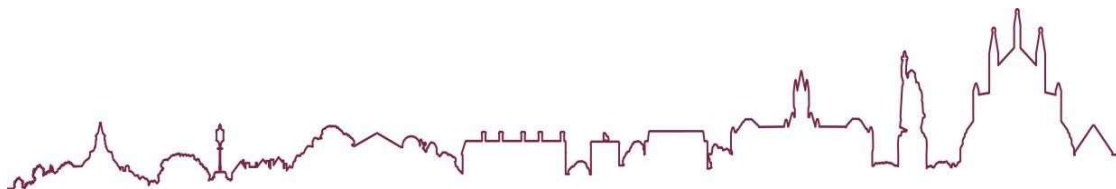
The Go Green Faster Grant Scheme aims to support not-for-profit organisations to take action in response to the climate emergency. Project funding can be used to help them, and the communities they support, become more sustainable and to reduce energy use and carbon emissions.

This will help deliver the council's target of Winchester district being carbon neutral by 2030. It supports the priorities and pathways set out in the council's Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (CNAP).

Grants of between £5,000 and £10,000 are available and organisations are required to secure a minimum of 25% of the total project cost in match funding from other sources.

**Outcomes and impacts of funded projects will need to demonstrate they can deliver on one or more of the five pathways set out in the Winchester District Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (Revised Sept 2023):**

<b>Carbon Neutrality Action Plan Pathways</b>	<b>Potential Outcomes &amp; Impacts</b>	<b>Potential Project Activity</b>
1. Reduce energy consumption	Retrofitting energy efficiencies (saving) measures	Insulation and glazing improvements Replacing a gas boiler with an air source heat pump Replacing lighting with LED alternatives Installing energy management systems and monitors
2. Reduce transport carbon emissions	Active travel to reduce the need to use the car. Increase use of low emission vehicles. Contribute to cleaner air.	Electric bike schemes including shared community e-bikes, bike racks and shelters and repair workshops. EV charging points. Local community transport clubs and car clubs.
3. Increase renewable energy generation / purchase	Increase energy supply resilience. Reduce energy costs	Provision of a small solar array on a community building. Solar PV and batteries
4. Carbon sequestration through nature-based solutions	Increase bio-diversity. Safeguard and enhance our district's natural habitats. Protect against extreme climate events.	Community tree planting schemes. Rewilding projects. Flood defences. Community vegetable garden and or orchard
5. Support creation of local carbon credits	Help the Winchester district be carbon neutral by 2030	Projects that work towards creating Carbon Credits or offsetting schemes within the Winchester district.





If you require any assistance with making an application, would like to discuss your project requirements, or if you are a new applicant please contact Alex Eburne by email to [climateemergency@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:climateemergency@winchester.gov.uk)

### **Key Dates**

Scheme opens –Thursday 1 August 2024

Deadline for applications – Monday 30 September 2024 at 5pm

All grant expenditure must be complete and final grant payments made by 28 February 2025.

### **Who can apply?**

Applicant organisations must be located and operate within Winchester district and its purposes must be for the benefit of Winchester district residents. Please see our [Ward Map](#) for more information.

This fund is only open to not-for-profit organisations. The following organisation types are eligible:

- Local not-for-profit groups
- Community organisations
- Registered charities
- Community Interest Companies limited by guarantee
- Parish Councils

Every group or organisation should have a constitution or documentation which includes a formal decision-making process and aims that are acceptable to Winchester City Council.

We are unable to fund:

- Individuals.
- Commercial organisations.
- Community Interest Companies limited by shares.
- Organisations whose main charitable objective is to raise funds for other charitable organisations.



### **How much can I apply for?**

Grant applications should be between **£5,000 and £10,000**.

### **What type of expenditure is eligible is?**

Grants can be used for:

- Capital and revenue.
- Scoping studies / design work to enable capital investment.
- Pilots – trying some new to test out concepts.
- Innovation – project where you want to do something new.
- Behaviour change campaigns – that lead to action.
- Organisational development and training in environmental and sustainable practices.
- Volunteering to enable environment schemes and projects to be delivered.

**The grant cannot be used to fund statutory activity or work that should be funded from another source / organisation.**

### Additional considerations

Liability and ongoing costs for any equipment purchased or asset improved must be met by the applicant organisation. The council will not take on any liability as a consequence of grants award.

Contributions to a large-scale project will only be considered if this grant would help secure other sources of funding / investment.

All necessary permissions (e.g. planning / building; landlord / owner), where appropriate, must be in place before an application will be considered.

Staffing costs will only be considered if these are additional time limited costs incurred as a direct result of delivering your project, for which evidence will need to be provided. We can't support salaries for existing staff usually covered by other income.

Priority will be given to organisations who have not previously received Winchester City Council grant funding towards environmental/sustainability projects.

Only one grant from this funding scheme will be given to an organisation in any one financial year.



Applicants should obtain three quotes for items of expenditure above £2,500.

Activities which have already received funding through this grant scheme will not be eligible for further funding for the same activity in subsequent years. Records are kept of all previous applications and awards.

### **Ineligible expenditure**

- Local or national appeals
- Student expeditions
- Play areas (eg. large equipment for public playgrounds)
- Activities which are of a political or religious nature, or organisations supporting political activism (we can fund religious organisations if their project benefits the wider community and doesn't include religious content).
- School or preschool projects unless there is wider community benefit
- Replacement or "like for like" equipment/items
- Projects of a statutory nature
- Retrospective funding of activities/projects
- General running costs of an organisation
- Fundraising events/activities for your organisation or others
- Activities/events that make a profit and have no financial need for our grant
- Repeat activities/projects
- Websites
- Projects or activities that have received funding in previous years via this scheme or from other council funds
- Events or activities that charge an entrance fee or a fee to take part (unless there is a provision to include those who might otherwise be excluded due to affordability)
- Professional fees and licenses including planning fees, permits and event licenses.
- VAT you can reclaim

If you're not sure, please contact us to find out what you can spend the grant on.

### **Subsidy control**

In accepting funding the organisation shall comply with all [Subsidy Control](#) rules and shall ensure that all requirements for all such rules shall be met.



## Assessment of Applications

This is a competitive fund and each application will be assessed against the grant eligibility and criteria, and scored using the Grant Scoring Matrix published on the [council's website](#).

### Application requirements

In order to be eligible for consideration, applicants must comply with all of the following criteria:

1. Organisations applying for funding must be able to support one or more of the five pathways set out in the Winchester District Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (Revised Sept 2023)
2. Organisations/groups applying for a grant must have a current bank account in the name of the organisation/group. Winchester City Council will not make grant payments to individuals, even if they are an official of the organisation.
3. Organisations working with children, young people or vulnerable adults must have a robust protection policy in place and ensure that all active staff and volunteers have undertaken a DBS check. If your organisation does not have the appropriate policies in place, support is available from Community First in the Winchester District [Help for groups - Community First \(cfirst.org.uk\)](https://www.cfirfirst.org.uk)
4. Organisations/groups must be able to demonstrate that they have an open access/equal opportunities approach towards membership, use of their facilities and activities. Groups are required to take reasonable steps to ensure their activities can be made available for as broad a range of people as possible and that positive measures are put in place to remove any barriers to access.
5. Organisations/groups must have the appropriate policies, licenses and insurance (e.g. public liability / professional indemnity / employer's liability insurance) in place before making an application.

## Grant Terms

All grant recipients are expected to enter into a grant agreement with Winchester City Council which includes the following terms:

1. Any spend by the organisation prior to formal notification from the council, will make the organisation/group ineligible for funding.
2. Winchester City Council reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in the application form.



3. Organisations/groups must not change the use of the grant award and must spend the grant on the purpose for which it was approved unless agreed otherwise in writing by the Funding and Development Officer at Winchester City Council.
4. All grant recipients will be required to publicise the support of Winchester City Council including the use of the appropriate council logo on publicity material. Guidance on this will be sent to successful applicants.
5. Payment of the grant by the council will be made in two parts, with up to 50% paid following formal notification of the grant and receipt of the signed Funding Agreement. The remaining grant will be paid on receipt of satisfactory evidence of expenditure pertaining to the overall project in line with the grant award by **28 February 2025 latest**. An end of grant report must also be submitted within the stipulated timeframe.
6. The deadline for submission of an end of grant report and evidence that the money was spent on the approved purpose is 28 February 2025. Failure by the Organisation to comply with this deadline may result in the final payment not being made, and/or the council may seek to reclaim funding paid.
7. If grant funding is used inappropriately, is not used, or the applicant fails to respect the conditions attached to the grant, the council may demand reimbursement of any funds already paid out or take other measures to recoup the funds.
8. The council's decisions with regards to funding are final and are awarded at its discretion. No appeals process is available.

### **What information must be provided and how do I apply?**

This is a competitive fund and each application will be assessed against the grant eligibility and criteria published here and on our website. Please ensure all sections of the application form are completed and the required supporting documents are uploaded at the time the application is submitted.

To apply please provide:

- A fully completed, signed and dated application form via the Flexigrant online application portal. **Follow this link to apply here now:** [Flexigrant](#)
- Supporting documentation as specified on the application form. Please ensure you provide all this information at the time of applying.

Last Updated: 3 July 2024