

Bromsgrove District Council Equality Small Grants 2022-23 Summary Report

Bromsgrove District Council Equality Small Grants Scheme, administrated by the Policy Team, is in its 8th year of providing grants. Following the last two years we were able to deliver a normal year for our grants.

Grants awarded since 2020 should now have been delivered and we are in the process of gathering feedback from those organisations.

The 2022-23 grant scheme was launched on 23 March 2022 and was open for 3 weeks till 13 April 2022 with projects to be delivered between 1 June 2022 to 31 March 2023. The limit for grants was £1000 per project application for smaller voluntary, charitable or community organisations/groups that operate in Bromsgrove District who would find it hard to meet the criteria of bigger grants. The maximum grant pot remained at £10,000.

Two members of Equality and Engagement Forum and BDC Equality and Engagement Advisor scored the applications using a revised scoring matrix. The independent scores were averaged, and the successful projects were approved.

Summary for BDC Equality Small Grants Scheme 2022-23

- A total of 17 grant applications qualified
- A total of **12** organisations/groups successfully received a grant
- A total of **7** were new organisations/groups applying for the first time
- A total budget of £10,000 was awarded.

Overall summary of the BDC Small Grant Scheme 2015/16 to 2022/23

- There have been **11** rounds of grants since 2015/16
- A total of **£69,795** has been awarded over the 10 rounds
- A total of **73** voluntary and community groups have received a grant since 2015/16
- Over the years projects have helped support older people, young people, men, women, people with a disability, members of the LGBT community and different race and religious groups

Appendix 1 - The table outlines the successful projects who have received a BDC Equality Small Grant in 2022-23

Appendix 1 - Successful Projects who have received a BDC Equality Small Grant 2022-23

Organisation	Project Title	Project Description	Grant Amount Awarded	Protected Characteristics
DIAL	Disability Advice and Information Pop Up Stall	The project aims to offer support to members of the community through the provision of a pop-up stall/advice drop in at a local market, twice a week. We will answer questions, provide information and support about disability benefits and any other disability related concern.	£720	Age and disability
Savage Explorers	Away day for inclusivity and teamwork	Savage ESU was set up for young people with additional needs to support them with their scouting journey. We are an inclusive organisation, so everyone is welcome. Currently we have 8 adult leaders 28 young people. During lockdown we had many new members join, and we would like to run a day at Bear Grylls Adventure, Birmingham to try and show the new ones that its ok if some of the other Explorers have additional needs, they can still achieve and work as part of a team.	£1,000	Age and disability
Alvechurch Communities Together	Trip Back in time to The Black Country Living Museum	To offer the opportunity for residents over 65s to attend an organised trip: Back in time to The Black Country Living Museum for the day After the past 2 years of being isolated at home and not having access to social opportunities or experiences to get out and about within society due to the pandemic. We would provide this opportunity to those in the local and surrounding areas of Alvechurch.	£866	Age and disability
The Bromsgrove Youth and Community Hub	.LGBTQ One to One Support	Over the past 12 months the staff have recognised an increase in concerns around the mental wellbeing of young people who are questioning both their sexuality and their gender identity, these concerns have been noted from conversations had with young people within both youth work and school settings. Following the pandemic there has also been an increase in recording from victim of LGBTQ hate crime, some of these have seen young people abused in the streets and been challenged to justify their gender. This funding will allow one of our youth workers who have an experience within this area to deliver targeted one to one support to identified young people who need support within this area.	£900	Age, gender reassignment, and sexual orientation

<p>Stoke Prior Table Tennis Club</p>	<p>Replacement of Table Tennis Table</p>	<p>We need to replace a table tennis table that is flimsy and often needs repairing. The table we need to buy is suitable for older people to easily store and put away after use. It is one that is suitable for clubs and school use.</p>	<p>£900</p>	<p>Age</p>
<p>Repair Cafe Bromsgrove</p>	<p>Equipment for Repair Cafe</p>	<p>Repair Cafe Bromsgrove is a new addition to a nationwide network of Repair Cafe's. The first Repair Cafe Bromsgrove was held on Saturday 5th March 2022. We held our second Repair Cafe on Saturday 2nd April. Repair cafes are free meeting places, and they are all about repairing things together. We have volunteer repairers who sit with the member of the public and explain how to repair a broken item and then show the member of the public and ask them to help if they would like to thus enable the member of the public to learn a new skill. Repairers work on clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, toys, laptops, and mobile phones.</p>	<p>£1000</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Hollywood Christian Life Centre</p>	<p>Foodbank</p>	<p>The project is ongoing - started at the start of the pandemic - to provide food and essential supplies to those in need in our community. Initially we saw high numbers of people coming with needs ranging from low income, problems with Universal Credit, and many self-employed people with no access to Government support during the lockdown. As the lockdown eased many people went back to work but we maintained a regular demand for food and essential supplies and the increased cost of living has already seen new people coming and in need of support. We provide a box of basics and a range of other things that can be added to that - toiletries, cleaning products etc. We have in the past provided additional support on a case-by-case basis to provide a fridge, cooker, carpets, children's beds etc We have provided support with filling out forms, seeking benefits etc During the lockdown donations were much higher than they are now, and we need some extra support to keep this going.</p>	<p>£1000</p>	<p>All</p>

Primrose Hospice	Volunteer, Befriending and Peer support outreach programme	<p>Receiving a terminal illness can be very isolating, even for those who have family support. Our volunteers and peer supporters are all people from our community who have either experienced bereavement and or can offer peer support. Our 400+ volunteers are all trained and enhanced DBS checked to be able to support the hospice, their patients, and the patients' families. Our outreach volunteers specifically offer a befriending service, lead peer groups and or be a reliable driver/friend. They will pick the patient up from home and deliver them safely door to door, this is a vital service to those who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those live in rural locations with no public transport • Those whose financial situations mean they can nor affords taxis or public transport • Those too frail to drive or access public transport • Those who are both socially and financially isolated and living in health poverty. 	£900	Age
Scouts' 1st Blackwell	Sensory Working Garden	Creating a working sensory garden for our young people. We are introducing the sensory side to it as we have several young people with learning difficulties, some of these are severe. This will allow them to join in. it will include a pond, lighting etc	£1000	Age and disability
Bromsgrove Pride	Support the delivery of Pride 2022	In October 2021 we held the first Bromsgrove Pride. In 2022, we want to make Bromsgrove Pride even more diverse. We have secured funding for a larger stage and want to improve on our entertainment offer.	£855	Sexual Orientation
Redditch and Bromsgrove Talking Newspaper	Distribution of Redditch and Bromsgrove Talking Newspaper	The preparation and distribution of a weekly talking newspaper by way of USB Sticks, smart speakers such as Alexia and the website	£500	Age and disability
Bluwave	BluWave Countryside Rides	A targeted initiative to get help our clients be less isolated as many just go to medical appointments. We will contact past clients to check on their well-being as part of the project,	£744	Age and disability