



## **Bromsgrove District Council Equality Small Grants 2023-24 Summary Report**

Bromsgrove District Council Equality Small Grants Scheme, administrated by the Policy Team, is in its 9<sup>th</sup> year of providing grants.

The 2023-24 grant scheme was launched on 7 March 2023 and was open for 3 weeks till 28 March 2023 with projects to be delivered between 1 June 2023 to 31 March 2024. 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.

Each application goes through the initial screening process, checking its eligibility. Applications that pass will be assessed against a set of criteria and given a score. The independent scores are averaged and ranked from highest to lowest score. Grants will be allocated until the maximum amount available has been reached.

### **Summary for BDC Equality Small Grants Scheme 2023-24**

- A total of **23** 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
- From the total budget of £10,000, the amount awarded was £9,659.

### **Overall summary of the BDC Small Grant Scheme 2015/16 to 2023/24**

- There have been **12** rounds of grants since 2015/16
- A total of **£79,454.46** has been awarded over the 12 rounds.
- A total of **85** 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 2023-24

**Appendix 1 - Successful Projects who have received a BDC Equality Small Grant 2023-24**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Protected Characteristics</b>
<b>2nd Alvechurch Guides</b>	Camping Equipment	Purchasing an 8-man tent with awning (Vango Castlewood Pole 800XL).	£659	Age (young people) and gender (female)
<b>Alvechurch Communities Together – The Lounge Community Café</b>	A Trip down Memory Lane	An opportunity for local seniors (over 65s) to attend an organised and dedicated trip. A trip down Memory Lane: Heritage Tour at Cadbury World, Bournville.	£901	Age (older people) and Disability
<b>Atlas Counselling and Support CIC</b>	Focussed groups to help young people with their mental health and wellbeing	Working with the Basement Project, this project aims to intervene at an early stage, to provide support and psychoeducation around two linked areas of mental health and to prevent the development of a vicious cycle where mental health affects daily life, which then further impacts on mental health. It aims to equip participants with knowledge and skills that they can use in the future, not just for the duration of the course.	£510	Age (young people) and Disability
<b>Bromsgrove Independent Design Centre</b>	Creative sewing sessions	We want to bring together small groups of the local community of Bromsgrove on a regular basis to join in sewing and creating with an on-going national project ( <a href="https://morsbags.com">https://morsbags.com</a> ). MorsBag upcycles used textiles, keeping them out of landfill and prolonging the use of wasted textiles from landfill to a useful life. The creative sewing sessions will take place weekly at the Bromsgrove Independent Design Centre studio space and at the Central Bromsgrove Library, ensuring that we can be fully inclusive.	£950	Open to all adults
<b>Clent Connect</b>	Promoting intergenerational, socialisation and celebrating	Clent Connect runs a Community Hub with café and shop with a vision to be a catalyst for building a more connected village community and a socially inclusive hub that provides a base for practical and social support services and activities. Its objectives are to: reduce isolation and	£710	Age and Disability

	the diversity of age in the Clent Community	loneliness, improve mental health and general wellbeing, create opportunities for more intergenerational socialising while providing an essential lifeline for our older residents. As part of this Clent Connect hopes to run a series of events throughout the year to connect the children of Clent Primary School with the more senior residents in the community and it is for this that the grant funding is required. These events will include a summer Tea party with musical entertainment, a war history project (linking with the curriculum), a local history project supported by the local History Society, Christmas carol singing at the local care homes and the setting up of regular 'knit and natter' sessions at school whereby the older generations can teach the children 'forgotten' art/craft activities whilst socializing with them and feeling connected to the children.		
<b>Rubery Sheldon John Connolly Bowling Club</b>	Bowls Buddies	To purchase a set of bowls buddies that would be able to accommodate small groups of 8 children or adults to take part. The bowls buddies would be used for organised events within the bowls club where we have recently held an open day for the local community. We would also use the kit to continue to promote the sport to local community groups such as retirement homes, local schools such as Waseley High School to run specifically organised events & youth clubs. The benefit of the kit is that it can be used by younger children and adults with disabilities and mental impairments this will be make us more inclusive to the wider community.	£449	Age and Disability
<b>Rubery Silver Swans</b>	Rubery Silver Swans events	The age profile of the population of Rubery is older than the national average so events that cater specifically for older adults are particularly welcomed and a great way of enabling people to meet new people; form friendships and instil a feeling of belonging to the wider community.	£1,000	Age and Disability
<b>Spring to Life CIC</b>	Spring to Life at St Chad's, Rubery	An extension of an existing mental health and well-being programme for people attending groups at St Chad's church, which 2 has seen good uptake that has increased week on week	£780	Disability

<b>Stoke Road Allotments</b>	Safe children's play area and rewilding project	We would like to create a children's allotment plot with their own shed , raised beds, rewilding and safe pond for the children to learn about wildlife, growing their own food and the circle of life in a safe and inclusive environment where they can learn from each other, from the older generation and different cultures who have plots on the site.	£700	Age and Disability
<b>The Hub Bromsgrove</b>	The Hub+	To create a peer led safe space with fun interactive activities for people no longer able to attend the under 18s LGBT+ Hub youth group.	£1,000	Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment and Sexual Orientation
<b>The Parochial Church Council</b>	Bromsgrove Listening Service	The Bromsgrove Listening Service is co-ordinated by the Anglican Churches in Bromsgrove, the project has a core group of volunteers from the churches who give their time to go into the schools and listen to young people who have low level mental health concerns. As many of the young people don't meet the threshold for most support services the listening service is a live line for them and help guide them through the challenges of adolescence. To enable there to be a more structured coordinator who can support with the expansion on the service	£1,000	Age
<b>Worcester, Birmingham &amp; Droitwich Canals Society</b>	To provide a free canal boat trips for a minimum of 10 groups / families	Our project is to provide canal boat trips, free of charge, for a minimum of 10 groups / families who may not otherwise be able to access our local inland waterways. We have already supported Age UK, Primrose Hospice, Ukraine visitors, scout groups from disadvantaged areas etc	£1,000	Open to all but emphasis on groups/families who unable to afford a trip