

Middlesbrough Council Carers Community Fund Criteria

This scheme is available to community-based groups who want to support informal carers in their locality in Middlesbrough.

Definition of a carer

'A **carer** is anyone who cares, **unpaid**, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.'

Background

The theme for Carers Week 2024 is 'Putting Carers on the Map' highlighting the invaluable contributions of carers across the UK and ensuring their voices are heard loud and clear. We would like to see some of this reflected in the support you are offering as a way raising awareness of unpaid carers in your local community.

Aim of your project

We want you to think about how we can continue to build on one of the main recommendations:

'Continue to ensure that there are creative ways of supporting carers, through technology, through local communities and with the continuation of key support.'

This funding is aimed at those grass root organisations and resident groups that have been coming up with creative ways of supporting carers as a way of helping them to continue to offer this support, as well as those helping people to understand that they are carers. We want the funding to provide some support and time out for those carers, to make their lives easier. We are particularly keen to hear from projects utilising technology to offer support.

Outcomes for your project should help with one or more of the following:

1. Reduce carers' social isolation and develop social networks
2. Help carers, families and communities to achieve and maintain wellbeing
3. Reach, connect and support disadvantaged carers
4. Build on available community assets and resources to support carers
5. Raise awareness of carers and caring

Successful projects will have high involvement and ownership by the carers within their community and be driven by them. Your application needs to reflect this.

Grants are not available for duties that are the statutory responsibility of the local authorities, and we cannot accept applications direct from carers. The application must be through a group that is providing support and can vouch for the need.

Middlesbrough Council will not support applications for any community grants from individuals/organisations who engage in activities which promote narratives inciting individuals into supporting terrorism; or are vocally or actively calling for the death of British armed forces or oppose fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of

different faiths and beliefs; and that risk drawing people into terrorism or are otherwise unlawful.

There are 2 programmes available:

Small grants

- Funding is available to local people working together or smaller Voluntary, Community & Faith organisations. Not aimed at larger organisations, these larger VCS can support residents and smaller resident groups to make applications.
- Funding is to make a difference to local areas and people, so can fund anything you feel can do that, from equipment to activity.
- Funding cannot be used to fund:
 - Trips outside of Middlesbrough
 - Money to keep things running **that** are already commissioned by Middlesbrough Council or that can use one of our other grant programmes
 - Food

You can apply for grants from £20 to £5,000.

Larger Grants

- Aimed at larger VCS organisations which have appropriate policies, procedures and group bank accounts. These will need submitting along with your application form, if you have not provided these to the grants team previously.
- Funding is to make a difference to local areas and people, so can fund anything you feel can do that, from equipment to activity.
- Funding cannot be used to fund:
 - Trips outside of Middlesbrough
 - Money to keep things running **that** are already commissioned by Middlesbrough Council or that can use one of our other grant programmes
 - Food

You can apply for grants from £5,000 to £8,000

- Projects working with vulnerable adults or children must have the appropriate safeguarding policy in place.
- All successful applicants will be required to ensure representation at the Carers Partnership meetings
- Projects may be involved in a big publicity campaign run by the Council communications team. Please note you must inform any members of your group/participants in publicity of the council's privacy notice, see below. Public tasks power to promote activity of interest to the community. Privacy notice given to participants, and parents/carers of children or people with learning disability.

- Privacy notice – <https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/mayor-council-and-councillors/about-council/privacy-notices/privacy-notice-community-grant>
- Marketing: Middlesbrough Council may contact you in the future about other grant programmes, training, events or other information of interest.
- Once your project is finished you can apply for more money to run a different project if funding is still available.
- You will have to show the council how you have spent the money and tell us what you have done.

Tips for competing your application.

1. Make sure to provide up to date contact details.
2. Identify which outcome/s your project will support.
3. Give a clear description of your project and what difference you hope it will make.
4. Make it clear how carers have been involved in the planning of this project.
5. If staffing costs are included be clear on what the role entails as well as how many hours will be spent on the project if this is in addition to their current role or if you plan to recruit. It is recommended you attach job description/s.
6. Make sure that you include all costs in your application and check sums add up correctly.
7. Ask someone who doesn't know your project to read your application before submitting.

If you need any help please either ring Sharon on 01642 729309 or email communitygrants@middlesbrough.gov.uk