

Climate Change Community Grants

Helping the community take local action against climate change



Application Guidance Notes

Introduction

Hart District Council runs a grant scheme aimed at local organisations who are looking to run and develop sustainable community projects that support our climate change action [plan](#) and will help us become carbon neutral by 2040. We're looking to fund community-led climate action by offering small, medium and large grants up to the value of £8,000.

We will accept applications to cover full project costs. Where the total cost of a project is greater than the grant value, we will fund the project up to the value of the grant. You will need to be able to secure the remaining funding from other sources.

Grants

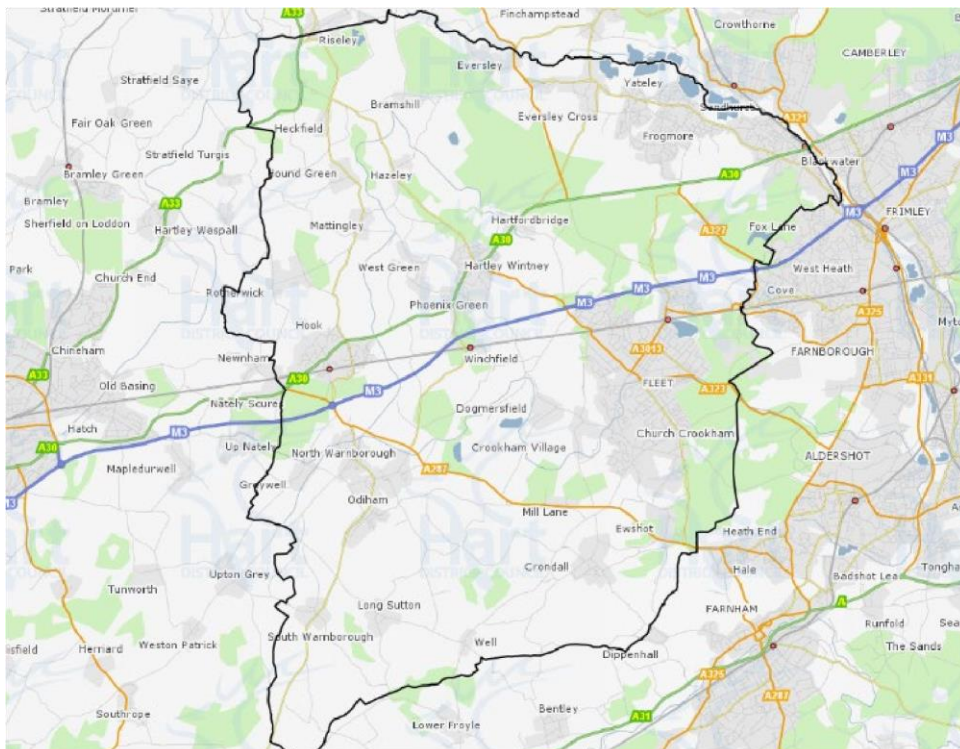
There are eight grants available:

- £1,000 – small grant x 2 available
- £5,000 – medium grant x 1 available
- £8,000 – large grant x 1 available

Grants cannot support:

- cost of trips or excursions
- topping up existing projects that are already funded

Eligibility



All projects must be within our boundary and meet our policy standards in relation to areas such as health and safety, safeguarding and sustainability.

Organisations which may apply include:

- charitable organisations
- clubs and societies with a constitution e.g. playgroups and sports clubs
- community interest companies
- company limited by guarantee that has tangible social objectives
- town and parish councils
- voluntary and community groups or residents' associations with a formal constitution
- schools

Applications will not be accepted from:

- for-profit companies that benefit the directors or shareholders of the company
- groups that have no formal constitution
- individuals

Scoring criteria

Once your application has met the eligibility requirements, it will be assessed against the following criteria:

| Criteria | Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Sustainability and climate change | 30 |
| Value for money | 30 |
| Community led climate action | 15 |
| Educational benefit | 15 |
| Method | 10 |

Sustainability and Climate Change How will your project outcomes have a positive impact on climate change? Will there be a direct or indirect carbon saving? Will the project use sustainable methods, e.g. sustainably certified materials, carbon neutral or carbon positive processes, neutral or positive impact on natural environment

Value for money Does your application include details on expenditure and are these realistic?

Community led climate action How will you engage with the local or wider community to inform planning and delivery of the project? Who will your project benefit?

Educational benefit How will your project improve educational awareness and reach as many people as possible?

Method Is your project plan clear and considered? Does it include detail on how each element of the project will be delivered and who will be responsible for it? How will you measure the success of the project, for example can you measure actual or

estimated carbon reduction, measure community engagement, produce an action plan?

Grants Process



Application process

Applications open in August, close in October, winners announced in January, projects completed by the end of the year.

Grant applications must detail the full project plan from start to finish and include how the project will be managed into the future. If you are not sure how to achieve this, clearly outline where there may be areas of support needed from our countryside team; we are happy to help support you if we can. It is preferable that projects are completed within the same calendar year. If this is not possible, you should explain why as part of your application, with your expected completion date. Extensions can be granted on request.

Please email your application to climatechange@hart.gov.uk, with the title Climate Change Community Grant Application. The deadline for submitting your application is **31st October 2024**.

Grants board

The grants board will meet in December to score applications against the criteria. The panel will include:

- > Sustainability and Climate Change Projects Officer
- > Climate Change Projects Officer
- > Climate Change Communications and Engagement Officer

Applications which are approved will be passed to

our Section 151 officer for final sign off. Feedback to successful and unsuccessful bidders will be provided. Unless stated otherwise, applications cannot be resubmitted until the next calendar year.

The finalists will go through to our Senior Leadership Team who will select the winning projects.

In exceptional or uncontrollable circumstances, we may withdraw grants or postpone the grant scheme. This will only happen in circumstances where an agreement has not yet been signed or a purchase order released. Winners will be required to sign a grant agreement.