



Cumbria COVID-19 Response Fund Guidance to applicants

The Cumbria COVID-19 Response Fund aims to support local activities that are helping communities affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. It will offer local charitable and community organisations funding to support emerging challenges faced within local communities as a result of the continuing threat of coronavirus.

Who will benefit from support from these organisations?

- Vulnerable people who are required to self-isolate
- Older people (over 70) who are isolated, vulnerable and/or self-isolating
- People with disabilities and/or underlying health difficulties
- People returning home from hospital, who require additional help
- Homeless people
- People experiencing poverty as a result of the pandemic including low income families
- Local communities requiring additional support

The Fund will only support activities directly relating to challenges emerging from the Coronavirus outbreak. Types of activity the Fund will prioritise:

- Providing groceries, household essentials and delivery of medicines to vulnerable people who are self-isolating
- Coordination of volunteers and charitable effort to support vulnerable people self-isolating
- Direct and immediate practical support for vulnerable groups
- Support to enable prompt and safe discharge from hospital
- Enabling and encouraging vulnerable people to use and access technology to keep them connected to the outside world
- Reaching out to isolated older and vulnerable people by telephone and social media to support positive mental health.
- Initiatives to reduce isolation and vulnerability
- Advice and guidance and emotional, mental health and bereavement support
- Enabling charitable groups to work remotely and adapting services

Running costs for organisations will be supported, including staff costs, volunteer expenses and transport costs. Small capital costs are also eligible, providing the capital items are directly linked to supporting the below groups.

Who can apply?

This Fund is for small voluntary and community groups with charitable aims. Applicants must be based and working in Cumbria.

Examples of types of groups that might access grant funds:

- Community emergency response groups, both formal and informal
- Foodbanks
- CAB, Law Centres and other advice organisations
- Family Advice Groups
- CVS and Volunteer centres
- Community transport groups
- Age UK and other organisations specifically supporting older people and people with disabilities
- Homeless support groups

Recently formed groups of local volunteers providing mutual aid in your community can also apply. You will need to:

- demonstrate that your work is endorsed by the Local Covid-19 Hub, another charitable or statutory organisation e.g. parish council.
- demonstrate that appropriate safeguarding has been considered, and appropriate policies are in place e.g. volunteer code of conduct.
- seek authorisation from another charitable organisation or statutory organisation, e.g. parish council, to hold funds on your behalf if you do not have a bank account. For further advice and guidance, please visit: <https://covidmutualaid.org> and <https://cumbriacvs.org.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-volunteering/>

We want to support community groups working together, particularly in smaller geographical communities. To ensure the voluntary effort is coordinated and joined up where possible, please contact your local Community Resilience Group:

- Allerdale.AreaSupport@cumbria.gov.uk
- Barrow.AreaSupport@cumbria.gov.uk
- Carlisle.AreaSupport@cumbria.gov.uk
- Copeland.AreaSupport@cumbria.gov.uk
- Eden.AreaSupport@cumbria.gov.uk
- SouthLakeland.AreaSupport@cumbria.gov.uk

How to apply

Apply online using this link: www.cumbriafoundation.org/fund/covid19-response-fund

We aim to process applications as quickly as possible. There are no deadline dates and the grants panel will meet on a regular basis.

For more information, please visit our FAQs: <https://www.cumbriafoundation.org/cumbria-covid-19-response-fund-faqs/>

Need help to apply?

Cumbria CVS will help organisations apply for funding in response to COVID-19. If you would like support with funding applications or with setting up a new group then please email cvsfunding@cumbriacvs.org.uk or call 01768 800350. For further advice and guidance, please visit: <https://cumbriacvs.org.uk/coronavirus/>

Support Cumbria

SupportCumbria.org.uk is a collaboration of agencies and communities across Cumbria to offer volunteering support at a community level. We recommend you register your group on the website: www.supportcumbria.org.uk