

Further information about the Community Housing Grants Scheme

Who can apply

Applications are welcomed from not for profit community organisations and groups who can demonstrate:

- Are based within the Canterbury District
- Are seeking a grant to support the delivery of affordable Homes via a community led development project within Canterbury district
- The local community must be consulted with the project
- A community organisation must play a long term role in ownership, management or stewardship of the homes
- Benefits to the local area and / or specified community must be clearly defined and legally protected in perpetuity
- The homes to be provided will be genuinely affordable and occupied by people unable to meet their housing needs in the private market.

The following types of organisation are not eligible to apply:

- Registered or for-profit/business organisations
- Individuals (for example, for personal sponsorship)
- District, County, Town or Parish Councillors
- Organisations in receipt of a Public Precept (i.e. Town and Parish Councils).

Grant amount

There is no minimum grant level. Organisations may only make one application for each level of funding.

Level One – up to £3k – Set up costs and project initiation

- Setting up the organisation, getting advice on legal structures
- Legal costs related to setting up the organisation
- Attending training and workshops
- Holding community consultation events
- Producing publicity materials
- Understanding the potential cost of a project, exploring alternatives and sources of funding.

Level Two – up to £10k – Project facilitation funding

- Costs involved in developing a project plan – business planning and financial appraisal
- Legal costs related to setting up the organisation (if not already done in the level one funding)
- Engaging consultants to advise on land acquisition, planning, design, etc
- Consultation events
- Site investigation
- Financial viability advice or assessments

Eligible project costs

The grant must be used to pay for clearly defined costs associated with projects which demonstrate a direct link to the delivery of a community led housing project. Examples include:

- One-off costs such as room hire, training and consultant services.
- Consumable costs (that will be used up) such as stationary, food and transport.

Applicants are expected to provide accurate costs/quotes for costs in the application form.

We reserve the right to request evidence to support the accuracy of the project costs outlined in your application to ensure the project meets the eligibility criteria.

Project costs not eligible

- Ongoing costs related to the maintenance of buildings or structures including repairs and improvements.
- Overhead costs such as staff time, staff costs or utility or rent for premises.
- One-off costs that allow you to purchase outright an item of equipment or building materials.