

RBWM Development & Funding Service



1. Who we are

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Our Community Enterprise Ltd, is a social enterprise company which is contracted by RBWM to provide Development and Funding Service in the Borough.

2. Our role

The overall aim of the Development & Funding Service is to maximise the amount of external funding secured for the benefit of the RBWM and its partners/stakeholders.

We do this by working:

- To provide a consistent and coordinated framework for managing external funding
- To communicate and promote external funding opportunities
- To promote and support an entrepreneurial approach to securing external funding/income for projects and activities that are aligned to RBWM's strategic priorities, objectives and outcomes
- To work collaboratively and in partnership with internal and external stakeholders

3. Ways we can help

- Communicating and promoting potential funding opportunities.
- Supporting the development of projects and programmes where external funding may be sought.
- Providing advice and guidance on funding applications, including reviewing draft bids and, where resources allow, writing applications.
- Acting as the lead contact with external funding organisations.

- Ensuring that the funders requirements are met in terms of:
 - The submission and assessment of applications.
 - The legal processes for funding agreements.
 - The draw down of funding and financial reporting.
 - Progress reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

4. External environment

- External funding can be sourced from a diverse range of government, non-departmental government, European and charitable bodies.
- The external funding environment is ever changing, with most funding organisations offering time limited funding opportunities and targeted programmes focused towards supporting specific types of projects, organisations and outputs or outcomes.
- Over the last three years the external funding environment has become increasingly competitive, and will continue to do so.
- Accordingly, the service is committed to help public and community bodies diversify their sources of income, by working to:
 - Increase the number of community led and partnership responses to non government funding opportunities
 - Increase the awareness and usage of innovative funding models (e.g. Community Shares, Social Investment Bonds and Local Philanthropy).
 - Provide independent support and advice to new social enterprise/service development activities, including those proposed by RBWM employees.
 - Increase community micro-generation of renewable energy

5. Maximising the Effectiveness of the Development & Funding Service

- To ensure that we target RBWM's strategic priorities, objectives and outcomes the Development and Funding service needs to be kept updated on the specific projects and activities the Council and key partners want to fundraise for.

Some Simple Funding Sources

Many of the thousands of charitable trusts and foundations will not fund Parish Councils, although it is always worth checking whether there are any locally that will. There are, however, two major funders who should be considered: the Big Lottery Fund, and the Landfill Communities Fund.



Awards for All

Awards for All is the simplest programme. It funds up to £10,000 for projects that can be completed within a year. Projects should meet one or more of the following outcomes:

- People have better chances in life – with better access to training and development to improve life skills.
- Stronger communities – with more active citizens working together to tackle issues within the community.
- Improved rural and urban environments – which communities are able to better access and enjoy.
- Healthier and more active people and communities.

Reaching Communities (Buildings)

This funds projects that improve or replace existing buildings where a wide range of community activities take place. Projects must respond to need, involve the people who will benefit from the project in planning and running the project and meet one or more of the outcomes above.

Reaching Communities buildings will only support buildings or sites based in the most deprived 'Lower Super Output Areas' (LSOAs) in England. Within the 50% of LSOA's categorised as rural (village/hamlets/isolated dwellings) Hurley and Horton LSOAs are eligible.

Village SOS (with the Plunkett Foundation and the BBC)

Will fund projects based in communities that have a population of 3,000 people or less. Village SOS will be looking to award grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 (including VAT) for truly enterprising and original community enterprises. This is not an ongoing programme, with applications expected by September 2012.

The Landfill Communities Fund

The Landfill Communities Fund is funded from landfill tax contributions, and several trusts award funding from this. In all cases, projects must be within 10 miles of a landfill site,

Biffa Award

Biffa Award's Small Grants Scheme is aimed at groups that need small amounts of funding to improve the quality of life in their community. Between £250 and £5,000 can be awarded for projects that are within 10 miles of a Biffa operation.

Biffa Award seeks to support **access and improvements to amenities** – e.g. a new kitchen or heating system for a community building, cycle paths, recreational facilities, playground equipment, park improvements, access improvements to nature reserves.

SITA Trust: Enhancing Communities Programme

Enhancing Communities is the name of SITA Trust's funding programme for community improvement projects. We support projects that make physical improvements to community leisure facilities and historic buildings / structures. The **Core Fund provides** grants of up to £60,000 to not-for-profit organisations whose community improvement project has an overall cost of no more than £250,000.

The Fast Track Fund provides grants of up to £20,000, available to not-for-profit organisations with a community improvement project that has an overall cost of no more than £40,000. Applicants will find out whether their application has been successful within 60 days of the application deadline.

Veolia Environmental Trust

The Veolia Environmental Trust awards grants to projects that have a community or environmental benefit and are within five miles of Veolia Environmental Services (UK) plc facilities. Public amenities are the most common type of project supported. We can consider capital costs that provide, maintain or improve amenities that are open to any member of the general public. The average award is between £20,000 and £40,000, with a maximum of £100,000.

Lafarge Aggregates Landfill Communities Fund

Local groups can apply for funding for a wide range of community and environmental projects within 7 miles of a Lafarge Aggregates Limited landfill, recycling or quarrying operation. This can include providing, maintaining or improving a public park or other public amenity; maintaining, repairing or restoring buildings which are of historical or architectural interest and where the expenditure will result in community benefit.