



Pilot Match Fund Criteria for VCSE Organisations in Portsmouth

1. Purpose of the Fund

The Pilot Match Fund aims to provide Local Authority match funding to Voluntary, Community, and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations in Portsmouth.

This initiative seeks to:

- Primarily sustain successful services currently running within the city.
- Strengthen funding bids by demonstrating commitment and financial backing from the Local Authority.
- Encourage a proactive and sustainable approach to fundraising within the sector.
- Foster long-term resilience and financial sustainability within the VCSE sector.

2. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for match funding, organisations must:

- Be a registered charity, social enterprise, or not-for-profit community group based in or delivering services within Portsmouth.
- Provide details of the bid they are preparing to an external grant provider.
- Provide details of the activity being delivered and the impact and outcomes of the activity.
- Demonstrate how the match funding will enhance the likelihood of a successful bid.
- Outline a sustainability plan indicating how future funding will be secured beyond the immediate bid.
- Have appropriate governance structures in place, including financial management policies and safeguarding measures where relevant.

3. Funding Priorities

Priority will be given to organisations that:

- Can demonstrate the service they deliver aligns with Portsmouth City Council's priorities and which address key social, environmental or economic challenges.



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- Can demonstrate there would be no alternative provision in the city if they were unable to continue to deliver their service.
- Show innovation in their approach to sustainability and financial independence.
- Support underrepresented or disadvantaged communities.
- Promote partnership working and collaboration within the VCSE sector.
- Have a track record of delivering impactful projects with measurable outcomes.
- Do not hold unrestricted reserves in excess of levels set by their trustees and reported in their accounts

4. Match Funding Conditions

- The fund will provide match funding up to 10% of the requested external grant, normally subject to a maximum cap per organisation per year of £10,000 although this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- A letter of support will be provided from the local authority as part of your bid evidence before submission.
- Funding will only be released upon confirmation of a successful application from the funder.
- Organisations must provide a report on the use of funds and the progress of their funded project.
- If the external grant application is unsuccessful, no funding will be released to the organisation.

5. Application and Assessment Process

- Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis or within designated funding rounds, subject to availability of funds.
- Organisations will only be eligible to apply for one match funding bid in any 12-month period.
- HIVE Portsmouth will review all applications and work with applicants to ensure all appropriate options have been considered and the required documentation and information is available.



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- A recommendation will be made to a panel comprising representatives from the local authorities who will make the final decision on the match funding based on these recommendations.
- Decisions will be based on alignment with fund objectives, potential impact, and financial viability.

6. Reporting and Evaluation

- Successful applicants must submit progress reports outlining expenditure, project milestones, and funding outcomes including all evaluation reports that sent to the grant funders to must be submitted to ensure that the original activities and outcomes of the bid are being delivered.
- Organisations are encouraged to share learning and best practice to support sector-wide sustainability efforts.
- A review process will be undertaken annually to assess the fund's impact and inform future funding priorities.