



Pilot Sustainability funding criteria for VCSE Organisations in Portsmouth

1. Purpose of the fund

This funding stream is designed to support Voluntary, Community, and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations in Portsmouth by providing financial assistance of up to £5,000 to sustain essential activities while awaiting the outcome of external funding bids which have approved to receive match funding if successful.

The funding aims to:

- Bridge short-term financial gaps and maintain critical services.
- Support organisations in implementing sustainability plans.
- Strengthen the resilience and financial stability of the VCSE sector.

2. Eligibility Criteria

To apply for sustainability funding, organisations must:

- Be a registered charity, social enterprise, or not-for-profit community group operating in Portsmouth.
- Provide evidence of a pending funding application to an external grant provider which has been approved to receive match funding.
- Provide projects that are meeting an identified need and not duplicating any other provision in the city.
- Demonstrate a clear need for short-term funding to sustain activity.
- Work closely with HIVE Portsmouth to develop and implement a sustainability plan in case the external bid is unsuccessful.
- Have appropriate governance and financial management policies in place.
- Do not hold unrestricted reserves in excess of levels set by their trustees and reported in their accounts

HIVE Portsmouth is a registered charity in England and Wales (1189067) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (12064936)



3. Sustainability Funding Conditions

- Maximum funding per organisation per year is normally £5,000 although this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- Funding is provided as a one-off grant pending the bid application outcome.
- Organisations must report on how the funds were used and the impact achieved.
- If the external bid is unsuccessful, the organisation must engage with HIVE Portsmouth to explore alternative funding solutions.

4. Application Process

- Applications can be submitted on a rolling basis.
- Applications must include:
 - Organisation details and governance structure.
 - Justification for the funding need and how it will sustain activity.
 - Details of the pending external bid, including timelines and expected outcomes.
 - A sustainability plan which may be developed in partnership with HIVE Portsmouth.
- Applications will be reviewed and decided solely by HIVE Portsmouth.

5. Assessment and Decision-Making

- HIVE Portsmouth will assess applications based on:
 - The urgency and necessity of sustaining the organisation's activities.
 - The likelihood of the external bid's success.
 - The feasibility and strength of the sustainability plan.

6. Reporting and Evaluation

- Successful applicants must provide a short report detailing how the funds were used and their impact.
- Organisations will be encouraged to participate in follow-up discussions with HIVE Portsmouth to support long-term sustainability.
- The fund's effectiveness will be reviewed periodically to ensure it meets sector needs.

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7. Contact and Support

For further information or to discuss an application, please contact:

sectorsupport@hiveportsmouth.org.uk

Guidance sessions and workshops will be available to support organisations in strengthening their funding strategies.