



Community Chest Grant

Tackling Social Isolation in North West Ipswich - Applications now open

Amount: A total funding pot of £5,000 is available for this theme/area. This may be awarded as a single grant or divided among multiple successful applicants.

You may apply for anything up to £5000.

Area: North West Ipswich (Castle Hill, Whitehouse and Whitton wards)

Issue or emerging need: Social isolation

Closing date: Thursday 9th July by 5pm.

Community Chest grants are designed to tackle an issue or address an emerging need within the community.

We are looking for a group or organisation to deliver a project or service which supports reducing social isolation in the North West of Ipswich. Applicants can apply for the grant to expand on an existing service, or to start a new project the area and we welcome partnership applications.

If you are considering starting a new project in the area, we ask you to consider the longer-term impact and potential sustainability beyond this grant wherever possible.

Ideally, applicants will consider a wide reach across the area, though we recognise the constraints of the grant and are open to applicants focussing on particular locations or community venues provided this is reasoned within the application.

Supporting information

- Whitton and Castle Hill have above-average rates of one-person households aged 66+ and retired persons, exceeding both Ipswich and England averages. This shows a large aging population who are potentially at risk for loneliness
- All three wards show significantly high percentages of households without access to private transport, limiting mobility and access to services

- Long-term sickness/disability rates in Whitton and Whitehouse are above Ipswich and national average

For further information or access to data, we recommend visiting the SODA website [Suffolk Observatory – Welcome to the Suffolk Observatory.](#)

Eligibility criteria

This fund is for existing local groups or organisations, who must be constituted and be able to meet the following due diligence requirements:

- A committee with at least three members
- A bank account in the group's name, with two signatories for all withdrawals (living at two different addresses)
- Provision of a recent bank statement (within 30 days) with visible transactions (confidential details may be redacted, for example if an individual has paid a donation into the account)
- A Safeguarding Policy in place if they are working with children and/ or vulnerable people
- Any other policies or insurance which are deemed necessary or related to the activity

Community Chest Grants cannot be used for:

- Paid staff costs which are unrelated to the project
- Activities which are the statutory duty of any organisation, including IBC
- Paying for any activities retrospectively
- Political activities for any party
- Activities with a religious focus, or which may exclude residents based on faith (this does not exclude activities which are affiliated with a religious group provided they are open to all)

How to apply

Applications are to be made using the following form and must be received by **5pm on the 9th of July 2026**.

[Community Chest Application form 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Next Steps

Applications will be reviewed at the next Community Grants Recommendation working group on the 23rd of July.

If your application is successful, we will request due diligence documents from you and make the required checks. Once complete, we will ask you to sign an agreement and make arrangements for payment.

We aim for the Community Chest Grant process to take no more than two- three months in total, inclusive of due diligence checks and processing payment.

If you require any further information or support, please contact communities@ipswich.gov.uk.