



**Bucks
Coronavirus
Stabilisation
Fund**



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OUR NEW FUND EXPANDS OUR CORONAVIRUS FUNDING OFFER TO HELP NOT-FOR-PROFITS RECOVER

After the success of our Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal, Heart of Bucks are moving into the 'stabilisation' phase of our funding.

Before UK lockdown began, we set up the Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal (BCRA) to fund groups providing services and support to the local community.

The focus of the BCRA was to fund emergency response activity, giving grants to charities, organisations and community groups to help alleviate some of the negative impact of COVID-19 on the local area. We were thrilled by the amount of support we received for this fund, with donations pouring in from generous local individuals and businesses.

With the easing of the lockdown, and with organisations taking the first steps to return to a 'new normal' way of working, we are now expanding our funding offer.

The Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund (BCSF) has been set up to enable not-for-profit organisations, hard hit by the impact of the pandemic, to start to stabilise their financial and operational position and move towards recovery. While we will be generating funds for the BCSF, we are also proud to be the local distribution partner for funding from a number of other funders including the National Emergencies Trust (NET), the Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS),

the National Lottery Community Fund, Barclays, Sport England, via local partners LEAP and Anglian Water. In the same way as the BCRA, the Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund will continue to make grants for immediate relief, particularly in local communities that experience a return to lockdown as a result of a spike in infections.

The Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund expands on the support offered by the BCRA, as grants can now also be awarded to organisations who have lost income as a result of the virus, who need funds to adapt to our 'new normal', who need financial assistance to prevent problems from emerging or getting worse and to support them for a longer period of time as they try to stabilise in the wake of lockdown.

If you would like to donate to the Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund to help not-for-profit organisations who do great work in the local community, please visit:

totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/stabilisation-fund

If you are a Buckinghamshire-based not-for-profit organisation interested in applying for funding from the Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund, please visit:

heartofbucks.org/coronavirus-response-funds/

£395,740 DISTRIBUTED IN EMERGENCY CORONAVIRUS FUNDING

Our emergency coronavirus funding, which closed on 19th July to make way for the Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund, distributed a total of £395,740 to Bucks-based organisations, charities, community groups and individuals needing support during the COVID-19 outbreak.



**Bucks
Coronavirus
Response
Appeal**



**NATIONAL
EMERGENCIES
TRUST**

From before the lockdown began through until 19th July, our Grants Team were busy distributing funds from our own Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal, as well as the National Emergencies Trust (NET) Coronavirus Appeal, to support groups and individuals in Buckinghamshire who were most affected and vulnerable at this time of crisis.

The NET, working closely with the UK Community Foundation (UKCF) network, established a national fundraising appeal in March 2020 for the charitable relief for the vulnerable across the country.

As a member organisation of UKCF, Heart of Bucks has been the local distribution partner in Buckinghamshire for funds allocated to the county from this appeal.

The funding has supported individuals struggling to make essential household payments, living through a short term crisis or experiencing hardship, as well as helping over 100 local groups with funding for projects tackling the impact of the virus in the local area. Among the many recipients were Aylesbury Foodbank to enable them to offer more help to disadvantaged people and families, Wycombe Mind and Buckinghamshire Mind to help them extend their service to offer online mental health support, and Pace, a charity which supports children with disabilities, so they could provide remote education and therapy to vulnerable children.

We are continuing to share the impact our emergency funding has had on local groups. To read our Coronavirus Funding Impact Stories, visit:

heartofbucks.org/category/coronavirus-funding-impact-stories/

OUR BIGGEST RESEARCH REPORT IN 20 YEARS IS LAUNCHED

We have launched Buckinghamshire Uncovered, our most detailed study of the county in our twenty years as the Community Foundation for Buckinghamshire.

Buckinghamshire is perceived positively and it's not difficult to see why. Over a quarter of the county is within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there are low levels of unemployment and education attainment is high. However, when we dig a little deeper, we discover families living in poverty, problems with obesity and mental health and a high risk of isolation and loneliness amongst the growing elderly population.

Here at Heart of Bucks we have collected local and national data on Buckinghamshire in order to make comparisons within the county. In addition to informing us and our supporters of the needs locally, we also hope our findings will help other local organisations make Buckinghamshire a better place to live, work and take part in leisure activities.

“It is a time of great change for Buckinghamshire”,

shares Henry Allmand, our CEO. “A new unitary authority gives hope to an even more distinct identity for our county. We are encouraged by the formation of new Community Boards that will establish truly local links between the authority and the community, and we hope that this independent analysis of Buckinghamshire will be as helpful to our partners in local government, as the charities and communities they represent.

Looking to the future, Heart of Bucks will strive to continue to provide detailed research and analysis that our whole community can access.”

Read the full report and our 15-page graphic report at:

heartofbucks.org/research

The image shows a white book titled 'Buckinghamshire Uncovered 2020 REPORT' and a tablet displaying the same report. The book cover features a purple heart icon and the text 'Highlighting the needs of our community that are being met and where help is needed most.' The tablet screen shows a similar graphic report with icons for a heart, a person, and a house.

IMPACT STORY

THE FREMANTLE TRUST



Sue Faulkner, Community and Lifestyle Manager, and Michael Goddrige, Finance Controller, take an inventory of the new tablets and Chromecasts. Michael arranged a discount on the technology so the team could buy more for residents than originally applied for.

Project: Purchasing tablets and Chromecasts so elderly residents can connect with family and take part in interactive activities during the lockdown

Grant: £4,940

Fund: NET Coronavirus Appeal

Lockdown had its challenges for all of us. Not being able to see loved ones and have a much-needed hug was difficult, with many of us relying on video calls to connect.

For the residents at The Fremantle Trust's care homes, it was no different. Only, without the technology and the know-how to use it, elderly and disabled residents have been feeling the loss of contact more than some.

With a £4,940 grant from the NET Coronavirus Appeal, The Fremantle Trust were able to bridge this gap and connect their residents to their loved ones. They purchased a total of 41 tablets and 41 Google Chromecasts to keep residents in contact with their families through video calls, with team members on hand to teach residents how to use Skype and messaging apps so that they could send pictures and messages.

The new technology also brought residents together in interactive activities. With the Chromecasts enabling residents to connect their own devices to the main TV, they were able to watch their personalised YouTube playlists and even play games on a bigger, more accessible screen. Chair exercise videos and Zumba work outs were cast to the bigger TV screens,

bringing residents a temporary substitute for the usual fitness instructors who visit the homes.

"I can't begin to tell you what a difference the grant has made to our services", said Sue Faulkner, Community and Lifestyle Manager at The Fremantle Trust. "There have been many tears of joy.

"Birthdays have been shared, sing-alongs with family members, and so much more... Being able to keep families connected through this difficult time has touched so many of us – we couldn't have done it without Heart of Bucks acting so quickly on my application".

A quote from Sara Livadeas, Chief Executive of The Fremantle Trust:

"I found it very difficult when we took the decision to close our homes and services to visitors. Having the tools available to support people to stay in touch with their friends and relatives outside the homes has made all the difference to their wellbeing and given me peace of mind. Thank you."



CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Coronavirus Stabilisation Funds

With the easing of the lockdown, and with organisations taking the first steps to return to a "new normal" way of working, we are expanding our coronavirus funding offer to enable not-for-profit organisations, hard hit by the impact of the pandemic, to start to stabilise their financial and operational position and move towards recovery. Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

Application deadline: Ongoing



Recovery & Awareness Fund

Flood Recovery & Awareness Fund

Grants can be used to support capital, revenue and project costs and expenditure must relate to flood damage/prevention or awareness in the form of training or education. Grants of up to £5,000 can be applied for by Bucks voluntary and community groups that are charitable in purpose and town/parish councils.

EOI deadline: 26th August **Application deadline:** 16th September



Green Schools Fund

This fund is open to all primary and secondary schools in the Aylesbury Vale area, awarding grants to support environmental projects initiated by the school's students. Grants are expected to be up to £1,500, although larger grants may be considered where significant added value or matched funding is demonstrated in the application.

EOI deadline: 26th August **Application deadline:** 16th September



Green Community Fund

This fund is open to voluntary and community groups in the Aylesbury Vale area, awarding grants for projects designed to improve the environment and/or public spaces for the benefit of AVDC residents. Grants are expected to be up to £2,500. Larger grants may be considered where significant added value or matched funding is demonstrated in the application.

EOI deadline: 26th August **Application deadline:** 16th September

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Our funds aimed specifically at young people offer funding for projects that provide the opportunity to volunteer, fundraise and campaign, as well projects that hone personal skills, for example confidence-building workshops. These funds prioritise organisations working with young people from less affluent backgrounds to get involved in the local community.

Proudly supporting
youth social action



#iwill

#iwill is a UK-wide campaign and its fund looks to support campaigning, fundraising and volunteering activities that create opportunities for young people aged 10-20, or up to 25 years for people with a disability. The fund aims to develop the potential of young people and their capacity to significantly contribute to their community. Grants of up to £5,000 are available.

EOI deadline: 26th August **Application deadline:** 16th September



Youth Bank

Buckinghamshire Youth Bank primarily funds activities and projects that benefit vulnerable young people aged 12-19 years (and up to 25 years for young people with disabilities). The fund aims to give young people a voice within the community and young people from a wide range of backgrounds have an opportunity to be part of this panel, which offers grants of up to £3,000.

EOI deadline: 26th August **Application deadline:** 16th September

For more information on any of these funds and to apply, visit heartofbucks.org/grants/apply-for-a-grant

OUR CHAIRMAN IS APPOINTED AS HER MAJESTY'S LORD LIEUTENANT OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

We are proud to announce that HM The Queen has appointed The Countess Howe DL, the Chairman of Heart of Bucks, as Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire.

The Countess Howe DL CSt.J will succeed Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher Bt KCVO when he steps down from the position in November 2020.

Elizabeth Howe is embedded in the community life of Buckinghamshire, being involved with a number of local charities and causes, including her work as Patron of Milton Keynes Islamic Art, Heritage and Culture (MKIAC), President of The Epilepsy Society and President of Amersham Band, amongst many others. Her professional background is in education which is reflected in her commitment to schools and young people.

She supports the county Honours and Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Committees, in addition to being a Commander (Sister) of the Order of St John and a member of the County Priory Group having



completed her term as President.

Elizabeth Howe was appointed as a Deputy Lieutenant in 1995 and as High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire for the year 2010/11.

We are delighted to share this news and extend our congratulations to our wonderful Chairman.

LONDON MARATHON CHARITABLE TRUST FUND AWARDS OVER £49,000 IN GRANTS TO BUCKS PROJECTS



Following the second of two very successful rounds of funding, the London Marathon Charitable Trust has awarded £49,556 in grants across three groups in Aylesbury Vale to help children, young people and adults be inspired to stay active and improve health and wellbeing.

This is the second and final year of the London Marathon Charitable Trust funds being delivered in the Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire region, which will have seen a total of £225,000

being allocated to local charities supporting physical fitness. The funds were allocated in partnership with Northamptonshire Community Foundation and The London Marathon Charitable Trust.

The beneficiaries in Aylesbury Vale were PACE, a children's charity that supports children and young people with motor disorders, Leap, a social enterprise improving the lives of residents across Bucks through physical activity and sport, and Active in the Community, a not-for-profit organisation that provides community activities with an emphasis on physical wellbeing.

All of the groups that benefitted from this funding do excellent work encouraging individuals from all groups and backgrounds to get active, including working with people with disabilities and those from economically deprived areas.

RAINBOW WREATHS RAISE MONEY FOR BUCKS CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE APPEAL



Local company Christmas Inc. used their festive supplies to create Rainbow Wreaths, raising money for our Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal.

Christmas Inc. began making Rainbow Wreaths for family and friends to send some hope and positivity during lockdown. They soon discovered, though, that there was a lot more interest in their wreaths than they had first counted on.

Having sold out of wreaths several times over the lockdown period, by the time Christmas Inc. sold their last wreath they had been sent to homes not only all over the county, but all over the UK and several

around the world, too!

Christmas Inc. raised a total of £1,130 for our appeal, enabling Heart of Bucks to provide vital funding to local groups helping the community during the coronavirus pandemic.

We awarded Christmas Inc. our Community Investor of the Month accolade in May 2020 for their generous support. Other recent recipients of the award include Buckinghamshire Building Society, ASM Auto Recycling Ltd and energy provider SGN, all of whom have contributed to our coronavirus funding and helped support the local community in Buckinghamshire at this time.

WE ARE RECRUITING FOR OUR NEXT CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

With The Countess Howe DL stepping down from her role as Chairman in November 2020 to take up her position as Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, we are recruiting for a new Chair of Trustees.

The Chair of Trustees holds the Board and Management Team to account for delivery of the charity's mission and vision, providing inclusive leadership to the Board of Trustees, ensuring that each trustee fulfils their duties and responsibilities for the effective governance of the charity. The Chair of Trustees acts as an ambassador and the

public face of Heart of Bucks in partnership with the Chief Executive.

Heart of Bucks is looking for an individual with enthusiasm for, and belief in, the value of the community foundation network to which we belong, with the ability to inspire others.

We will be posting information about this vacancy on our social media and website in the near future. If you would like more information, please contact Carolyn Clarke, Operations Manager, at carolyn@heartofbucks.org.