Heart of Bucks Community Fund Eligibility

To be eligible for funding from Heart of Bucks Community Fund, there are a number of conditions your organisation will need to meet.

Your organisation

You must be a constituted, non-for-profit organisation with an appropriate governing document which confirms your not-for-profit status and with a dissolution clause which outlines that any assets are transferred to another charitable organisation. Private for-profit companies and Community Interest Companies limited by Shares are not eligible for funding, unless explicitly stated in the programme details.

Trustees/Directors: You will need to have a minimum of three trustees or directors who are not connected to each other by personal relationship. Your governing document should not enable majority control by one person or two or more people with a personal connection.

Policies: As a minimum, you will need to have policies for health and safety, equality and diversity (or equivalent) and safeguarding for adults and/or children as appropriate to your work. These must be formally adopted by your organisation, reviewed regularly and be up to date with relevant legislation.

Your finances

Financial segregation: A financial system of control must be in place for all payments, including for online. The person making the payment must be different from the person who has approved the payment. You can find out more about this here: Charity Commission guidance

Accounts: you must be able to provide a copy of your organisation's latest accounts. If you have not yet had to produce accounts, you should submit your management accounts and/or profit and loss account instead. Your accounts will need to confirm that you are operating as a "going concern" and have no significant issues raised by auditors or equivalent.

If you are a Community Interest Company limited by Guarantee, you will be required to submit a CIC 36 form (if registered in the last 12 months) or a CIC 34 annual report (if registered for more than 12 months).

Banking: You must have a bank account in your organisation's name. we will ask you for a bank statement for this account which must show your organisation's name address, sort code and account number, and must be dated in the last three months.

Other

- If you require funding towards maintenance or improvement of a building or land you must either confirm that you own the land, or otherwise are able to provide evidence of a long lease with permission for you to undertake the proposed work.
- If you have previously received a grant from us, and were asked to provide an end of grant report, this must have been submitted, if due.
- We cannot fund organisations whose primary purpose is animal welfare.
- We cannot fund projects that include the promotion of a particular religion, proselytising, or a political party or position.

Round-specific eligibility

For some funding rounds there will be other eligibility criteria. This is to help us manage the demand for funding v funds available.

For March 2027 round the following additional eligibility criteria will apply:

- You must not have received funding from Heart of Bucks Community (formerly General) Fund since 1st March 2026, even if for a different project.
- Your annual turnover must be less than £500,000
- Your free reserves must be equivalent to unrestricted operating costs of 12 months or less