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**Great Doncaster LESStival Grant Scheme for engagement and education activities that aim to reduce material and fuel consumption throughout November 2024.**

 **Guidance Notes**

**About the Great Doncaster LESStival**

Team Doncaster has made a firm commitment to tackling climate change by implementing a borough-wide strategy aiming to achieve Net Zero Carbon emissions by 2040. Everyone has a part to play in this strategy, and the role of communities in enabling collective change is both recognised and supported.

The Great Doncaster LESStival coincides with the global climate negotiations, COP29, in Azerbaijan, and recognises the role of climate action in empowering local people to live happier and healthier lives. Organisations, VCF groups, schools, parish councils, businesses, venues, transport providers, and public sector colleagues are encouraged to participate in a month-long celebration of the skills and resources that exist within Doncaster aimed at helping households reduce their material and fuel consumption. To complement this borough-wide work, we are asking communities to consider how they may participate in this campaign, providing necessary skills and raising awareness throughout every area of Doncaster, and are pleased to be able to offer financial support to achieve this.

Working collaboratively, Climate Doncaster and Community Wealth Builder are here to support social enterprises, charities, and co-operatives across the Doncaster borough every step of the way – whether you’re growing your organisation or just getting started. That could include:

* One-to-one advice
* Training
* Workshops
* Links to networking opportunities
* And much more

**About the Great Doncaster LESStival Micro-Grant**

This grant is available to the following groups in Doncaster, whether constituted or not:

* Not-for profit voluntary or community organisations
* Registered charities
* Faith-based organisations
* Not-for profit companies, community interest companies or social enterprises

The grant can be used for any activity, event, or project that aims to support households to reduce their consumption, whether this be material or fuel. It could be a one-off event or a number of activities that take place throughout the month. The project/activity does not need to directly reduce consumption in its delivery, but you should be able to demonstrate how it supports consumption reduction in the future – for example a course giving people the opportunity to develop life skills around repair of items may result in the reduction of waste in the future.

Other examples may include:

* Story-telling sessions
* Dramatic/musical productions
* Upcycling arts and crafts sessions
* Repair workshops
* Community tool-sheds
* Bikeability sessions
* Independent travel training
* Community growing / seed sharing
* Waste reduction solutions for sporting/recreation events

The list is endless!

We are open to fund a variety of activities and costs as part of this grant and welcome creativity; we love to hear about all the different and unique activities that you provide to the community throughout the year and look forward to hearing how you would like to use this micro-grant. **Community** **activities must begin during November 2024, and funds must be spent by 28th February 2025.**

**How much is the grant?**

You can apply for a maximum of **£300**, and there is no minimum amount. Only one grant per organisation.

**Individuals and Un-constituted groups**

Monies from the fund will only be paid into a business bank account and cannot be paid directly to individuals or un-constituted groups. Where a business bank account does not exist, Climate Doncaster will purchase items on your behalf. You should send links to items required as part of your application.

Individuals or groups who are un-constituted and/or do not have a bank account are advised to contact your local Well Doncaster Officer, who will be able to support you to become a constituted group.

A member of the Community Wealth Builder Team can offer more specialised support, should you require it.

**We are unable to fund ideas that are:**

* Activities promoting religious beliefs.
* Political activities.
* Goods or services that have already been purchased or ordered.
* Activities outside of Doncaster’s boundaries.
* On-going organisational running costs.
* Trips and holidays.
* Costs that are already included within and funded by an existing grant or contract.
* School activities that are included within the curriculum (activities led by schools that engage the community will be eligible/considered).
* Endowments / loan repayments.
* Items that can only benefit an individual.
* Capital Costs – although we may cover smaller capital items that would not be used to gain profit from these, or future, activities.

**Evaluation and celebrating success**

We want to help raise the profile of the great work that is taking place throughout Doncaster’s communities. To help us do that, all successful applicants must be willing to **share a case study (this could be written, photos, short video etc) and a short questionnaire with City of Doncaster Council by Friday 28th February 2025.**

**When is the deadline to submit applications?**

**Applications must be received by 11.59pm on Thursday 31st October 2024** via the Great Doncaster LESSTival Application Form.

Please note that due to the time constraints in ensuring that you receive the funds prior to your event, **the deadline will not be extended**. Please submit all applications to sustainabilityteam@doncaster.gov.uk, considering the following timescales when planning delivery of your activities to ensure you have planned for enough time to receive your decision and funding/items.

**What happens when you submit your application?**

* You will receive an acknowledgement email which will have your unique reference number on it within 2 working days of submitting your application.
* You **may** be contacted by Climate Doncaster to discuss your application in more detail.
* We aim to assess all applications and provide decisions via email within 10 working days of the application being submitted.
* **Monies will be transferred to your bank account or items will be purchased within 5 working days of a positive decision.**
* By accepting receipt of the fund, you must be willing to engage with Climate Doncaster and return any paperwork required.
* Your local Well Doncaster Officer can provide legacy support; Climate Doncaster will connect you with them to access this.
* The grant must be used, and **a case study submitted by Friday 28th February 2025.**

**Unsuccessful applications**

The decision is final and there is no right of appeal. However, unsuccessful applicants will be referred to their local Well Doncaster Officer for support, and they may be offered further support by the Community Wealth Builder Team.

**Apply / How to find out more:**

We encourage you to apply via email. Applications should be clearly marked Climate Doncaster and emailed to **sustainabilityteam@doncaster.gov.uk** or posted to Climate Doncaster, Sustainability Unit, Floor 2, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU.

For more information and for support to develop your idea, please contact Climate Doncaster in the first instance, at **sustainabilityteam@doncaster.gov.uk**.

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