

Grant prospectus template: Innovation

To be used by all commissioners responsible for grant funding schemes to the VCS.

Please email completed forms to PSRPolicy@kent.gov.uk

Innovation Grant/strategic grant: Innovation

- payment for innovations/pilots.
- payment to help develop new organisations and approaches which will contribute to the Council's strategic outcomes.

KCC is administering the grants on behalf of the Kent's Disabled Children and Young Peoples Service.

Name of grant pot: Young People's Autistic Spectrum Condition Innovation Grants

For these grants the definition of disability is taken from:

Children & Families Act 2014 section 20.

This will include the following:

- Learning disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorder

What KCC outcomes does the grant support?

The grant will be awarded to support the KCC strategic outcome of:

Children and young people in Kent get the best start in life. To achieve this outcome the activity supported by this grant will:

- Ensure that disabled children and young people are supported to optimise their physical and emotional wellbeing whilst having fun, being safe; having opportunities to develop new skills to support independence, within their local community.
- Children and young people have better physical and mental health.
- Kent young people are confident and ambitious with choices and access to work, education and training opportunities.

What we expect successful projects to achieve:

Evidence and feedback from a range of engagement events and activities, has shown us that families and particularly young people often feel isolated due to their Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) needs. Young people can find it difficult to access universal youth activities such as youth centres or interest activities.

To address this Kent County Council are offering an innovation grant programme to inform the development of a coordinated sustainable support offer across the county that will be supportive of the work being undertaken to improve the Neurodevelopmental Pathway.

The focus of this grant programme is to support secondary school age young people through the development of a range of peer support/ mentoring/ buddying opportunities.

We are looking for imaginative and creative projects which aim to bridge the gap in services for young people with autism. Projects will help young people with ASC to feel connected to others in their community and to develop their personal/social skills.

A fundable project outline will ensure the following:

- How models of support will be developed and delivered
- How co-production with young people and their families will inform project design and delivery.
- A creative approach to projects considering the ever-changing world of COVID 19.
- A robust approach to Quality Assurance including the assessment and risk.
- A clear plan for evaluation, continuous improvement, and evidence of impact.

Evaluation and reporting:

- Successful applicants will be required to monitor the outcomes that they are expected to deliver.
- Projects will be required to give monthly verbal updates.
- Projects will be required to produce a short final report (of approx. two pages in a template designed by KCC).
- Project must produce at least one qualitative case study demonstrating the project's impact.

Funding available:

- Applicants can apply for funding between £500 and £10,000 per District.
- Applicants can submit a bid to deliver in at District or in multi-Districts or as a countywide service.
- Match funding is not required.

- A total fund of £120,000 total grant funding is available
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- Please advise whether the funding needed can be scaled up or down

Who can apply?

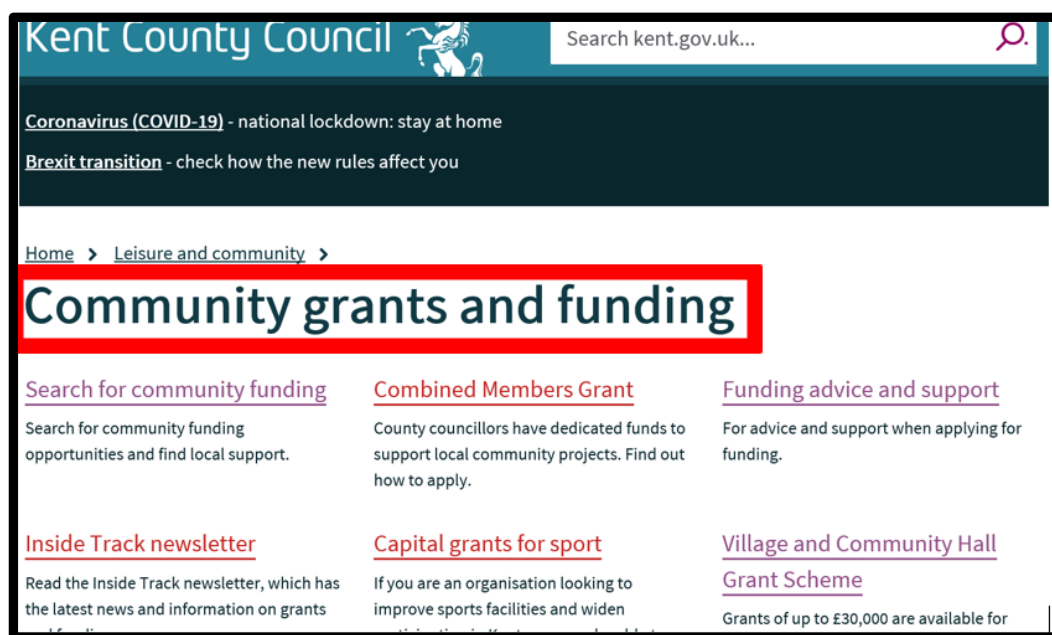
Any constituted organisation can apply however it is anticipated that most of the funding will be awarded to community groups, charities, parish councils and the voluntary sector.

Timescales:

The grants are offered for the financial period 1st April 2021 till 30th March 2022
Closing date 15th March 2021

How to apply:

All applications must be made via the online form which is available (along with more information) via the website: kent.gov.uk > **search community grants and funding > Young People's Autistic Spectrum Condition Innovation Grants**



Bid evaluation:

Bids will be considered by a small panel from Kent County Council and the Kent and Medway CCG. This panel will include representation from SEND, Children Social Work Teams, CCGs and where possible individuals with lived experience of ASC.

Bids will be evaluated using a scale of 1-5 on the following questions:

1. What is your project? (full project proposal)
2. Why is it needed?
3. How will it be delivered?
4. How can you demonstrate co-production with people who have lived experience of Autism.
5. How will you ensure continuity of service (with safeguarding considerations) if we remain or enter a new lockdown period?
6. How will you know you have achieved your objectives?

The panel will be assessing the impact of the project, how it will be delivered, how it will involve the people it is trying to support, whether it is sustainable.

KCC reserves the right to offer lower amounts than originally bid for to make best use of the available funds.

Applications close at noon on Monday 15th March 2021

FAQ's

Any questions regarding these grants need to be emailed to commissioningfordisabledchildren@kent.gov.uk

Answers to FAQ's will be circulated to providers registered on the circulation list for the KCC Disabled Children's & Young People's Provider Forum.