OXFORD CITY COUNCIL
GRANTS PROSPECTUS PROGRAMME
2011 - 2015
Introduction

Oxford City Council has traditionally funded voluntary and community groups, as part of building stronger and more inclusive communities in our city.

This prospectus sets out which activities Oxford City Council will fund in the financial years 2011-15, both through commissioning and through open bidding. Organisations, which have been commissioned to provide a service by the Council, should not apply for additional funding from the open bidding pot for the same project. They may, however, apply through open bidding for another separate project.

Oxford City Council wishes to prioritise funding for activities that contribute to the corporate priorities of the city council, as set out below.

- A vibrant and sustainable economy
- Meeting housing needs
- Strong and active communities
- Cleaner, greener Oxford

It particularly welcomes applications from projects that provide added value to existing or new provision, through joint commissioning or partnership working. The council does not wish to replace or duplicate other organisations’ responsibilities or funding.

For clarity, Oxford City Council will NOT fund:

- Party political promotion or activities
- Activities which promote a religious viewpoint
- Retrospective funding for project costs that have already occurred or commenced.
- Individuals
- Park hire charges for events.
- Projects where there is a commercial gain
- Capital items or tangible “things”, such as goods or equipment
- Projects that do not primarily benefit Oxford City residents (e.g. projects that are Oxfordshire county-wide and do not show specifically how they benefit residents of the city)
- Activities where a more appropriate funding source exists or which are functions that are the responsibility of other public agencies, for example:
  - After school clubs and extended school activities (unless it’s through the commissioning process).
  - Projects and activities taking place in schools that target children & young people attending the school where the project is to take place.
  - Childcare, unless it is part of a larger project
  - Play and activities targeting over 13s, unless they contribute to reducing antisocial behaviour and crime (or through the commissioning process)
  - Social care

You may wish to refer to Oxford City Council and other local plans and strategies in your application, to demonstrate how your project will fulfil their aims too. All these plans are available on the City Council website or in hard copy from the Grants team.
• Oxford City Council’s Corporate Plan
• Oxford’s Sustainable Community Strategy
• Homelessness Strategy
• Oxford City Children and Young People’s Plan
• Economic Development Strategy
• Leisure Strategy
• Arts Strategy
• Dance Strategy
• Oxfordshire Play Strategy
• Oxford Community Safety Strategy and Plan
• Oxford City Anti-social behaviour Strategy and Action Plan

Monitoring

For those groups awarded a grant you will be required to complete and return 2, 6 monthly monitoring forms, one in October and another at the end of April the following year. A monitoring visit will also be made by officer(s) to funded projects.

The grants panel will also use the monitoring information returned in deciding on recommendations for any future funding applications from the same group.

Monitoring information will be reported to Community & Partnership Scrutiny Committee and the City Executive Board on an annual basis.

Support in writing your application

Oxford City Council has been working with Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) to provide training in writing your application. For more information and to register your interest please contact OCVA on 01865 251946 or email info@ocva.org.uk

Funding Themes

1. A vibrant and sustainable economy

A strong local economy, supported by innovative and effective education and training that is accessible by all is at the heart of vibrant and sustainable communities. Oxford City Council has set out a regeneration framework to help shape this work and wishes to support vulnerable families, improving employability and reducing health inequalities in the City.

Funding for this theme is through open bidding:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Activities Supported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raising levels of training and skills attainment in the most deprived areas of the City.</td>
<td>Training and skills projects aimed at areas of deprivation, which are not provided by other agencies and/or is not replacing or duplicating other organisations responsibility or funding and/or which show a major investment from other agencies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Meeting Housing Need
Oxford City Council recognises the contribution that settled and appropriate accommodation for all our citizens can make to community safety. Our intention is to continue to fund a range of services including hostels, day care centres, floating support and employment and training opportunities.

In the main, these services would receive funding from a variety of funding streams, including Homelessness, Overcrowded & Worklessness Division (HOWD) and Supporting People, and wherever possible we will co-ordinate our spending with those agencies to generate value for money and enhance levels of service for our citizens.

Funding for this theme will be commissioned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority area</th>
<th>Activities supported</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To sustain the Government’s rough sleeping target at two-thirds below 1998 baseline figure</td>
<td>Provide hostel accommodation and supported housing for vulnerable young people.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide day centre provision ranging from emergency provision to meaningful occupation.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide tenancy sustainment services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide opportunities for training, education and employment for homeless people.</td>
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3. Strong and Active Communities
Oxford City Council wishes to use the grants funding process to support our aim of increasing social inclusion and community cohesion. We wish to prioritise funding for those projects which target the most disadvantaged communities in our city.

We will support the advice sector, recognising its value in supporting people in need from the most disadvantaged groups in the city, including through increasing the appropriate and responsible take up of council tax and housing benefits by those most in need.

Oxford City Council wishes a priority to be given to supporting the community and voluntary sector infrastructure. The infrastructure organisation will provide advice, guidance, and support to community and voluntary sector organisations in the city. With a particular focus to include building their capacity to strengthen the skills of groups in a way that they are better able to identify issues and help meet their needs.

Oxford is a city with vibrant cultural, arts, sports and leisure environment. Oxford City Council wishes to work in partnership with the community and voluntary sector to continue to support its international, national and local strengths. We aim to work in partnership with other agencies such as the Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) and the Healthy Living Partnership to encourage healthy lifestyles.

Oxford City Council wishes to support the delivery of the Oxford Community Safety Strategy and Plan. Key priorities within the strategy for the coming years are funding diversionary activities for young people, and tackling sexual and domestic violence, car crime, burglary, serious anti-social behaviour, hate crime and tackling extremism.
The Council is keen to ensure that the grants budget adds value to the funding of other agencies responsible for delivering the key objectives within the strategy.

Finally, we wish to support activities aimed at enhancing our natural and built environment

Funding for this theme is split into commissioning and open bidding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Activities Supported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raising levels of income in the most deprived areas</td>
<td>Commission Projects that give advice on increasing the uptake of welfare benefits and tax credits for those on low incomes Projects that reduce debt and improve money management for those on low incomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote a healthy voluntary and community sector.</td>
<td>An infrastructure project to provide advice, guidance, and support to community and voluntary sector organisations. Building their capacity to strengthen the skills of groups in a way that they are better able to identify issues and help meet their needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase active participation in cultural and recreational activities</td>
<td>Arts projects which are open to all and/or develop new opportunities for local people to participate, particularly in areas of deprivation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celebrate Oxfords twinning links</td>
<td>Projects celebrating the links with Oxfords twin cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respond to local concerns and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour</td>
<td>Projects which aim to reduce anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, including diversionary activities for young people Projects tackling hate crime and extremism Projects providing help and assistance to victims of crime, including survivors of sexual and domestic violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing play opportunities for children and young people with disabilities.</td>
<td>Inclusive play and leisure projects for children &amp; young people with disabilities which are open to all, particularly in areas of deprivation where they are not the primary responsibility of another statutory agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Projects, activities or events that aim to support or increase social inclusion and community cohesion
Improve health and social inclusion
Ensure healthy and sustainable lifestyles
Promote equality and community cohesion
Protect and enhance Oxford’s built and natural environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Priority</th>
<th>Activities Supported</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduce carbon dioxide emissions</td>
<td>Raising awareness and understanding of the impact of lifestyle on climate change.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve air quality</td>
<td>Encouraging energy conservation and local generation of energy</td>
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Open bidding
Projects aimed at areas of deprivation, which are not provided by other agencies and/or is not replacing or duplicating other organisations responsibility or funding and/or which show a major investment from other agencies.
Projects which support people living on low incomes and which are not provided by other agencies and/or is not replacing or duplicating other organisations responsibility or funding and/or which show major investment from other agencies.
Local cultural, recreational and sporting projects, particularly for disadvantaged communities or groups, where they are not the primary responsibility of another statutory agency and is not replacing or duplicating other organisations responsibility of funding.
Projects which protect and enhance Oxford’s built and natural environment.
Projects / events / activities that promote and address equality and community cohesion.

4. Cleaner, greener city

Oxford City Council welcomes projects that will help it in reducing the impact we all have on the environment, tackling climate change and improving energy efficiency.

The Council is keen to support community and voluntary groups that raise awareness and the understanding of the impact of lifestyle on climate change. We also wish to support projects that encourage energy conservations and local generation of energy.

Funding for this theme will be through open bidding.