



**Comic Relief, registered charity 326568 (England and Wales),
SC039730 (Scotland).**

Local Communities programme.

2013 to 2015 Criteria

An awards programme managed

by

Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation

The Old School, Southill Road, Cardington, MK44 3SX

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Registered charity number 1086516



There are still many communities in the UK that suffer from economic and social deprivation¹ and the current economic climate may make this situation worse.

For this reason, Comic Relief has decided that £4.5 million should be available to fund projects across the UK which are addressing these issues through the 'Local Communities' programme

Comic Relief is pleased to be working with UK Community Foundations and Community Foundations across the UK, to deliver this Local Communities programme.

Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation is one of the delivery partners.

The Local Communities programme will run for two years and during this time, awards of between £1,000 and £10,000 will be available. However, with the budget available to us, awards in excess of £5,000 are highly unlikely.

The programme aims to empower local people, enabling them to create lasting change in their communities. Projects should be run by people directly affected by the issues they are dealing with and priority will be given to small, locally based groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community.

Under the programme, organisations can apply for funding to:

- increase local services,
- build skills of local people,
- increase community cohesion

¹ Defined as poverty; lack of access to jobs; denial of social supports or peer networks; and exclusion from services.

- respond to local economic needs

Organisations which have received a Community Cash grant or any other grant from a Community Foundation **can** apply for a Local Communities grant. However organisations which hold a grant directly from Comic Relief, **can not** apply for a Local Communities award.

A Local Communities grant must be at least 30% of the total cost of the project.

Who can apply?

- Community Groups
- Resident Associations
- Community Centres
- Social Enterprises/Community Interest Companies/Community Interest Organisations
- Credit Unions

Types of activities that might be funded

- Community sport activities
- Furniture Projects
- Projects providing access to benefits advice
- Projects combating fuel poverty
- Community consultation exercises
- Community employment projects
- Food Co-ops
- Running costs; including salaries, core costs and project costs
- Committee and volunteer/staff training

Exclusions

Grants will not be awarded to:

- to individuals;
- to statutory organisations, including schools;
- to fund trips abroad;
- to fund buses, mini buses or other community transport schemes (not including transport costs forming part of a project);
- to fund building costs, including access adaptations to buildings;
- to organisations who are in receipt of a grant directly from Comic Relief.

When can you apply?

Deadline dates are as shown on our web site at

www.blcf.org.uk/grants

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