

Market Harbour Building Society Community Fund Eligibility Guidelines and Guidance Notes

Market Harbour Building Society is committed to making a positive difference in the communities they serve. We're thrilled to announce our partnership with the Leicestershire and Rutland Community Foundation to launch the Market Harbour Building Society Community Fund!

The fund aims to empower local initiatives, support grassroots projects, and foster a spirit of togetherness. Through the Community Fund, the Market Harbour Building Society aims to tackle the challenges faced by the community head-on and create lasting change where it matters most.

The main need the fund will support is:

Poverty and Disadvantage (which includes):

- Food and fuel poverty
- Housing/homelessness
- Debt relief and financial resilience
- Antisocial behaviour/crime/gangs
- Rural issues/transport
- Abuse/violence/exploitation
- Ex-offenders/at risk of offending

Funding Available

£50,000 is available this year. Ten grants, ranging from £2,000 to £5,000, will go to groups in the Market Harbour Building Society area during 2024.

You must use the grant within one year for things like equipment, staff costs, training, rent, or volunteer expenses.

Since this is a new fund, we don't have data on past success rates yet.

Eligibility Area

Your project must operate within the specific areas of Market Harbour, Kibworth, Corby, Kettering, Desborough, or Rothwell to be eligible.

Who Can Apply?

- Registered charities
- Community groups with a constitution
- Companies and organisations with charitable aims
- Social enterprises and some co-ops
- PTAs (it must be clear that the funded activity is not a statutory expectation)
- Faith-based organisations (activities must be non-religious and benefit the wider community)

To apply, your organisation will need to have

- At least three management members who are independent and unrelated, with no more than 50% control by any one person.

- Adherence to Charity Commission guidelines where relevant.
- At least two bank signatories.
- Local branches of national charities must show local activity and be able to ringfence funding awarded for use only for the purposes set out in the grant offer.

Who We Can't Fund

- Individuals or families (please contact Charity Link for support).
- Projects outside the fund area.
- Building work costs.
- Projects promoting single political/religious views.
- Activities that have started or been paid for already.
- Sole traders, statutory organisations, schools, colleges, local councils, and health institutions.
- Organisations demonstrating poor management of previous grants or poor financial health.

Documents Needed

- Your group's constitution or rules.
- A copy of a recent bank statement showing the account details but with sensitive info redacted.
- Recent annual accounts or a 12-month financial forecast for new groups.
- A completed application form.

Policies

You must have up-to-date policies on Safeguarding, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Employment/Volunteering, GDPR, and Health and Safety and be ready to make these available if requested.

Application Tips

Be clear and detailed about your project's need, the difference it will make, your budget, and how you plan to sustain the activity post-funding.

Process and Reporting

- All applications are independently assessed, and awards are decided upon by a panel of Market Harbour Building Society staff, trustees, and local experts.
- Decisions will be communicated via email.
- Successful applicants must sign an agreement and will receive funds in their account.
- You'll need to report on your progress, including how you spent the money and the project's impact, with photos and a case study.

Please contact a member of the Grants team if you need help at any stage of the application process. We are happy to help in any way we can.

Telephone: 0116 262 4804

Email: grants@llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk