

A new North Yorkshire grant opportunity to support residents to

**Stay Healthy, Independent & Connected**

## **Information for Applicants**

**Supporting adults in North Yorkshire to stay healthy and well, doing the things they enjoy, connected to others and living happily and safely in their home and community**

## **A bit of background**

North Yorkshire County Council is using a competitive grant funding approach to helping North Yorkshire residents stay healthy and well in their home and community as they encounter life changes, including ageing.

We are using the flexibility of grant funding– to enable locally rooted voluntary and community organisations to use their knowledge, skills and local connections to build community and individual resident resilience so that people can live the life they want, where they want supported by the resources available in their own community.

This grants approach has been successfully piloted in Craven and Selby areas over the last 18 months and we have seen the benefits. Learning from these pilots so far suggest that there are very positive outcomes for individuals; the organisations value the grants approach and the way that the individual organisations are working together collaboratively across their patch to benefit individuals.

## **Some reassurance**

North Yorkshire County Council is committed to providing the right support and help from statutory services to residents who need it despite the pressures on adult social care. As part of this funding approach, we expect the grant-funded organisation or organisations both to support people to contact North Yorkshire County Council or health services to ask for help when appropriate and to make safeguarding referrals when necessary.

## **The challenge**

The main purpose of this new grant opportunity is to help prevent, reduce or delay residents' need for statutory social care intervention.

Most of us, as we age want to stay in the home and the place that we know or close to our family and friends. We may want to continue to use familiar shops, meet up with or be close to family and friends and go to the “local” pub, café or Church. We might also want to maintain hobbies and interests, from watching the local football or cricket team to attending our local book group or painting class. Most of all we probably want to feel in control of our lives and have choices. However, all this may become more difficult to achieve as we grow older or if we experience health problems. Driving may not be possible, replacing a lightbulb or keeping up with the house or garden may be a physical challenge, the local pub might have closed, the familiar faces at the rugby club become less familiar and the route home from the bus stop might be – or feel - longer.

Some adults face particular challenges as a long-term health condition develops. Others may live with a disability.

In addition, many adults, well before experiencing any physical or mental decline, are likely to face difficult life experiences or challenges which they struggle to deal with. Examples might include relationship breakdown, bereavement or unemployment.

Whatever our age our resilience and ability to keep going, find, ask for or accept help, and either move through a temporary state or adjust and adapt to life with ongoing challenge will vary and the resources available to support us – including our own strengths and resources - will vary too.

We know that loneliness can affect us badly. Loneliness contributes to poor mental health and to physical illness like strokes and heart disease. Loneliness is a personal feeling – but social isolation – not having enough contact with others to meet our need for connection - can increase the risk of feeling lonely. Rurality can increase social isolation. You can't pop to the post office for a stamp or shop for a paper (both code for a chat) if they aren't there any more or meet a friend in town if there isn't a bus service. Even with places to go or things to do, from leisure centres to coffee mornings, some people face additional barriers like low income, low confidence or anxiety.

## **Our mission**

We want every adult in North Yorkshire to live in a place that offers somewhere or someone to turn to when facing these difficult times; to support them to find solutions to their challenges and get on with life. We believe that voluntary and community organisations rooted in local places can make a big contribution to creating these communities.

## **The grant opportunity**

North Yorkshire County Council is seeking, through a competitive grant process, not-for-profit organisations who share our mission. The funding is for a 3-year programme (1 April 2022 to 31 March 2026).

The purpose of the programme is to develop and deliver your models of community support that address the challenges outlined above. The programme will also allow us to learn together about what works well and what the important traits and elements are. This learning will be shared with commissioners and teams across both local social care and health systems as part of our ambitious service transformation activities.

We know from our experiences of working alongside communities - and the 23 Community Support Organisations - to both support people to self-isolate during the Covid-19 pandemic, and also to start to regain their confidence and independence as restrictions start to ease, that communities and local volunteering organisations are well-placed to both provide that help and to reach those people who need it most. We also know that it is important that the support is flexible and is able to utilise a whole range of local assets.

As with our experience during the pandemic and with the pilot areas of Craven and Selby, it is likely that the programme will look and operate differently in different places however, they will share a raft of common characteristics such as ensuring that local residents can access:

- information and advice - so that they can help themselves where possible and know where to ask for a helping hand if they can't. We want people to recognise that they

have assets themselves such as their knowledge, skills, ability to learn and to build on and develop these assets.

- knowledgeable and appropriate signposting to specialist advice or services if needed such as help with practical things like shopping or help to get online
- a listening ear and someone to talk to
- opportunities to connect, to meet others and,
- ways to continue to use their skills, talents and passions to contribute, for example through volunteering and feel valued and part of their communities.

This might involve you delivering some of the support directly but we are also keen to see you use and develop your local networks and work with other local community assets - such as local clubs, groups and charities, local community buildings and hobby groups and other local services like libraries.

We are taking a locality or place-based approach and dividing the grant into 25 localities, each centred on one of the county's 25 major settlements.

This reflects the County Council's successful approach to supporting communities during the Covid-19 pandemic where we created a countywide network of community support organisations to co-ordinate and / or deliver local support, using volunteers, ensuring residents can get help to shield or self-isolate if required to do so. Support provided was flexible, adaptable for changing circumstances and needs and was tailored to people's individual and unique circumstances. It included:

- food shopping, including support to do this online
- prescription collection
- accessing vaccinations
- caring for pets
- social contact via phone or online or doorstep welfare checks
- staying busy with book or craft activity drops

We believe that this approach can make a real contribution in helping us achieve our broader ambitions around the importance of investment in a range of preventative services and will help to achieve the outcomes:

- to prevent, reduce or delay people's need for statutory social care
- to build the resilience of both our communities and residents so that people can live the life they want, where they want, supported by the resources available in their own community
- to build communities, places and spaces which offer people somewhere or someone to turn to when facing difficult times, and to support them to find solutions to their challenges and get on with life.

## The Localities

The total amount of funding available in this current round is up to £450,000 per annum.

Grants of up to £15,000 pa are available per locality (with the exception of an urban weighting of up to £45,000 for Harrogate town and Scarborough town and £30,000 for Selby town)

We have divided the overall grant budget into twenty-five localities. These reflect the major settlement areas of North Yorkshire with their surrounding villages.

Organisations may submit applications for projects that can be delivered in more than one locality, however the purpose of this approach is to reflect and respond to the distinctive needs and assets in each locality. Therefore, although the core vision and principles for your proposal may be the same for multiple localities, the specific delivery objectives should be distinctive for each of the localities being applied for.

You may apply for more than one locality, however a separate application form should be completed for each bid. Where there are elements of your proposal that depend on being successful for all the localities you are applying for please make that clear. You can re-use the answers provided for section one and for questions 11 and 13 across all applications.

**Further details of the distribution of the grant and the localities are in the Appendix.**

## How would we like the grant to be used?

We want your organisation's thinking, knowledge, commitment and inspiration! This is a grant so that we can give you flexibility and choice. However, there are some things that we really like so read on to see if your organisation will be a good fit.

We love partnerships and inter-dependence; give and take; enabling not disabling. We want people supported to make their own decisions, manage their own lives; do what they want to do and to get the right support to stay where they are for as long as they want because they are happy enough and healthy enough to do so safely.

We want to see bids from organisations who know how communities work. We are very interested in your knowledge or understanding of the community you want to support. We want organisations who recognise and can involve a range of assets in the local community rather than trying to deliver everything themselves.

We want to see applications from organisations that can demonstrate their willingness to work collaboratively with a wide range of partner agencies (statutory and non-statutory) operating in their chosen locality and make the most of the assets in that locality.

The organisation(s) we would like to see apply will know - or know how to find out - the answers to questions like this:

- Which local tradespeople are trustworthy and reliable and will fix that cupboard door or keep that garden tidy at a fair price?

- Which village hall committee might run a monthly coffee morning if we use some of the grant money to cover their rent, coffee and biscuits for the first couple of sessions?
- What local organisation could help round up volunteers or do a bit of lift-share matchmaking to get people to a local Amateur Dramatics performance?
- Does the GP surgery know about community transport?
- Does the local church know how to point people to Citizens Advice?
- Could the pub or chippy do a cheap meal delivery?
- Do our older residents need a bit of help staying in touch with the cost of a loaf of bread?
- What volunteering opportunities are there locally? What could there be? How can we encourage people to get involved?

You will use the grant to ensure that adults in your area can:

- obtain information and advice on a range of different issues, depending on individual needs and requirements
- be signposted to more specialist and targeted services and support (for example North Yorkshire Living Well Service) as well as to other community-based groups, wellbeing and prevention support and universal services
- access social inclusion support and social activities
- access low level practical support on a short or long term basis – including paid for help. This may include help with shopping or gardening, or basic household tasks
- find and engage successfully with local volunteering opportunities. We would also like you to ensure that volunteers help you to provide this service.

We want you to help people to connect, particularly if social isolation is contributing to loneliness. This may involve:

- signposting them to a group or activity introducing them to it and ensuring that they have a way to get to it; and / or
- enabling some people to access online support and activities to meet their needs; or
- if there is a gap in provision you might use some grant to deliver a support and social activity or fund another community provider to do so.

Small grants from the council and others may also be available to support new activities or groups.

## Who is this for?

Essentially any adult (18+) in your grant funded area(s) who needs some additional support. However, we expect that most of those requiring support will be older people, people with disabilities or long-term health conditions.

Residents might approach you directly but some might be directed your way by other organisations including for example the Council's social care or Living Well teams or local GPs and social prescribers. You will know the best ways to let people in your community know how to get in touch with you. We don't expect you to be an emergency service but we do need you to be alert to urgent needs or safeguarding issues and raise them appropriately ASAP.

Some residents might approach you from outside your "boundary". If they live in one of the other localities, we'd ask you to try to connect them there but if they see your area as their fit we'd ask you to do your best to help.

## Can we charge for services?

We don't expect you to charge anyone for signposting, advice or guidance. We also anticipate that the activities and opportunities suggested to someone would include a majority of free or low cost options. However, community groups providing activities need to cover costs, and ideally make a small profit, to be sustainable and it is not unreasonable to expect people to make a contribution or pay to participate in an activity or become part of a membership group. If you signpost someone towards local tradespeople for support with household maintenance work the client must understand that they will be paying commercial rates. If finances appear to be a barrier to someone's ability to participate in activities or to managing their general living expenses we would ask you to direct them towards appropriate financial and other advice e.g. Citizens Advice, the Council's Income Maximisation team or the Living Well team.

## Grant Monitoring and Reporting

We will want to know whether the grant has helped make a difference to you as an organisation and to your community and that isn't always easy to prove. We don't want collecting data to be an overly time-consuming pain but to be something that helps you and us understand what difference the grant has made. Collecting stats will be part of the picture but we are just as interested in knowing about the positive impact what you do has on people. We can help you create useful and informative evaluation and impact questions if this is something you haven't done before.

We would like to encourage successful applicants to participate in 'Communities of Practice' approach across multiple localities. This has been valued in the Selby and Craven pilots, and helps reinforce shared learning about this different approach.

## How do we apply?

We have tried to make the application process as easy as possible. To help you we have produced additional guidance to accompany the application form. This sets out the type of information we are looking for that will help us assess and evaluate all the applications and award the grants.

The application guidance and application form is available by contacting Sally Anderson

Completed applications – along with any supplementary evidence - should be emailed to [sally.anderson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:sally.anderson@northyorks.gov.uk)

The closing date for applications is **midnight on Sunday 27 November 2022**.

### **Any questions?**

If you would like further information about the grants programme or would like to discuss the submission of an application, please contact:

**Sally Anderson**

**Strategic Service Development Manager – Prevention**

Email: [sally.anderson@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:sally.anderson@northyorks.gov.uk)

Tel: 01609 532438



## Stay Healthy, Independent and Connected Grants - 2023-2026

## Locality – grants allocation

No.	Locality	District	Locality Grant allocation (up to)
1	Skipton	Craven	£15,000
2	Grassington	Craven	£15,000
3	North Craven	Craven	£15,000
4	Stokesley and Great Ayton	Hambleton	£15,000
5	Northallerton & Bedale	Hambleton	£15,000
6	Thirsk	Hambleton	£15,000
7	Easingwold	Hambleton	£15,000
8	Harrogate Town	Harrogate	£45,000
9	Knaresborough	Harrogate	£15,000
10	Ripon	Harrogate	£15,000
11	Boroughbridge	Harrogate	£15,000
12	Nidderdale & Masham	Harrogate	£15,000
13	Upper Dales (Reeth & Hawes)	Richmondshire	£15,000
14	Leyburn	Richmondshire	£15,000
15	Richmond, Catterick and Colburn	Richmondshire	£15,000
16	Helmsley & Kirkbymoorside	Ryedale	£15,000
17	Pickering	Ryedale	£15,000
18	Malton & Norton	Ryedale	£15,000
19	Scarborough Town	Scarborough	£45,000
20	Whitby	Scarborough	£15,000
21	Filey	Scarborough	£15,000
22	Esk Valley and Coast	Scarborough	£15,000
23	Sherburn	Selby	£15,000
24	Tadcaster	Selby	£15,000
25	Selby Town and Rural	Selby	£30,000