

Aberdeenshire Council Community Food Fund

Aim of the Fund

To support local projects tackling food security in Aberdeenshire communities.

Who can apply?

- Constituted Community Groups
- Registered Charities
- Partnerships involving Community Organisations with a constituted group as lead partner

(The Fund is not available to individuals or private organisations operating as a business to make a profit)

How can my organisation apply?

- Apply to the relevant Area Manager via the Area Office email address in the application form.

How much can my organisation apply for?

The maximum project grant is **£2000**.

Can my organisation make more than one application?

- Yes, if the maximum amount has not been applied for
- Yes, if it is a different project
- Yes, if you have applied for the maximum amount, a further application may be considered by the relevant Area Manager, if there are exceptional circumstances and you have met the outcomes for your previous award.

Please note that cumulative maximum grant to a single organisation is £3000

Main conditions

- Your project should link to your local community planning priorities. You can find out more about this by speaking to the Community Planning Officer for your Area or checking the Our Aberdeenshire pages for [your Area](#).
- Any unused money must be returned (the Council will advise of the timescale and process)
- Receipts/Accounts (scanned in and emailed are acceptable) must be provided within 12 weeks of receipt of the grant or by 31 March at the latest.
- You must submit a report that includes progress on the difference your project has made on completion of the project or a maximum of six/ twelve months from the date your grant was awarded, whichever is sooner.

Examples of what will be supported -

The Community Food Fund is intended to support local projects that promote the availability of good quality, affordable food in communities. This could include projects such as:

- Community food growing,
- Cooking projects and community kitchens,
- Community Larders or Pantries,
- Community Shops (where food is an essential part of the shop model)

Please note that list is not exhaustive. You are strongly encouraged to speak to your Area Manager's Team before applying. Contacts can be found on the application form.

Eligible costs for your project might include:

Equipment – for example white goods, storage equipment or kitchen equipment

Training for volunteers – including accredited training in areas such as food hygiene or to support volunteer development and good mental health

Insurance

Membership fees for appropriate umbrella organisations

Limited volunteer expenses (maximum grant £200)

Seeds, plants and gardening equipment

Food elements of community-based provision or activities where the project works with those experiencing socio-economic barriers. *Please note applicants are not expected to 'means test' people using the project for accessing food but are expected to have a clear idea of who might benefit from their projects. Scottish Government information on socio-economic barriers is provided below.*

Again, this list is not exhaustive, and you are encouraged to discuss your project before applying.

What is meant by socio-economic barriers:

- Those who are financially at risk, including families whose children are eligible for Free School Meals, low income households and those who have recently lost employment.
- Those who are marginalised, may have complex needs and may be less engaged with public services, including people who are homeless, those with substance dependencies, those with existing mental health problems, victims of domestic abuse, refugees, Asylum Seekers, those with No Recourse to Public Funds, Gypsy / Traveller Communities and minority ethnic communities. Thought should also be given to access to transport

What will not be supported?

- Projects that do not benefit people in Aberdeenshire
- Rent and overheads for current lease/property arrangements (subject to specific discussion, in exceptional circumstances, rent and overheads for a new occupancy specifically for the Food project may be considered)
- Underwriting of current wages or salaries
- Volunteer expenses of more than £200.00
- Loss of income/loss of fundraising income due to impact of Covid-19 and related restrictions
- Landscaping projects other than for food growing
- General fundraising appeals or activities
- Animal, wildlife or conservation projects
- Projects which clearly duplicate existing provision or where there is no clear need or demand
- Projects which promote religion or politics (Note - applications from faith groups where there is clear benefit for the wider community irrespective of religious beliefs are acceptable)

Where else can my organisation seek funding?

Up to date information on funding streams can be found on the [Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership](#) website.

Support with finding funding can also be sought from [Rural Partnerships](#) and [Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action](#)

Useful Links for Community Food Projects:

[Fareshare](#)

[CFINE](#)

[Aberdeenshire North Food Bank](#)

[Aberdeenshire South Food Bank](#)

[Nourish Scotland](#)

[Scottish Government guidance on Food Growing sites during COVID-19](#)

[Social Farms & Gardens](#)

Food Standards Scotland [Food Safety](#) guidance