

Hertfordshire County Council

Winter Social Celebration event grant application 2025

Hertfordshire County Council 2025 Winter Celebration small Grant Programme

The 2025 Winter Celebration Grant Programme has been launched by Hertfordshire County Council's Community and People Wellbeing team, to support local organisations and groups within the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector, as well as parish and town councils in Hertfordshire.

The aim of the grant programme is to help individuals and families who are most in need. Groups of people we are looking to help are people who need support, such as older people, people living in poverty, people who are homeless, Carers, people with disabilities and anybody who would otherwise be at risk of significant difficulty with daily living during the winter months. The grant will cover the costs of hosting community events and social celebrations taking place between October 2025 and the end of February 2026, creating inclusive opportunities for people to come together this winter.

Grants of up to **£500 per organisation** are available and can be used to cover costs such as:

- Venue hire (community venues such as community centres, village halls, social clubs etc.)
- Food, refreshments and energy expenses
- Transport to and from community venues, for individuals who are isolated or living with a disability
- Volunteer expenses

These events/activities are intended to:

- Bring communities together
- Reduce loneliness and feelings of isolation
- Help alleviate food poverty
- Provide a warm, safe, and welcoming space for getting people together socially
- Share winter wellbeing messages and information about local services/support

Your event/celebration must demonstrate knowledge of your local community, and it's needs, and must provide direct support to the resilience, mental health and wellbeing of community members who have greater need of community support through the winter, this is so we can ensure a more targeted allocation of grant funding to where the support is most needed.

By supporting these events, the Community and People Wellbeing team hopes to create opportunities for people to connect, share experiences, and celebrate Hertfordshire's cultural diversity.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis from the date of this email. *Funding is limited and not guaranteed, so early submission is encouraged.*

Deadline for submissions: Thursday, 25th September 2025. Unfortunately, applications received after this date cannot be considered.

Please return completed applications to: tracy.webber@hertfordshire.gov.uk

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APPLICATION FORM

This small grant programme has been set up for local organisations and groups within the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise sector, as well as for parish and town councils in Hertfordshire, to contribute towards the cost of hosting community events and social celebrations from the beginning of October to the end of February 2026, providing celebration opportunities this winter for all. This funding could cover venue and food/energy costs for social events, including transport to and from venues for those who struggle with mobility, or who are isolated, with the events helping to bring people together and reduce loneliness whilst combatting food poverty at the same time.

The aim of these social events is to support residents with the cost of living by reaching out to communities across the county and reaching those in most need to have some food together and socialise in a safe, warm, welcoming environment.

You **can apply** if your organisation is a:

- Voluntary or community organisation
- Registered charity
- Constituted group or club
- Community interest company (CIC)
- Town and Parish Councils
- Faith organisation

We **cannot** accept applications from:

- Individuals
- Organisations that are aimed at generating profits
- Schools
- Activities taking place outside of Hertfordshire

You can spend the funding on:

- Social events (bringing people together)
- Energy bills (gas and electric)
- Premises/ venue /hire costs
- Volunteer celebrations and expenses
- Expenses for food and light refreshments (**held in a social/community setting**)
- Community events and activities that bring people together to tackle loneliness and help them to connect with others.

You cannot spend the funding on:

- Statutory activities
- Political or religious activities
- Work Functions
- Staffing
- Hampers

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Data Protection:

In completing this form, you understand that Hertfordshire County Council has a requirement to process your personal data.

Hertfordshire County Council will only ever process your personal data where it has a clear lawful basis for doing so in full compliance with data protection legislation – UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act (2018).

We will always ensure security and confidentiality of your personal data.

Name of group/organisation	
Applicant Name	
District / town	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Email	
What is the social event/celebration? Where will the event take place? Please provide details of the venue	
What does your organisation/group do? We really want to know more about your organisation/group and what it is that you do. This will help us to understand what type of group / organisation you are. This is your opportunity to provide information on the work your group/organisation currently carries out within Hertfordshire (Max 300 words)	

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<p>What will happen at the event/celebration?</p> <p>This is your opportunity to tell us more about the event</p> <p>Try to be as specific as you can about what it is you will do, how you will do it and when you will do it.</p> <p>(Max 300 words)</p>									
<p>Who and approximately how many people will benefit?</p> <p>We are interested in knowing who (not individual names) and approximately how many people your event/activity offer will benefit.</p> <p>please give us an estimate of the number of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> older residents of pensionable age families with children people living with disabilities. Minority groups 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr style="background-color: #008000; color: white;"> <th style="padding: 5px;">a) Households with Children</th><th style="padding: 5px;">b) Households with Pensioners</th><th style="padding: 5px;">c) Households with a Disabled Person</th><th style="padding: 5px;">d) Other Households</th></tr> <tr style="height: 30px;"> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	a) Households with Children	b) Households with Pensioners	c) Households with a Disabled Person	d) Other Households				
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<p>How will your event/activity help to reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation?</p> <p>(Max 200 words)</p>									
<p>What is the total cost of your event/activity?</p>									

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<p>This is the amount that your event/activity will cost in full. This grant funding can be used to cover 100% of your offer costs (up to the £500 limit), or just a portion of your offer costs.</p>	
<p>What will this funding cover?</p> <p>Please tick all the categories that this funding will cover, in respect to your community/warm space offer and this application.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Social event /celebration</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Premises costs/energy costs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Essential travel costs for those in need.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer expenses</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments/food in a social setting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Activities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cultural festivities to promote community cohesion</p>
<p>How much money are you requesting (between £50 and £500) and how will it be spent by the end of February 2026?</p> <p>Grants up to the value of £500 are available. Please outline here how much funding you are requesting from this Grant Scheme, and the breakdown of this total, stating the cost of each item/activity needed for your offer. Please also outline how you intend to spend the funding in full by the end of February 2026</p>	

Print Name:	
Position in organisation:	
Date:	

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Please return your application to tracy.webber@hertfordshire.gov.uk by Thursday 25th September 2025, however grant applications are reviewed up to this date on a rolling basis . Please be advised that grant funds are limited and we cannot guarantee that funds will still be available by the final deadline. Completing this application form does not guarantee the awarding of a grant. An offer letter will be sent to you if your application is approved.