The Sustainable Hertfordshire Fund
Terms and Conditions and Eligible Project Examples

1. <u>Terms and Conditions</u>

Only projects registered on Crowdfund UK are eligible for consideration of the Sustainable Hertfordshire grant/matchfund.

A minimum of 75% of the people benefiting from your project must live or work in Hertfordshire.

Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) seeks to distribute funding in an even-handed way across the area of Hertfordshire it administers and reserves the right not to make a funding pledge to a particular project.

Before applying you may want to discuss your eligibility for funding with Hertfordshire Community Foundation (HCF).

Monies pledged by the Sustainable Hertfordshire fund towards a project will only be released by HCC, if 100% of the fundraising target is met by the project within the original project deadline set and only once the HCC terms and conditions applying have been accepted in writing.

You/ your organisation confirms that:

a) If you are a voluntary organisation, you are authorised to apply for HCC grant/matchfund funding, and sign on behalf of the organisation making the application.
b) Any HCC funding received will not benefit any individual or for-private-profit business and will only be used for the purposes specified in the Application.
c) This HCC grant/matchfund funding will be used within a year of the funds being awarded (unless otherwise stated by HCF) and any unspent/uncommitted monies will be returned to Hertfordshire county council promptly without proof of purchase or commitment.
d) You will provide HCC with an evaluation of how the funding has benefitted the organisation/local community and acknowledge and understand that approval of any grant/matchfund funding relating to this application does not commit the county council to ongoing future funding.
e) This project serves communities within the HCC administrative area of Hertfordshire, with at least 75% of the people benefiting from the project living or working in that area and is therefore eligible for this grant/matchfund.

f) It is noted that any HCC grant/matchfund funded project will clearly acknowledge, in any related publicity, the Fund Scheme as an Hertfordshire County Council initiative.

g) It is noted that HCC will issue publicity about projects and activities that it supports, so may use this project within its publicity materials and as a promotional case study, and/or may wish the project to evaluate further the project and the crowdfunding experience.

h) Monies pledged will only be released if the full fundraising target is reached by the project, and only once the HCC terms and conditions (T&Cs) applying have been accepted in writing.

i) By making an application to the Sustainable Hertfordshire fund grant/matchfund funding you have read, understood, and accepted the terms and conditions outlined throughout this document.

Within 1 month of project completion, projects receiving the Sustainable Hertfordshire fund grant/matchfund will be required to complete a project evaluation form. This will include confirmation that T&Cs have been followed, evidence as to how funds have been spent e.g., invoices and receipts, photos of the project and a project summary including outcomes achieved.

Repayment of the fund may be required at the sole discretion of HCC if you supply false information, fail to spend the money in the allotted time period and in line with your appeal, you or your organisation becomes insolvent or there are any other breaches of the conditions or eligibility criteria.

HCC may request additional information and assurances, requiring additional terms and conditions to apply, and will require you to confirm in writing your acceptance of any additional terms and conditions before agreeing to provide HCC grant/matchfund funding. Your acceptance can be in the form of an email from the charity / organisation's contact email address provided on the application form.

HCC cannot be held liable for any adverse incidents relating to the use or receipt of this funding. It is the responsibility of the beneficiary organisation to assess any related risks and to put in place mitigative action

2. <u>Examples of projects we might fund</u>

We are looking to support projects that fall into one of these five key areas of our climate response. Each project is considered on its merit and impact on the local community and projects that fit the suggestions on this page will still be judged equally alongside others:

a) *Enable your community to reduce their carbon emissions through better energy choices*

We would like to offer funding to projects that are helping tackle climate change through reducing carbon production, removing carbon from the atmosphere or increasing community resilience.

For example, these might be projects to make community buildings more energy efficient through the installation of renewable or more efficient energy measures
e.g. solar panels, air-source heat pumps.

b) *Support your community to understand and tackle the effects of climate change*

We would like to support projects that encourage further education and awareness of climate change at school, household, and community level to increase understanding of climate change, as well as the methods we can use to tackle it.

For example, projects that: -

- promote local food production through establishing a community garden or allotment.
- raise awareness of climate change and sustainable products/living by organising and running a community event.
- provide education and awareness of the climate and ecological emergency through direct engagement with hard-to-reach groups and individuals.
- help communities and species adapt to the effects of climate change or help reduce organisational carbon footprints which could include feasibility studies, action plans and emissions studies.

c) *Improve the natural environment and protect wildlife in your community*

We want to fund projects or ideas that are helping tackle climate change by conserving and improving the environment for nature and wildlife.

This might include: -

Projects that create more space for nature within local communities e.g., the conversion or restoration of community greenspace to wildlife habitat, planting and management of community orchards, installation and management of community ponds or wildflower meadows/verges, native hedges, street trees or woodlands.

Schemes to reduce invasive species, litter, noise, or light pollution in the environment are also encouraged.

Support for groups or individuals who wish to enhance the visual character and appearance of publicly accessible spaces e.g., installing bee bricks, bug hotels, swift boxes, nest boxes etc to community centres or village hall grounds.

Projects that use the countryside as a Natural Health Service by increasing the use of Hertfordshire's countryside, and our footpath network for the benefit of all e.g., establishment of walking or countryside/heritage appreciation groups.

d) Reduce pollution and improve air quality

We encourage projects or ideas that are helping improve air quality through reducing carbon production especially those associated with the use of vehicles.

This might include: -

- Support for infrastructure, events, activities, training, or engagement which encourages people to take part in active travel/play including projects to promoting walking and cycling over car travel.
- Support for projects promoting the uptake of low emission vehicles and charging infrastructure which could include, for example, the installation of EV charging points in a village location or running an anti-idling campaign across a community.
- Support for projects that engage residents in local air quality issues.

e) Increase recycling and reduce waste in your community

We wish to fund projects or ideas that help tackle climate change by improving the use, and appropriate disposal, of materials.

This might include: -
- Projects that eliminate or reduce avoidable waste of all kinds, including plastic, and appropriate recycling.
- Projects that support an increased understanding and ultimate elimination of all edible food waste.
- Projects that promote resource efficiency and an appreciation of the waste hierarchy.
- Support for infrastructure, events, activities, training, or engagement which encourage people to gain a better understanding of, and greater connection with, local reuse/recycling services. For example, the running of a community "waste-aware" event or the setting up of a recycling programme to collect and recycle hard-to-recycle waste in a community location.