

Co-op Warm Space Funding Boost Criteria

Introduction

This £1m match fund has been launched by Co-op to support local organisations who are supporting their communities through rising costs this winter, by bringing people together into warm spaces.

To be eligible for match funding your organisation must:

- Be based and have a bank account based in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland
- Be a not-for-profit constituted organisation, including community groups, schools, registered charities and social enterprises
- Have a bank account in the name of the organisation
- Run a crowdfunding campaign this winter, to be delivered shortly after funds are received.
- Be raising funds for revenue costs only (capital costs such as building refurbishment are not eligible)

Your project must be a community organisation that welcomes people into a community space in your local area to provide support and needs urgent help this winter to:

- Maintain vital existing services in the face of rising energy costs
- Make the community space that you operate from more welcoming
- Increase opening times or extend services
- Spaces must be accessible and inclusive to be eligible for funding

Typical projects may include (but are not limited to):

- A community cafe that needs funding to continue offering their building as a warm space.
- A local village support group wanting to extend existing activities to support more people in their community.
- A community fridge, wanting to promote their services more widely to meet increasing need.
- A youth group whose energy costs have increased.

Match Funding criteria:

To receive match funding, the following conditions must all be met:

- For every donation made towards your project we'll match it up to £250, so if your project receives a donation of £20 we'll add another £20, If your project receives a donation of £600 then you'll receive an additional £250.
- Only one donation per supporter will be matched (we will not provide match funding where a supporter is deemed to have made multiple donations).
- You can receive a maximum of £5,000 of match funding per organisation in addition to the Co-op boost of £500.

Projects will be required to agree to the [Terms and Conditions](#)

Timeline:

- This fund will be distributed on a first come first serve basis and applications will close on 28th February 2023.
- The Warm Spaces fund will close on the 31st of March or when the funds are fully allocated (whichever is sooner).

Eligible organisation types:

- Registered UK Charities including charitable incorporated organisations
- Registered community benefit organisations
- Registered social enterprises and charity companies
- Community interest companies
- Constituted community groups
- Churches and other religious organisations (if the funded activity is not deemed to be promoting religious beliefs).
- Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs)
- Schools (if funded activity is provided in a way that local community can be involved and is not part of a school's core educational role)
- Community amateur sports clubs
- Co-ops

Non-eligible organisation types:

- Statutory bodies such as local authorities or health institutions
- Unregistered organisations
- Unincorporated organisations
- Individuals or sole traders
- For profit businesses or partnerships
- Commercial sport and physical activity providers, e.g. private gyms
- Colleges and universities
- Parish and town councils
- Organisations providing onward grants
- Organisations without a UK registered address
- Organisations without a named UK bank account
- Organisations where funds are solely for the provision of bursaries to individuals or families

You will be required to provide the following documentation and evidence of your organisation's eligibility:

- Governing documents (such as constitution or Memorandum & Articles of association)

Selection process

All projects that meet the criteria set out above will be assessed to determine which will receive match funding. Project owners will be informed whether their application has been successful or not.

Co-op reserves the right to vary these criteria. Projects will be notified if their criteria will vary from the stated terms above. Co-op reserves the right to not fund a project or to withdraw funding during a campaign, if it becomes apparent that any of the criteria are not being met.

Additional Requirements

You will be ineligible for funding from Co-op, at Co-op's sole discretion, if it is not satisfied that all the supporter pledges on your project are genuine pledges.

Project Owners or the campaigning organisation pledging to their own campaign is allowed, however this should not be a significant amount unless discussed before the pledge is added. Small offline donations that have been collected may also be added, however you may be required to evidence the origin of these pledges (receipts, letters of support, copies of cheques or bank statements etc.)

Where projects or pledges are identified as fraudulent, potentially fraudulent, or demonstrative of manipulating the pledging on a project in order to obtain match funding, this is taken very seriously. Where appropriate, the police or other relevant authorities will be informed. In addition:

- Your application for funding will be refused and any existing commitment for funding will be withdrawn.
- Your Crowdfunding project may be cancelled and you will be ineligible for future applications or projects.
- Action will be taken to recover funding which has been paid out.