



Application Guidelines for the GFO COMF Fund

Good Food Oxford (GFO) is a network for a better food system in Oxfordshire, working together for healthy, fair, ethical and environmentally sustainable food for everyone. As part of our work in developing a County-wide Food Poverty Strategy, GFO have been asked to distribute some COVID Outbreak Management Funds (COMF) on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council, Cherwell District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council.

These funds are designed to help frontline Community Food Services to offer their services which helps minimise the spread of COVID-19 for example by enabling people to self-isolate or minimise contact. They can be for project or core costs, but must demonstrate how you will prevent or contain covid infections in your service/organisation.

There will be two rounds of funding as follows:

The deadline for Round 1 is July 26th 2021. A decision will be made by our independent Grant Oversight panel in early August.

The deadline for Round 2 is September 30th 2021. A Decision will be made by our independent Grant Oversight panel in early October.

The funding will be awarded on a proportionate basis across the county.

We will let you know the outcome of your application and send you a Grant Offer Letter if you have been successful. As soon as this is signed and returned, the money will be transferred to your organisation

In order to qualify for the funding, you must have the following:

- A Bank Account in the name of your organisation (not a personal account) with two authorised signatories. If you need help setting this up, we can put you in touch with your local community support officer in your district to help you.
- A project which helps people in Oxfordshire and helps to prevent the spread of COVID. This could be by ensuring people remain socially distant from each other at your service, providing support to access healthy food for people who are self-isolating, or helping specific hard-to reach groups access the services they need.

Who can apply?

- UK registered charities
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs)
- schools, universities or registered educational charities that are either exempt under Charity Commission guidelines or are registered charities (the project in question must not be one which attracts statutory funding).

- faith based organisations that are either exempt under the Charity Commission guidelines or are registered charities
- housing associations
- un-constituted community groups providing they have a bank account
- any organisation operating a particular project in this area on a non-profit basis.

What we don't fund

- Individuals
- Campaigning, lobbying, awareness-raising
- Sponsorship
- Endowment appeals

Here are some examples of the type of activities which meet the government's criteria:

- Enhanced communication and marketing (e.g. towards hard-to-reach groups and other localised messaging). – Do you for example translate relevant info into minority languages?
- Supporting residents to self-isolate. – Do you provide food or meals to these groups?
- Targeted interventions for specific sections of the local community and workplaces such as the BAME population.
- Harnessing capacity within local sectors (e.g. voluntary, academic, commercial). Do you work with other organisations to help deliver your services?
- Targeted support for school/university outbreaks.
- Provision of food and essential packages – through food banks, community larders, community fridges, meals on wheels and personal food shoppers.
- Community-based support for those disproportionately impacted.
- Support for engagement and analysis of regional areas to assess and learn from local initiatives.

Things to bear in mind:

Apply for funding that is proportionate to the number of people you help. Asking for £5,000 to pay for 10 people to access help does not look like good value for money (unless their needs are incredibly complex).

We would like to reach organisations who have contact with as diverse a community of people around the county as possible. If you are unusual in having great relationships with a minority group, make sure you mention it.

We like to see organisations talking to each other and working together where possible, rather than in isolation. If you have learnt or passed something on to another community group, make sure you tell us.

And Finally...

We have tried to keep the application form as simple as possible. If you have any questions at all, please do get in touch and we will do our best to help admin@goodfoodoxford.org