

Hertfordshire Community Cashback Fund

(Police Property Act Fund)

Applicant Guidance Notes

1. Introduction

The Community Cashback Fund provides small grants to charities, community groups and other not-for-profit organisations delivering activities that help make Hertfordshire safer.

The Community Cashback Fund is funded through the Police Property Act Fund. It uses money generated from seized and unclaimed property that cannot be returned to its owner, reinvesting those funds into local projects that help make Hertfordshire safer.

The Police and Crime Commissioner wishes to use the Fund to support practical local projects that prevent crime, support victims and vulnerable people, reduce anti-social behaviour and make Hertfordshire communities safer and more resilient.

2. Who Can Apply?

Applications are welcomed from:

- Registered charities
- Community Interest Companies (CICs)
- Social enterprises
- Constituted voluntary and community groups
- Not-for-profit organisations

Applicants must:

- Have a governing document or constitution.
- Have a bank account in the organisation's name.
- Operate within Hertfordshire, or demonstrate a clear benefit to Hertfordshire residents.
- Be able to deliver the proposed activity within 12 months of receiving funding.

3. Funding Available

Small Grants

Up to **£2,500**

Funding is limited and submission of an application does not guarantee an award.

4. What Will Be Funded?

The Fund is open to a wide range of ideas. The key test is: will the project make a positive difference to the safety of people in Hertfordshire? Projects should support one or more of the following:

Funding theme	Examples of activity that may be supported
Crime prevention	Practical neighbourhood crime prevention measures, personal safety initiatives, fraud and cyber crime awareness, online safety campaigns and crime prevention events.
Community safety	Night-time economy safety initiatives, community patrols, safety equipment and community resilience activities.
Supporting victims and vulnerable people	Victim support initiatives, support for vulnerable residents, domestic abuse and stalking awareness, and projects helping women and girls feel safer.
Youth engagement and diversion	Sports activities, mentoring programmes, youth clubs and other positive activities designed to divert young people from crime and anti-social behaviour.
Retail and business crime reduction	Business and retail crime reduction initiatives, practical security measures, community safety technology and prevention campaigns.
Community confidence and cohesion	Volunteer-led initiatives, neighbourhood safety projects and community engagement activities.
These examples are not exhaustive	

5. What Will Not Be Funded?

The Fund will not normally support:

- Individuals.
- Political activities or campaigns.
- Religious worship or activities designed to promote a particular faith.
- Retrospective funding for activities already completed.
- Projects outside Hertfordshire with no clear local benefit.
- Statutory responsibilities of public bodies.
- General organisational running costs unrelated to the project.
- Projects that have already secured full funding from another source.

6. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

Need & Strategic Fit	Does the application demonstrate a genuine local need and support the objectives and priorities of the grant scheme?
Impact & Deliverability	Are the proposed outcomes clear and is there confidence the applicant can successfully deliver the project within the proposed timescales?
Costs & Affordability	Are the costs reasonable, proportionate and supported by sufficient information?

7. Application Process

Step 1 - Submit an application

Applications open on 1 October 2026. Complete the straightforward application form and provide any supporting information requested.

Step 2 - Eligibility Check

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) will review applications to ensure eligibility requirements have been met.

Step 3 - Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed against the published criteria.

Step 4 - Decision

Recommendations will be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for a funding decision.

The Commissioner's decision is final. The OPCC aims to notify successful applicants within two weeks where possible.

8. Successful Applications

Successful applicants will receive:

- A grant offer letter.

- Funding agreement.
- Payment arrangements.
- Monitoring form.

Funding must be used only for the purposes approved.

Any significant changes to the project must be agreed with the OPCC in advance.

Bidders who have not previously received an award from the Hertfordshire OPCC, will also need to complete supplier set up forms at award stage.

9. Monitoring Requirements

We want monitoring arrangements to remain proportionate to the level of funding awarded.

At the end of the project, organisations will be asked to complete a short monitoring form confirming:

- What activities were delivered.
- How many people benefited.
- What difference the project made.
- Any achievements, photographs, testimonials or case studies.

The OPCC may request additional information where necessary.

10. Publicity

The OPCC may publish details of successful awards on its website and through other communication channels.

Successful applicants may be asked to acknowledge support from the Hertfordshire Community Cashback Fund, funded through the Police Property Act Fund, in project publicity and promotional material where appropriate.

11. Further Information

Questions regarding the Fund should be directed to:

Contracts, Grants & Income Team

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire

Email: grants@herts-pcc.gov.uk