



# Bedfordshire Scouts County Grant Scheme Information



Thank you for your interest in applying for a development grant from the county. As a team, we are driven to support and encourage the growth and development of scouting across Bedfordshire. This grant scheme is part of the package we offer to enable this to happen.

Grants are available for a range of projects that develop the delivery of scouting within the County. We are interested in projects that ensure that more young people within the County have access to more and better scouting, both today and in the future.

## **Who can apply?**

Any Scouting entity within the County may apply for funding; Districts, Activity Centres, Activity teams and individual groups. Applications will be considered to ensure that the project is well thought through and that all of the required information has been provided.

## **What are the criteria?**

Projects must fulfil the objectives of the scheme:

- Projects should have a lasting impact on scouting and should be able to continue past the initial outlay.
- Projects should develop scouting beyond what is currently available; increasing the availability, breadth and depth of the programme. *We would like to see a demonstration of how your project will get more young people into scouting and/or offer them greater opportunity.*
- Projects should help to prepare Bedfordshire scouting for the future, which may mean different sorts of resources than have traditionally been provided.

As a general rule, we will not usually fund capital projects.

We would also like to see some support for your project from other sources such as your group or district. This does not always have to be financial.

## **Funding Streams**

There are two different funding streams which may be suitable for your application:

**Smaller Grants** – This is for small projects that cost up to £500. The applications will be considered by a small group of people, made up of young people and adults from around the county. This will allow for a reasonably quick response, hopefully no more than six weeks.

**Larger Grants** – This is for larger projects of over £500. They will be considered by our grants panel, which meets every three months.

To ensure that we can support as many projects as possible, for larger applications, we will look more favourably where funding is shared. This means that, if approved, the county will provide 50% of costs for a project. We would expect the other 50% to be funded through groups and districts. If



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this is not possible, please provide a reason on the form. All applications will still be considered.

## **Process**

Application forms for the different schemes are available from the website, by emailing or by writing to County Office. Electronic applications are preferred.

If you need help or advice in completing your application, please contact the County Office. The application process is intended to help you think through your project and not to be a bureaucratic hurdle to getting things done.

Once you have submitted your application, it will be considered by a review panel. They will take into account the objectives of the scheme, described above, the soundness of your proposal and the other applications which are vying for the same funding.

If your project is not successful, it does not mean it is a bad project. It just means against the criteria and the alternative options available, it was not considered the best use of the funds available. We will try and provide as much feedback as we can to support you to still continue with your work.

We will acknowledge receipt of applications and advise you of the outcome as quickly as possible. Successful programmes may be announced to the County so everyone knows how the money is being invested.

**Good luck with your application and thank you for considering ways how we can grow the provision of Scouting in Bedfordshire.**