

Cheshire West & Chester Council

# Town and Parish Council

## COVID-19 Update

Issue Two – 7 April 2020

### Hello and welcome

I hope you found the first Update issue on 26 March helpful. Your feedback would be appreciated on the content now and in the future – please email: [pam.bradley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:pam.bradley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

### In this Update:

Register your community response on Live Well website	Emergency helpline launched	Event cancellation dates
Funding opportunities	Useful web links	Please note

### Register your community response - Live Well Cheshire West website

Live Well is a dynamic website that is the central point for the collation of all services and community organisations and groups providing vital information to people during this challenging time.

Could you please ensure any organisations and groups operating in your area are entered on the site – this will ensure residents, residents families and support workers can easily find the information.

We would also ask that you promote the website:

<https://livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Categories/4854>

### Council launches helpline – 0300 123 7031

An emergency response for people living in west Cheshire has been launched to support those vulnerable groups at higher risk from serious complications as a result of COVID-19 infection.

People in the most vulnerable groups, based on their medical condition, are being contacted by the government, and referred onto help from their local council if they can't meet their needs with the help of friends and families. The first packages of support have now been received.

A wider group of local people may also need support to protect themselves from the virus. Cheshire West and Chester Council has therefore launched a dedicated helpline for those most in need **0300 123 7031** which will run 7 days a week from 8am to 7pm.

The helpline will provide advice and support and where necessary make arrangements for food, medicines and social contact. You can also email: [enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk).



Louise Gittins, Leader of the Council, said: “We’ve had an inspiring reaction from individuals and businesses who want to help at this time of crisis. Our co-ordinated community response has already begun to ‘shield’ those of our residents who are most at risk, and we stand in solidarity and support for our most vulnerable residents at this challenging time.”

### **Summer event cancellation dates**

Cheshire West and Chester Council, in line with Government guidance, has extended the date that events should be **cancelled to the end June**.

At the end of April a further review will be undertaken to see if this date should be extended to the end of July.

When the situation improves, we will look to restart the events programme but we will want sufficient time to allow appropriate planning and confirmation of services to ensure that events are safe. This will mean that once restrictions are lifted there will still be a period of consolidation over a few weeks prior to events starting on the ground.

### **Funding Opportunities**

#### **Community Response Fund now available for local community initiatives**

Cheshire West and Chester Council has set up a Community Response Fund to support community initiatives. The focus of the fund is to offer community organisations emergency funding to respond to issues as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19). This could include supporting initiatives such as training volunteers, administration, marketing, fuel, supplies and other costs.

Councillor Carol Gahan, Cabinet Member for Finance, said: “We have made the Community Fund available to make sure community initiatives can deliver a valuable service to some of our most vulnerable residents during these challenging times.”

Applications for the Community Response Fund will be considered from groups that show they are providing a service or initiative that benefits others in their community in response to this emergency. The Council is unlikely to provide grants for individuals, businesses and sporting organisations and all applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Any grants over £500 will be considered, but it is expected most grants will be around £2,000. To access an application form, community initiatives should email: [chesterlocality@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:chesterlocality@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

#### **CWaC Member Budgets COVID 19**

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Fast Response Community Volunteer Group payment

CWaC councillors can allocate up to £500 on a discretionary basis to community initiatives responding to the pandemic from their 2020/2021 Member budget allocation. Groups or individuals requiring funding to help support community projects associated with coronavirus (COVID-19) can complete the application form and return it to the relevant Locality team. The links to the application are on here:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your-council/councillors-and-committees/councillors-allowances/member-budgets.aspx>

## Grants online

Grants online has identified funding applications that are available to help with the impact that COVID 19.

It has created a web page that any new information will be added to when it is made available, so please check it regularly. To access the web page just click on this link <https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/coronavirus.html> - no login details are needed.

Here is a selection of funds, from this web link, that is accepting applications:

### **Charities Aid Foundation (UK)**

Name of Fund: **Coronavirus Emergency Fund**

Smaller charities, not for profit organisations, social enterprises and unregistered community groups can apply for grants of up to £10,000 to help them to continue to deliver much needed support to within their communities. The funding is available to help with core costs, staffing, volunteer costs, supplies and equipment, communications or other critical charitable areas. CAF will aim for grants to be paid to selected organisations within 14 days of application.

<https://www.cafonline.org/charities/grantmaking/caf-coronavirus-emergency-fund>

### **Cheshire Community Foundation (Cheshire and Warrington)**

Name of Fund: **Covid-19 Response Programme**

The Covid-19 Response Programme is open to applications from charitable organisations supporting the ongoing needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable people affected by the Covid-19 outbreak. Typical grants will be in the region of £2,000 and can be used for: Community response coordination to covid-19; additional volunteer costs; additional costs of working remotely; support for lonely and vulnerable people who are self-isolating and support in the wider community for foodbanks for families and vulnerable people and organisations working to combat child hunger.

<http://cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/community-foundation-launches-cheshire-and-warrington-covid-19-response-fund/>

### **Help Musicians (UK)**

Name of Fund: **Coronavirus Financial Hardship Fund**

The £5million pound Coronavirus Financial Hardship fund has been created to alleviate some of the immediate financial pressures that many professional musicians are currently facing with regard to their mounting household expenses. Eligible musicians can apply for a one-off payment of £500 if they are suffering significant financial hardship.

[https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/news/latest-news/help-musicians-launches-5m-coronavirus-financial-hardship-fund?fbclid=IwAR2U6ED9Z79MtjfVeHODR4ZEr2SbrK87oScTeF\\_Gpt-Ktqka5F5jBp7N5uU](https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/news/latest-news/help-musicians-launches-5m-coronavirus-financial-hardship-fund?fbclid=IwAR2U6ED9Z79MtjfVeHODR4ZEr2SbrK87oScTeF_Gpt-Ktqka5F5jBp7N5uU)

### **The National Lottery Heritage Fund (UK)**

Name of Fund: **Emergency Fund**

The National Lottery Heritage Fund has put together a £50million fund to support the heritage sector as an immediate response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Grants of between £3,000 and £50,000 will be available to organisations which have received funding in the past or are either a current grantee, or still under contract following a previous grant. Priority will be given where there is limited or no access to other sources of support; where heritage is most at risk; and where an organisation is at risk of severe financial crisis due to COVID-19

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/news/heritage-emergency-fund-launches-help-sector>

### **Sport England (England)**

Name of Fund: **Community Emergency Fund**

This new fund aims to help community sport and physical activity organisations who are experiencing short term financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis. Awards will be between £300 and £10,000. In exceptional circumstances Sport England will consider awards of more than £10,000.

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-emergency-fund>

### **Standard Life Foundation (UK)**

Name of Fund: **Coronavirus pandemic – fast track applications**

Funding is available for work directly related to the pandemic, addressing specific challenges and helping to contribute to social change which tackles financial problems and improves living standards for those on low-to-middle incomes in the UK. The work the Foundation might consider in relation to the pandemic is rapid analysis of key issues, for example, self-employed workers, the food and hospitality or social care sectors. Modelling of new proposals such as enhanced sick pay, help with utilities, high cost credit payments, and changes to pensions. Grants from £5,000 upwards are available.

[https://www.standardlifefoundation.org.uk/funding/coronavirus\\_funding](https://www.standardlifefoundation.org.uk/funding/coronavirus_funding)

### **Steve Morgan Foundation (North Wales, Merseyside, Cheshire and North Shropshire)**

Name of Fund: **Covid - 19 Emergency Fund**

The Covid-19 Emergency Fund has been introduced to support charities and not for profit organisations in Merseyside, North West and Cheshire (west of the M6). The fund will provide help with the costs of additional emergency services to support people affected by the virus, it will also help charities experiencing a loss of fundraising revenue to stay in business.

<https://www.tfaforms.com/4811567>

### **Useful information and websites:**

More local information on 'Coping at home with Coronavirus' can be found on the:

[Live Well Cheshire West website](#)

The latest government advice on staying at home can be found on the [GOV.UK website](#).

**Recycling:** Helpful advice and tips about recycling have can be found on the Council's website:

[CheshireWestandChester.gov.uk](#)

This information has been provided to support residents while recycling centres are closed and the green waste collection has been suspended.

### **Please note**

**Burial Services:** Please note the email address for the call for information regarding any parish and town who undertake a burial service was incorrect.

The correct email address is [Angela.Edwards@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:Angela.Edwards@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

### **Community response – amazing examples of community spirit in action**

Thank you for those of you who sent in information about what is happening in your area.

Please keep your examples coming in to: [Pam.Bradley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:Pam.Bradley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)