

# Brighton & Hove City Council

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## VCFS Grant Scheme Prospectus 2025–2027 (Public-Facing)

### 1. Introduction

Brighton & Hove City Council works collaboratively with the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) to prevent and reduce homelessness and rough sleeping. This grant scheme supports community-based interventions aligned with the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025–2030.

### 2. Purpose and Aims of the Scheme

The scheme aims to:

- Support interventions aligned with the four priorities of the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025–2030.
- Enable innovation and proof-of-concept projects to build evidence for future external bids.
- Improve accessibility, inclusion and responsiveness of services.
- Strengthen multi-agency partnership working across the VCFS and statutory sectors.

### 3. Funding Available

- Total VCFS allocation: £274,609
- Maximum grant per organisation: £50,000
- Funding period: Up to two years within 2025–27

### 4. Eligibility Criteria

Eligible organisations must:

- Be a registered charity, CIC, faith organisation or not-for-profit VCFS body.
- Operate in Brighton & Hove or demonstrate clear benefit to local residents.
- Have appropriate governance, safeguarding and financial controls.
- Demonstrate organisational capacity and financial stability to deliver the project.

### 5. Exclusions

The scheme does not fund:

- Capital works or major refurbishments.
- Political or religious promotional activity.

- Retrospective activity already completed.
- Activities not linked to homelessness prevention or relief.
- For-profit organisations or activity with no clear local benefit.

## 6. Eligible Activities (Examples)

Projects must align with at least one strategic priority and may include:

**\*\*A. Prevention and Early Intervention\*\*** – support to people at risk of homelessness, tenancy sustainment, mediation, budgeting, early-help models.

**\*\*B. Support for People Experiencing Homelessness\*\*** – outreach, rapid intervention, health and wellbeing support, trauma-informed approaches.

**\*\*C. Community-Based Support Pathways\*\*** – peer support, community inclusion activities, improving access to services.

**\*\*D. Innovation & Proof-of-Concept Pilots\*\*** – testing new delivery models, developing evidence for future funding bids.

**\*\*E. Partnership and Capacity-Building\*\*** – improving referral pathways, strengthening multi-agency collaboration, building VCFS capability.

## 7. What Applicants Need to Provide

A complete application includes:

- Project summary (max 300 words)
- Evidence of need and who will benefit (max 300 words)
- Delivery model and methodology (max 300 words)
- SMART outcomes and impact measures
- Budget breakdown and justification
- Organisational experience and partnerships
- Legacy statement (max 300 words)
- Required supporting documents: governing document, annual accounts, insurance, safeguarding & equalities policies, bank details, project budget.

## 8. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed on:

- Project need and alignment with strategic priorities

- Methodology and deliverability
- Outcomes and impact (SMART)
- Organisational capability and governance
- Value for money
- Safeguarding and equalities compliance
- Sustainability and long-term legacy

### **9. Monitoring Requirements**

Successful organisations must submit progress and finance reports, an end-of-grant report, demonstrate outcomes, and return any underspend.

### **10. Data Protection & Publicity**

Information will be processed in accordance with data protection legislation. Successful applicants must acknowledge Council and UK Government funding.

### **11. Appeals**

Applicants may appeal procedural issues within 10 working days of notification.

### **12. How to Apply**

Submit the completed application form and all supporting documents by 30th April.  
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