

Crisis and Resilience Fund

2026/27



Guidance for Applicants

The Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) is a UK Government-funded programme in England that aims to provide a safety net for people on low incomes who experience a financial shock, while also investing in local financial resilience to help individuals and communities better manage future crises and reduce the need for crisis support over the long term.

This award cannot be used to make cash payments/grants to beneficiaries.

Who can apply?

• Constituted as a voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE) organisation	
• Based in Salford OR have a strong track record of delivery in Salford	
• Be a FULL member of Salford CVS and currently adhere to full membership criteria	
• With an organisational Bank Account with 2 signatories who are not related to each other OR have a holding account at Salford CVS	
• Turnover over £10,000 in the last full financial year (organisations cannot apply for more than 50% of their turnover)	
• Track record providing crisis and/or financial resilience support to Salford residents	
• Are able to submit a fully completed application to grants@salfordcvs.co.uk before the closing date (11 th Sept)	
• Fully up to date with grant reporting to Salford CVS (if applicable)	

We aim to ensure that our grants programme is accessible to everyone. If any aspect of the application process is a barrier to applying, please contact us by email at grants@salfordcvs.co.uk or phone 0161 787 7795 to discuss alternative application formats or other forms of support.

What is the Crisis and Resilience Fund?

The Crisis and Resilience Fund will award grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations to support activities and services for people experiencing sudden financial emergencies or struggling to afford everyday essentials, while also addressing the underlying causes of financial hardship and reducing future reliance on emergency support.

All grant recipients will be required to participate in a network of organisations, which will collectively provide a range of support to people across Salford. This will involve adopting a 'no wrong door' approach, ensuring that clients are connected to the most appropriate support through referrals within the network and, where necessary, to wider services and organisations.

The aim is to enable people to access holistic, wraparound support that addresses the underlying causes of financial hardship and crisis, rather than simply responding to immediate symptoms.

This fund has been made possible through funding provided by the Department of Work and Pensions via Salford City Council. It replaces the Household Support Fund, which ended in March 2026.

Salford City Council



**Funded by
UK Government**

Key dates

Fund opens	August 2026
Application deadline	12.00pm (midday) on Friday 11 th September
Decisions expected	Within 6 weeks of the closing date
Approximate delivery period	October 2026 – March 2027
End of project report due	Within one month of project completion

How much is available?

Applicants can apply for between £5,000 and £20,000.

What activities will we fund?

Examples of activities that could be funded include:

- Emergency food (food banks)
- Longer term affordable food (food clubs and pantries)
- Baby banks
- School uniform exchanges/banks
- Budgeting/financial literacy training
- Employment and skills support
- Energy and household cost reduction
- Digital inclusion support
- Information, advice and guidance *

*** Any advice provided must be appropriately accredited where required.** For example, debt advice is a regulated financial activity and should be delivered by an organisation that is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), unless an applicable exemption or exclusion is in place.

Eligible costs

Eligible costs include (and are not limited to):

- Food
- Toiletries
- Period products
- Nappies
- Hot food provision
- Baby items
- Staff / facilitator costs
- Equipment and resources
- Venue hire

Not eligible costs:

- Cash payments
- Grants for beneficiaries
- Retrospective costs

Important note: If your organisation is currently funded by Salford CVS to work with Salford Citizens Advice to provide information, advice and guidance services, expanding this existing offer is not an eligible use of this funding.

What policies / documentation are required?

All organisations will be expected to have the following policies in place at the time of application:

- a) Health and Safety Policy
- b) Equality/Diversity Statement or Policy
- c) Public Liability Insurance (Cost can be included in budget)
- d) Risk Assessments

...and if applicable to project activities:

- e) Volunteer Policy
- f) Safeguarding Adults Policy (if applicable)
- g) Safeguarding Children Policy (if applicable)
- h) Food Hygiene Certificates – **must be submitted if preparing food**

Monitoring and evaluation

Salford CVS has a three-fold approach to evaluation:

- **Assessing impact** – the difference your project made in words, numbers, stories, quotes and photos
- **Gathering learning** – what you have learned as an organisation, how your organisation has developed and what you would do differently next time
- **Providing assurance** – demonstrating good management of public money

As guardians of public money, Salford CVS requires all funded organisations to keep receipts for all spend. We undertake spot-audits every year and you may be asked to provide evidence of your spending.

In terms of monitoring, grant recipients will be **required to collect and report specific data** as part of their projects. This will include:

- Presenting crisis (volumes and spend per category)
 - Accident or health emergency
 - Household relationship breakdown
 - Essential item breakdown
 - Unexpected loss of income
- Support method (volumes and spend per category)
 - Food
 - Essential items

- Furniture/white goods
- Rent/housing crisis
- Essential transport
- Priority debt/bills
- Essential utilities
- Other
- Demographics (volume and spend per category)
 - Children
 - Pensioners
 - Disabled people
 - Employed recipients
 - People not in employment
 - Others
- Referrals made and to which organisations

Templates and support will be provided to grant recipients at the point of award, however, please note this fund involves a significant amount of monitoring, and your organisation must have sufficient capacity to fulfil this.

How to apply

Organisations that wish to apply will need to complete the application form and submit it by email to grants@salfordcvs.co.uk in Word format in advance of the closing date (12.00pm on Friday 11th September).

How will applications be assessed?

- On receipt of applications, Salford CVS will undertake eligibility checks
- All applications that are eligible will be independently scored by a panel including a representative from the VCSE sector, Salford City Council and Salford CVS
- The assessment panel will meet to agree the awards
- Unsuccessful applicants will be provided with a summary of feedback from the assessment panel

In the event of more than one application receiving the same or a similar score, tipping factors may support the decision-making process. These include:

- To get a wider range of activities and support

- To get a wider geographic spread across Salford
- Where the applicant has a poor or weak monitoring track record for previously funded work

What support is available to applicants?

Support with your application

If you have any questions or concerns about completing the application form, or you would like to discuss your application with a member of the Grants Team, please contact: grants@salfordcvs.co.uk or phone 0161 787 7795. The Grants Team are also available to provide a pre-application read-through and feedback.

Wider development support

Salford CVS can also offer practical support to VCSE organisations with developing policies, accessing volunteers, and accessing wider funding. For further information, visit our website at:

www.salfordcvs.co.uk/development-support

You can also contact our Development Team by phone 0161 787 7795 or email at: office@salfordcvs.co.uk

Completing the Application Form

Contact Information

Question a) – Please give the name of the lead contact for this application / project. They will be the primary point of contact for all matters relating to this application and the project if successful.

Question b) – Please give a secondary contact. They will only be contacted if we have difficulty reaching the lead contact.

At least one contact must be a senior member of staff. Please ensure both contacts are aware of and involved in project oversight and/or delivery.

Part 1 – About your organisation

Question 1) – Please give the full name of your organisation.

Question 2) – Please give the registered address of your organisation. If you don't have a registered address as such, please provide the address of your Chair.

Question 3) – Please give your organisation's turnover for your last full financial year.

Question 4) – Please tell us how your organisation is constituted; examples are provided below:

- Company Limited by Guarantee
- Registered Charity
- Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- Community Interest Company
- Community Benefit Society
- Cooperative Society
- Other (give details)

Please note:

- All organisations must be not-for-private-profit
- Companies Limited by Guarantee must have an 'asset lock' to prevent the transfer of assets to individuals
- Some charities might also be a company limited by guarantee

Question 5) – Please give your organisation number (i.e. registered with the Charity Commission or Companies House). Please note that Unincorporated Organisations / Community Groups will not have an Organisation Number.

Question 6) – Please provide the URL (link) to your organisation's website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts (if applicable)

Questions 7-9) – We are keen to support all staffed organisations that pay a minimum wage of at least **£13.45 per hour** as set by the Living Wage Foundation. We also actively encourage organisations to become an accredited [Living Wage Employer](#). If you don't employ staff, please tick the 'not applicable' box (N/A). This includes regular third-party contractor staff.

Question 10) – We expect all organisations to have relevant policies in place at the time of application. Please note that Public Liability Insurance costs can form an element of your bid. If you need advice or support on developing policies, please see the 'What support is available to applicants?' section above.

Please note that you will need to submit copies of the following documents along with your application:

- Safeguarding Adults Policy (only if applicable to your project)
- Safeguarding Children Policy (only if applicable to your project)
- Level 2 Food Hygiene (if applicable to your project)

Part 2 – About your current provision

Question 11) – Tell us about the crisis and/or financial resilience services you currently provide and your track record. Provide numbers and data wherever possible to give us an understanding of your reach and impact.

Question 12) – Give an approximate number of individual people that you support per week, relating to crisis and/or financial resilience support.

Question 13) – Give details of how you keep track of data relating to the people accessing your provision. If you currently do not do this, please give details of how you will begin to capture data if a grant is awarded.

Part 3 – What you plan to deliver with this grant

Question 14) – Give details of the people who will benefit from this grant and relevant issues and challenges they are experiencing. For example, financial difficulties or challenges accessing work.

Question 15) – Tell us about the crisis and/or financial resilience services you will provide with this grant, including **specific details** such as where and when support will take place, who will deliver the support, how they are trained and qualified, etc. Please note, all grant recipients will be required to work in partnership and make referrals to one another. Therefore, it is OK if the service you plan to deliver is quite specific or targeted in nature.

Question 16) Please tell us how the activities you plan to deliver will meet the needs of the people described in question 14. Include evidence wherever possible, from your own work or wider research.

Question 17) Please indicate the areas of Salford which will receive support from this grant. If the work will span the whole of Salford, please tick 'Salford city-wide'.

Question 18) – If your activities will be delivered from a single location (e.g. a community centre) please provide a postcode for this. If your activity takes place at more than one location, please provide all the postcodes. If this proves too difficult or isn't applicable, please give details.

Question 19) – This funding requires significant monitoring including regularly collecting, collating, and providing detailed data e.g. demographics of beneficiaries. See the 'Monitoring and Evaluation' section above for further details. Please give details of how your organisation will be able to meet this requirement – for example, you may wish to mention systems you currently have in place and/or systems you will implement if you receive a grant.

Part 4 – About the money

Question 20) – Please give an accurate breakdown of your project costs by describing each item. You'll need to research some prices or obtain quotes (i.e. you can't just guess the costs). Please break down your calculation so we can see how you've arrived at the cost for each item. See some examples below.

Example 1

Acceptable: Venue hire – 4hrs/wk @ £10ph x 10 weeks = £400

Not acceptable: Venue hire – £400

Example 2

Acceptable: Refreshments @ £1.50/person x 10 people x 10 events = £150

Not acceptable: Refreshments = £150

If other money is being used to support this project:

If you have other sources of money, it might be you're only looking for a contribution to certain costs (see the example below).

Description of item	Breakdown of calculations	Item cost	Amount requested
Venue Hire	4 hours per week @ £10ph x 10 weeks	£400	£250

Full cost = £400

Amount requested = £250

Amount from alternative sources = £150 (e.g. donations or grant income)

Therefore, the total cost of the project may be more than the amount you're requesting from this fund. If this is the case, please include the other sources of funding which will support this project and whether the money has been secured or whether an application is pending (see example below). **Such match funding is desirable but not essential.**

If applicable, where is the rest of the money coming from?		
Source of funding	Amount	Funding Secured?
Donations	£150	Yes

Please attach

Please confirm you are attaching:

- Food Hygiene Certificates (if applicable to project activities)
- Safeguarding Adults policy (if applicable to project activities)
- Safeguarding Children policy (if applicable to project activities)

Declaration

Please confirm that you have read the [Terms and Conditions](#) of this grant by giving the name and role of the lead applicant.