

Kent Community Waste Prevention Fund FAQs

1. What is the Community Waste Prevention Fund?

The fund provides grants of up to £5,000 to support community-led projects that reduce waste, promote reuse, and encourage more sustainable behaviours across Kent.

2. Who can apply?

We welcome applications from:

- Community groups and voluntary organisations
- Registered charities
- Parish and town councils
- Schools, colleges, and educational groups (must be working alongside a community group/s)
- Social enterprises / Community Interest Companies (CICs)

Applicants must operate within Kent and deliver benefits to Kent residents.

3. How much funding can we apply for?

You can apply for **between £500 and £5,000** per project.

Funding is limited, so we encourage applicants to request only what they need.

4. What types of projects will be funded?

We support projects that prevent waste or promote reuse, including:

- Repair cafés and tool libraries
- Swap shops (clothes, toys, books, etc.)
- Community composting schemes
- Reuse and redistribution initiatives
- Food waste reduction activities
- Awareness campaigns that lead to measurable waste reduction
- Other waste prevention activities – if you have a query please use the contact us form

Projects must demonstrate a clear waste prevention benefit.

5. What will NOT be funded?

We typically do not fund:

- General recycling initiatives (unless clearly linked to waste prevention)
- Core organisational running costs (e.g. rent, salaries not linked to the project)
- Retrospective funding (for projects already completed)
- Commercial ventures primarily for profit
- Activities with little or no measurable waste reduction impact

6. Do we need match funding?

Match funding is not mandatory. However, projects that can demonstrate additional funding or in-kind contributions may be viewed more favourably.

7. How will applications be assessed?

Applications are assessed against:

- Expected waste prevention impact
- Value for money
- Community benefit and engagement
- Deliverability and realism of the project plan
- Longevity or legacy of the project

8. When is the deadline to apply?

Applications must be submitted by the deadline stated on the application form. Late submissions cannot be accepted.

9. When will we find out if we are successful?

Applicants will typically be notified within **4–6 weeks** after the closing date.

10. When must the project be completed by?

Projects should usually be completed within **12 months** of receiving funding, unless otherwise agreed.

11. Can we apply for multiple projects?

You may submit more than one application, but each must:

- Be clearly distinct
 - Demonstrate separate outcomes
 - Not overlap in funding requests
 - Multiple projects can be applied for on the same application but a maximum grant of £5,000 can be awarded to any single organisation
 - Only one of the applications can be approved
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12. When would we receive the grant funding?

Usually, grants will be paid in arrears, once evidence of spend (receipts, photos etc.) has been submitted. If necessary, and justifiable reason is given, we may be able to pay a portion of the grant in advance.

13. What costs are eligible?

Eligible costs may include:

- Equipment and materials
- Venue hire (for events/workshops)
- Marketing and promotion
- Training directly related to the project
- Volunteer expenses and staff time (these must be approved and evidenced clearly)

All costs must be clearly linked to delivering the project.

14. What are our responsibilities if we receive funding?

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Sign a funding agreement
 - Deliver the project as proposed
 - Submit a short report on outcomes (including waste prevented)
 - Provide receipts or evidence of spend
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15. How do we demonstrate waste prevention?

You should estimate:

- Quantity of waste diverted or avoided (e.g. kg or tonnes)
- Number of participants engaged
- Behaviour change outcomes (e.g. reuse habits formed)

We can provide guidance on measuring impact if needed.

16. Can partnerships apply?

Yes, partnerships are encouraged. One organisation must act as the **lead applicant** and be responsible for managing the grant.

17. Can individuals apply?

No, applications must be submitted by an organisation or constituted group.

18. What support is available during the application process?

We can provide guidance on:

- Project ideas
- Measuring waste impact
- Completing the application form and associated documentation

Contact details are available on the fund webpage.

19. Where do we apply?

Applications must be submitted via the official **online application form** (link provided on the fund page).

20. Can we promote KCC as a funder?

Yes. Successful projects should acknowledge Kent County Council's support in publicity materials, in line with branding guidance.

21. What makes a strong application?

Strong applications:

- Clearly focus on **waste prevention (not just recycling)**
- Demonstrate **community engagement**
- Show **realistic and measurable outcomes**
- Provide a clear and justified budget