



Funding update

In light of the impact of COVID-19 on communities in East Suffolk, we want to ensure that you know you have flexibility to adapt, especially in terms of your budget allocations.

2019 / 20 Community Partnership budgets, have for the most part, been allocated against projects, however, due to COVID-19 delivery may now not be possible or will be delayed for many of these initiatives.

You may wish to keep with your current set of priorities and accept there will be a delay in delivering the outcomes, or alternatively you might want to revisit your original objectives along with your partnership members to adjust your priorities to support your communities in the recovery stage.

This same flexibility can be employed with the current year's funding (2020 / 21) as well.

As per the agreed process, you will need to ensure an outcome proposal form is completed and signed off by you. Remember that the Community Officers and Support Officers are there to help develop your proposals and to complete the forms.

And remember, in terms of assisting communities with the direct impacts of COVID-19, the first port of call is the East Suffolk Community COVID-19 / Hardship Fund. There is still money available to allocate to groups who are directly delivering to mitigate the impacts of the virus on communities in East Suffolk. This fund includes money that was originally intended to come to your partnerships directly to run community grant schemes but the decision was made by the Community Partnership Board to redirect it to the Hardship Fund to avoid creating multiple grant pots aiming to achieve similar objectives.

Ben Porter, ESC Funding Manager