

About Community Wealth Builder

We're all about helping Doncaster's communities grow stronger, more connected, and more resilient — by supporting the groups that make it all happen.

We're here to help local groups do more and go further. Whether you're a community organisation, a faith group, or a voluntary project, we offer free, tailored support to help you grow your impact.

From workshops and training to advice about writing the best funding application to one-to-one support, we're ready to help you build confidence, unlock new opportunities, and make a bigger difference in your area. Find loads of free resources and support on our website: [For my organisation | Well Doncaster](#)

The **Community Wealth Builder** initiative at **Well Doncaster** is a key part of the city's broader strategy to reduce health and wealth inequalities through community-centred approaches. It provides support to voluntary, community, and faith sector (VCFS) organisations, helping them to grow, thrive, and deliver lasting social value.

The programme is rooted in the belief that community-owned enterprise and local solutions are essential for creating resilient, empowered communities.

By fostering hyper-local collaboration, the initiative ensures that communities are actively involved in shaping their futures. This approach not only boosts local economies but also enhances wellbeing by reconnecting people with opportunities for employment, volunteering, and creative expression.

So, if you're doing work that supports your community, member of our team will be here to talk to you about your idea and help you make the changes you want to see. Contact us at communitywealthbuilder@doncaster.gov.uk

About Don't Be Alone at Christmas

This grant was designed to provide financial support for VCFS groups helping them to address the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and create social events to tackle loneliness of the most isolated by inviting them to some event offering food. The **"Don't Be Alone at Christmas"** grant has been created to support Voluntary, Community, and Faith Sector (VCFS) groups in Doncaster communities who are working to reduce social isolation during the festive season.

Recognising the ongoing impact of the cost-of-living crisis, this funding aims to enable organisations to host inclusive social events that bring people together over a shared meal. These gatherings are intended to offer warmth, companionship, and a sense of community to those who may otherwise spend the holidays alone.

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must meet a few essential criteria. Funding must be used exclusively for food or food-related items, and a suitable venue must be available to host residents. If food is being prepared, all individuals involved must hold valid food hygiene certificates.

Additionally, organisations must provide evidence of DBS checks, safeguarding policies, and public liability insurance. Events must take place between **3rd and 31st December 2025**, and at least **20% of seats should be reserved for referrals or walk-ins**, ensuring accessibility for the most isolated members of the community.

How Much Is the Grant?

Up to a maximum of **£500**. There is no minimum amount.

The Fund opens on the 15th of September 2025 and Closes at Noon on the 6th of October 2025 12 noon. All projects need to be carried out within the 8th and 31st December of receiving funding. Monitoring will need to be returned by 30th January 2026.

Who Can Apply?

Don't Be Alone at Christmas is open to community/voluntary and faith-based organisations that meet the following criteria:

- a) Must have an open and accountable governing document (Constitution or Articles and Memorandum of Association, or applicable governing document) that has been properly adopted.
- b) Must have a bank account in the name of the organisation, which requires a minimum of two unrelated members to authorise withdrawals.
- c) Must have a Management Committee or Governing Board, elected by its membership at an Annual General Meeting, and elected office bearers.
- d) Must be based or operating within Doncaster.
- e) Must have appropriate Safeguarding Policies for protecting Children and Vulnerable adults, who are involved as part of the group's programme and any other relevant policies relevant to the group's activities.
- f) Must have relevant Food Hygiene certificates. (If delivering food projects.)
- g) Up to £5 million Public Liability Insurance, to cover all risk associated with the activities of the organisation.

Monies from the fund will only be paid into a business bank and cannot be paid directly to individuals or un-constituted groups. **If you fail to send your organisations governance into, welldoncaster@doncaster.gov.uk we will not chase you for it. However, your application will not be sent to panel to be processed.**

Individuals or groups who are un-constituted and/or do not have a bank account are advised to contact your local Well Doncaster Officer, in the first instance, who will be able to support you to become a constituted group.

A member of the Well Doncaster Team can offer more specialised support, should you require it.

Examples of what type of organisations we will fund are as follows:

- Not-for-profit voluntary or community organisations
- Constituted group or clubs
- Registered Charities

- Friends of or Parent Teacher Associations (PTA).
- Not-for profit companies, community interest companies (CIC's *see note below) or social enterprises

***We will only fund CIC's that are limited by Guarantee, and not those Limited by Shares**

We Are Unable to Fund Ideas That Are:

- Activities promoting religious beliefs.
- Political activities.
- Goods or services that have already been purchased or ordered.
- Activities outside of the Borough of Doncaster.
- On-going organisational running costs.
- Trips and holidays.
- Costs that are already included within and funded by an existing grant or contract.
- School activities that are included within the curriculum (activities led by schools that engage the community will be eligible/considered).
- Endowments / loan repayments.
- Any Parish Councils.
- Purchases anything other than food.

Funding Criteria

Don't Be Alone at Christmas aims to reduce Social Isolation through the Christmas period and encourage people to come together to share a meal and each other's company. To be successful for the grant we ask you meet a small criterion:

- Monies to only be spent on food, food items.
- You have a venue available to be able to ensure residents can come together.
- If you are planning on preparing food, organisations and relevant people preparing food must have the relevant food hygiene certificates.
- Hold DBS, Safeguarding and Public Liability Insurance have sent these with your successful application.
- Event/activities held on dates between the 3rd of December and 31st December 2025.
- At least 20% of seats to be held for referrals or walk ins

What Will We fund?

- Food
- Food items

Application Process

Applications will be accepted through a Microsoft Teams Form: <https://forms.office.com/e/ngyQGQPJr4>

The required supporting documentation must be sent to Community.wealthbuilder@doncaster.gov.uk

Before applying, please check that:

- your organisation is eligible to apply.
- your application meets the priorities of this fund.
- you have completed every question on your Application Form.
- you have attached or emailed your organisations governance documents such as a constitution.
- You agree that you will provide grant monitoring information to Well Doncaster and Community Wealth Builder in the form of receipts, photo evidence and a record of attendance numbers.

Once Your Application Is Received, We Will:

- Perform an Eligibility Check on your application and then assess it against the key themes of the grant, as highlighted in the **FUNDING CRITERIA** section above.
- Contact you with questions should we need to, so please keep a copy of your Application Form for your reference.
- Not assess your application if it is incomplete or without supporting governance.

If Your Application Is Successful, We Will:

- Send you a Grant Agreement and our Terms & Conditions of Grant by email for your organisation to sign and return.
- Clearly indicate the eligible expenditure for the funding offered.
- Request the grant to be acknowledged through the inclusion of the official Well Doncaster, Community Wealth Builder and Doncaster City Council's logo on all related promotional material associated with the project.

Once we have received your signed Grant Agreement and Terms and Conditions we will:

- Make payment to your group's bank account.

Unsuccessful Applications

The panel's decision is final and there is no right of appeal. However, unsuccessful applicants will be referred to their local Well Doncaster Officer for support, and they may be offered further support by the Well Doncaster Team.

When Is the Deadline to Submit Applications?

Applications must be received with your Governance Document by 12:00 noon on Monday 6th October 2025. Please note that due to the time constraints in ensuring the panel can score your applications, and for payment to be issued, **this deadline will not be extended.** Please submit all applications to **on the appropriate Microsoft Teams Form above.**

Please note applications without a Governance Document you will not be accepted, we will not chase you up for this. If you have any monitoring that is overdue from previous grants, your application will not be progressed.

Evaluation and Celebrating Success.

We want to help raise the profile of the great work that is taking place throughout Doncaster's communities. To help us do that, all successful applicants must be willing to provide monitoring information including before and after photos and share a case study (this could be written, photos, short video etc). Evidence of all the spend will also be asked for by way of receipts. Please note this is required as part of the funding, your Well Doncaster Officer can assist you with this should you require any support in submitting these documents to us.

Scored Criteria for Funding

Grant awards will be made to applicants that meet the following criteria.

Scoring Measure	Score
Excellent response that meets the requirement. Indicates an excellent response with detailed supporting evidence and no weaknesses.	5
A good response that meets the requirement with good supporting evidence. Demonstrates good understanding of the requirement.	4
The response generally meets the requirement with acceptable detail but lacks sufficient detail to warrant a higher mark.	3
A response with reservations. Limited detail to demonstrate that the proposed response will meet the requirement.	2
An unacceptable response with serious reservations. Very limited/poor detail to demonstrate that the proposed response will meet the requirement.	1
The applicant failed to address the question.	0

***NB: Please complete all sections of the application form**

Monitoring

Applicants who are successful for this fund must agree to provide the following monitoring:

- Photo's
- Receipt of money spent
- Personal/Individual case study (at least 1).
- Complete sign in sheets at every activity (provided by Well Doncaster).
- Complete the monitoring form (provided by Well Doncaster).
- Evidence how the project/activity has benefited the individual and/or community.

Apply / How to Find Out More:

For more information and for support to develop your idea, in the first instance please contact your Well Doncaster Public Health Improvement Officer or the Community Wealth Builder Team.

Area	Well Doncaster Officer
North	Daisy Joustra - Daisy.Joustra@doncaster.gov.uk Kate Maguire - Kate.Maguire@doncaster.gov.uk
East	Naomi Silvester – Naomi.Slivester@doncaster.gov.uk Charlie Bonner - Charlie.Bonner@doncaster.gov.uk
Central & City Centre	Megan Green - Megan.Green@doncaster.gov.uk Donna Jones - Donna.Louise-Jones@doncaster.gov.uk Josh Biggs-O'May – Josh.Biggs-O'May@doncaster.gov.uk
South	Sarah McCoy - Sarah.McCoy@doncaster.gov.uk Ayesha Da-Cunha – Ayesha.Da-Cunha@doncaster.gov.uk
Community Wealth Builder	Emma Lovett-Jones Community.wealthbuilder@doncaster.gov.uk 01302 737375
Boroughwide	Ivana Straska – Ivana.Straska@doncaster.gov.uk