

Winter Pressure Funding

Guidance and Proposal Form - September 2025

What is the funding for?

The Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care board (ICB) has allocated £50,000 of winter funding. They want local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise groups (the VCFSE sector) to come up with a project idea that:

- Helps people to **stay healthy** and confident **over the winter**, especially those with **breathing problems**
- Guides people to the **right level of care at the right time** – for example, knowing when to see a GP, use a pharmacy or go to hospital
- **Supports patients after a hospital stay**, so they can safely return home and recover in the community

In short, they're inviting community organisations to design a creative project to keep people well and reduce unnecessary hospital visits this winter.

This funding is intended for new projects and pilots only and the proposal should not include investment in current initiatives already in place, *unless* you are able to clearly evidence that there will be benefit over and above what is currently being delivered.

You do not have to bid for the full amount and individual and joint bids are welcomed.

Areas and Communities of Focus as identified by ICB:

Coventry and Warwickshire with a focus on **Central Coventry** and **Nuneaton**

- Parents and guardians of 0-4 s
- Age 80+ individuals and their carers year olds
- Deprived communities
- Asian / Asian British communities – higher respiratory related A&E growth into winter – this is particularly the case for adults (18-64s)

This list is not exhaustive, and proposals would be welcome which reach, any local communities who are impacted by health inequalities, however applications would need to include the core groups above.

Funding and Timescales

- The funding is a one off and time limited. All funding will need to be allocated and used by February 28th 2026.
- All organisations who are awarded funding will need to submit a closure report no later than 13th March 2026
- This programme funding will be managed and administered by VCSFE Collaborative lead organisation (WCAVA) on behalf of the ICB

Monitoring and Evaluation

The plan you submit should explain how you will measure results, both with numbers (qualitative outcomes e.g how many people took part) and with feedback or stories (qualitative outcomes, like peoples experiences or how confident they feel).

You will also need to share what you learn from the project with the wider local health system, so those lessons can guide and improve future projects.

How to apply

- Please complete the form below and send to tara@wcava.org.uk
- **Deadline for Submissions Friday 31st October 2025**
- We encourage all applicants who are submitting proposals to work within the principles of the VCSFE Collaborative
 - Fair access for everyone (equity of access)
 - Focusing on local needs and neighbourhoods (primacy of place)
 - Giving our communities a say and opportunities to get involved

In short, it's about making sure local people are heard and supported fairly, wherever they live.

Who can apply

Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise Organisations who deliver services in Coventry and Warwickshire and who can demonstrate via the proposal that they are able to effectively commit to and reach the areas and communities of focus as specified.

Exclusion criteria

- Groups or organisations that are politically focused
- Individuals
- Statutory Organisations

The following proposals will not be considered:

- Personal profit or gain

- Items or work already carried out before the grant awarded
- Loans or debt repayments
- Activities related to statutory obligations
- Existing contractual obligations within the ICS
- Promotion of religious or political beliefs
- Funding existing initiatives

General Guidance

Proposals which link into the work of the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams would be welcomed however it is important that the **focus** remains **on specific winter interventions**.

Recognising the challenging timescales of this project we advise you consider existing projects, groups and communities that you could utilise to deliver this work.

Examples may include known regular gatherings within community spaces at which you could offer to provide information sessions or arrange to facilitate a pop-up opportunity via local healthcare providers.

Proposal process

Proposals submitted using the form below and submitted by email to tara@wcava.org.uk and no later than 16:00 on 131st October 2025. The form will be posted on the VCFSE website / Members portal.

All applications will be checked for eligibility and reviewed by a panel formed from members of the VCFSE Collaborative Reference Group and who do not belong to an organisation that has submitted a proposal for fairness and transparency.

The successful proposals will be sent to the ICB who will make the final decision. All applications will be informed of outcomes within 14 working day of submission, if for any reason there is a delay i.e clarification required, then all parties will be informed.

Successful applicants will be notified directly of arrangements and timescales for receipt of funding.

The funding will be arranged in accordance with the collaborative model that is established, based on the proposals. For example, there maybe a lead organisation or coordinates for smaller organisations and could be the lead organisation to distribute funding.

Scoring criteria

The awarding decisions will be based on proposals that best contribute to the areas of focus identified within this grant and recognise the ICS Vision outlined in the CORE20Plus5 framework.

Criteria	Maximum Points
Organisation who can connect with and deliver in Coventry and Warwickshire (There is a strong focus on Central Coventry and Nuneaton areas)	3
Organisation who can connect with arrange delivery of proposal within the following communities (please tick all who will be part of your proposal): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asian • British Asian • Faith communities • Deprived communities 	4
Demonstrates collaboration with other organisations	3
Demonstrates an understanding of the challenges faced in the identified communities	3
Proposal includes timescale of delivery	3
Proposal has clear explanation of how the funding will be used	3
Proposal demonstrates an awareness of how to measure impact	3

Proposal Form

General Organisational Details	
Name and address of your organisation	
Type of organisation	Charitable Incorporated Organisation Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee Unincorporated Community Group (Not registered with the Charity Commission) Community Interest Company Town or Parish Council Other kind of registered charity (e.g trust) Other (Please State)
Main contact details Name, Position, email and phone	
Will you be working with another organisation to deliver the work	
If yes, please state who	
Proposal Details	

Timescales – dates of when delivery of the project will start and finish

How much funding are you requesting?

Breakdown of how you will spend funding

Which areas will you be delivering your project in?

Central Coventry
Nuneaton
Other areas – please state:

Which of the following communities will you aim to deliver to?

Asian	
British Asian	Faith communities
Other – please state	Deprived communities

A brief outline of how your proposal considers aspects of the CORE20Plus5 Vision?

- Prioritising prevention and improving future health outcomes through tackling health inequalities
- Improving access to health and care services and increasing trust and confidence
- Tackling immediate system pressures and improving resilience

Description of how you will deliver the aims of the project (ie: support and build on pop-up opportunities etc)

(enabling people to feel more confident about health and wellbeing and increasing the number of people accessing vaccination programmes across Coventry and Warwickshire)

Please provide a brief outline of how you intend to measure the success and impact of your project (this can be expanded upon and/or changed at a later date if needed)

Anything else you would like to tell us in relation to securing this funding?

Please confirm the following statements

We understand that if successful in securing funding:

- We agree to complete a short project closure report no more than 4 weeks after the project ends, which will include a measurement as to the success and impact of the project and lessons learnt
- We will provide a short bi-weekly update to the VCFSE Programme Manager on the progress of the project
- We will provide documents which give assurance of our constitution and governance as required

- That delivery of the project and use of the funds will be complete no later than 31st March 2026

Applicants signature on behalf of submitting organisation

Applicants name and position

Date

Protecting your data

The information you provide will only be used for the purpose intended. Warwickshire and Solihull CAVA reserves the right to contact you in the coming months for feedback using the contact details provided.

The information will be stored on electronic equipment maintained by Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (Warwickshire and Solihull CAVA). Warwickshire CAVA is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office as a data controller under the Data Protection Act (1998). For more information and to view Warwickshire CAVA's privacy policy please visit: www.wcava.org.uk/privacy-policy

FOR WCAVA/VCFSE Collaborative Office Use Only

Name of group applying for grant:	
Date application received:	
Panel Date:	

Grant awarded:	YES / NO
Amount applied for:	£
Amount awarded:	£

Appendix

Summary of the NHS 10 year plan

The plan is built around three big shifts:

1. **From hospital to community**

More care being done closer to where people live (in the community, in homes, local centres) — rather than automatically going into hospital.

2. **From analogue to digital**

A push toward doing more stuff via digital tools: apps, wearables, shared digital records, more “smart” services.

3. **From sickness to prevention**

Less focus just on treating people once they are already unwell; more focus on preventing illness in the first place: diet, smoking, obesity, mental health, inequalities (area, social, economic).

What the Plan says about VCFSE / third-sector involvement

The plan specifically recognizes that the NHS can't do all this alone. It says civil society organisations (which includes charities, community groups, faith-based ones, social enterprises) are essential partners in:

- delivering community health services
- helping with prevention and tackling inequalities
- co-designing solutions (i.e. involving local people and local groups)
- helping with digital inclusion (making sure people who are less tech-savvy or without good internet access aren't left behind)
- contributing to data and feedback, to shape services more locally

For more information please have a look at the NAVCA summary for the sector which can be found [here](#). The Full NHS 10 year plan can be found [here](#).

What is the CORE20+5?

What is Core20PLUS5? It is a NHS strategy to reduce health inequalities

- **Core20** = The poorest 20% of the population
- **PLUS** = Other disadvantaged groups (e.g. ethnic minorities, homeless, disabled, etc.)
- **5** = 5 key health areas with big inequality gaps, where the NHS wants to improve fast

The goal is to make sure people in poorer or excluded groups get the same quality of care and health outcomes as everyone else.