Crisis and Resilience Fund 2026-27

Wealden Small Grants Programme Application

Wealden Food Partnership has been asked by East Sussex County Council to co-ordinate the Crisis Resilience Fund (CRF) small grants programme for Wealden.
This fund is intended to support activities that strengthen financial resilience, reduce food insecurity, improve access to advice and support services and develop sustainable, community-based responses to hardship. Wealden Food Partnership acts as a strategic local partner, working collaboratively with community food providers, advice agencies, local authorities, health services and other voluntary and community sector organisations to strengthen local networks of support and improve outcomes for residents.

Funding for 2026-27 may be used to support a Small Grants Programme and / or Food System Development Projects delivered in partnership with community food providers and other relevant organisations. East Sussex County Council recognise that a greater proportion of funding may be allocated through a local Small Grants Programme for 2026-27, whilst longer-term priorities are developed with local partners.

Areas of work that could be supported include, but are not limited to:

- Development and strengthening of community supermarkets, food pantries, social supermarkets, social kitchens and community food hubs.
- Projects that integrate food provision, education and support with advice, income maximisation, financial resilience and wider wraparound support.
- Partnership development and local coordination activity to reduce demand on emergency food provision.
- Community engagement and co-production activity to inform targeted project development.
- Innovation and service development that promotes long-term resilience and reduces repeat crisis.
- Activities that strengthen referral pathways between food support, advice services, housing, health and welfare support.

Eligibility criteria:

- Your project/activity must benefit people in the Wealden District.
- Your project/activity must actively tackle food insecurity, with some measurable impact within 6 months of the grant being administered.
- Projects involving direct delivery of food to individuals must be able to demonstrate adequate hygiene and safeguarding or incorporate relevant training as part of their application.

We will not fund projects that:

- Only benefit one individual.
- Are focused on making profits and sharing these profits privately.
- Discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation.
- Are managed by groups that have had a previous grant which has not been managed satisfactorily.
- Are raising funds for works or equipment already committed, bought or completed, or for activities that have already taken place.
- Include unspecified expenditure (e.g. a campaign with flexible funding).
- Request payment into a personal bank account.
- Overtly or exclusively promote a political or religious agenda.
- Include purchase of alcohol or illegal substances.
- Are unable to provide reasonable or measurable evidence of impact.

Upon receiving this grant, the recipient organisation agrees to:

- Keep accurate records / data of successes and challenges of the project, including accurate numbers and demographics of the households helped.
- Use the Wealden Food Partnership's evaluation template to submit a short report stating how the grant has been spent, providing data, feedback and photographic evidence (where appropriate) – further details are specified in the Grant Agreement form.
- Make reference to the CRF fund and Wealden Food Partnership in any promotion of funded activities.

Next steps:

- Please email your completed application form to helen.graham@communityactioneastsussex.org.uk
- Your application will be reviewed by the Wealden Food Partnership Advisory Group panel, and you will be notified of the outcome.
- If successful, you will need to sign the Grant Agreement form and provide Wealden Food Partnership with your bank details.

The information provided on this form will be stored electronically and will be shared with Community Action East Sussex, the host organisation for the Food Partnership. Information relating to successful applications will be stored for six years and unsuccessful applications will be stored for two years. Applications will then be securely deleted under UK GDPR.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this application process, please contact Helen at: helen.graham@communityactioneastsussex.org.uk

Crisis and Resilience Fund 2026-27

Small Grants Programme Application Form

Organisation Name:	
Key Contact Name and contact details:	
Project Title:	
Amount of funding requested:	
Describe your project or activity: (what you are doing and why, planned dates for activity - 150 words max)	
Which households does your project aim to support? (please state particular groups if appropriate**,** e.g. families, children, older people, persons with disabilities, persons without fixed address, etc)	
How do you plan to use the grant to deliver your project? (please describe how the money will be spent, demonstrate the capacity of	

the organisation to deliver the project (dedicated staff-time*, volunteers, etc) and any relevant safeguarding / food hygiene standards)	

What impact do you foresee if your application is successful? (please describe what will happen / change because of this project)	
How will you measure this impact? (100 words max)	
Are there any other organisations you'd like to collaborate with? (If yes, give details)	
Is there any further information you would like to share? (200 words max)	
Signature:	
Email:	
Date:	

Thank you for your application.

Please email your completed application form to helen.graham@communityactioneastsussex.org.uk