

Warm and Welcoming Community Places

(Winter Programme Funding 23/24)

Criteria and Guidance

- Fife Council can offer financial assistance for projects in each of the seven Local Areas through the Winter Funding. Funding will be allocated to applications linked to priorities in each area's Local Community Plan to encourage local partnership working.
- The funding is open for organisations or groups in Fife who would like to extend their services and activities or offer new ones to provide the community with a warm welcome to local and hospitable meeting places that are without stigma to reduce loneliness and isolation and to access food and/or activities.
- The evaluation of the warm spaces fund that ran last year shows us very few people attended for the expected reason of having somewhere warm to go to because of the cost of living rises of fuel and the challenge of heating their home. Reducing social isolation and community connectedness became some of the main reasons for visiting.
- The evaluation of the small grants scheme for food providers showed that there is a need for existing food projects to be supported to become more sustainable and offer opportunities to support local people on a journey towards resilience, promote dignity and in which individuals and families can access healthy and affordable food.
- Applications which support food projects showing sustainable ways of delivering activities will be favoured (such as pay what you feel cafes). Area approval panels will be looking for communities to have a range of projects that sit at each stage of the affordable food ladder (see appendix 1), and which meet Scottish Government's dignity principles (see appendix 2).
- Proposals need to be clear about how organisations expect to reach people and target the help to those in the community who we know can benefit most (Please see information below for further details).
- There is an opportunity to make sure people know how to access a range of support and those successful will have their venues listed on the Fife Council 'get help' interactive map as well as providing leaflets and highlighting support as part of the benefit maximisation and cost of living campaigns.
- If more than one organisation is looking to run similar activities in a close proximity, it is recommended that they are linked together to avoid duplication.

- Organisations need to have an element of preventative work in their projects, this can include partner agencies dropping into sessions, signposting/referring or offering a benefit check. Local staff can support groups with this.
- A breakdown of the costs of the activities and any hot drinks and food must be costed over the period that the activities are to run.
- Organisations in receipt of grant awards need to keep records of how many attended and undertake consultation with participants during the initiative.
- The fund will close for applications on 20th October 2023. The fund may re-open again at some point during the winter months.
- Applicants can apply for a maximum of £4,999, although applications for larger sums may be considered. There is no minimum.
- Applicants must be established with a constitution and bank account. There are no restrictions on the size of the organisation.

The types of projects we prioritise:

- Applications which support food projects showing sustainable ways of delivering activities will be favoured (such as pay what you feel cafes)
- Projects that will help to achieve any of the outcomes contained within the new Plan4Fife four priorities. [Click Here](#) (page 6). i.e. Opportunities for All, Thriving Places, Inclusive Growth & Jobs, Community Led Services.
- Those which offer a different provision within the local community.
- Partnership projects that involve organisations working together and/or with local communities.

What our funding can be used for:

- **Food costs:** to help meet the costs of purchasing essential food supplies for distribution to service users.
- **Equipment costs:** to replace inefficient/ageing equipment, to purchase new storage/display equipment.
- **Activity costs:** to cover activities which may improve mental health and social isolation.
- **Travel costs:** to help bring housebound people into the warm spaces who would not otherwise have attended due to physical or mental health issues.
- **Running costs:** to help with general running costs, e.g. costs associated with buildings/venues, fuel costs for food collection and distribution.
- **Volunteer costs:** to enhance volunteer training and development opportunities.

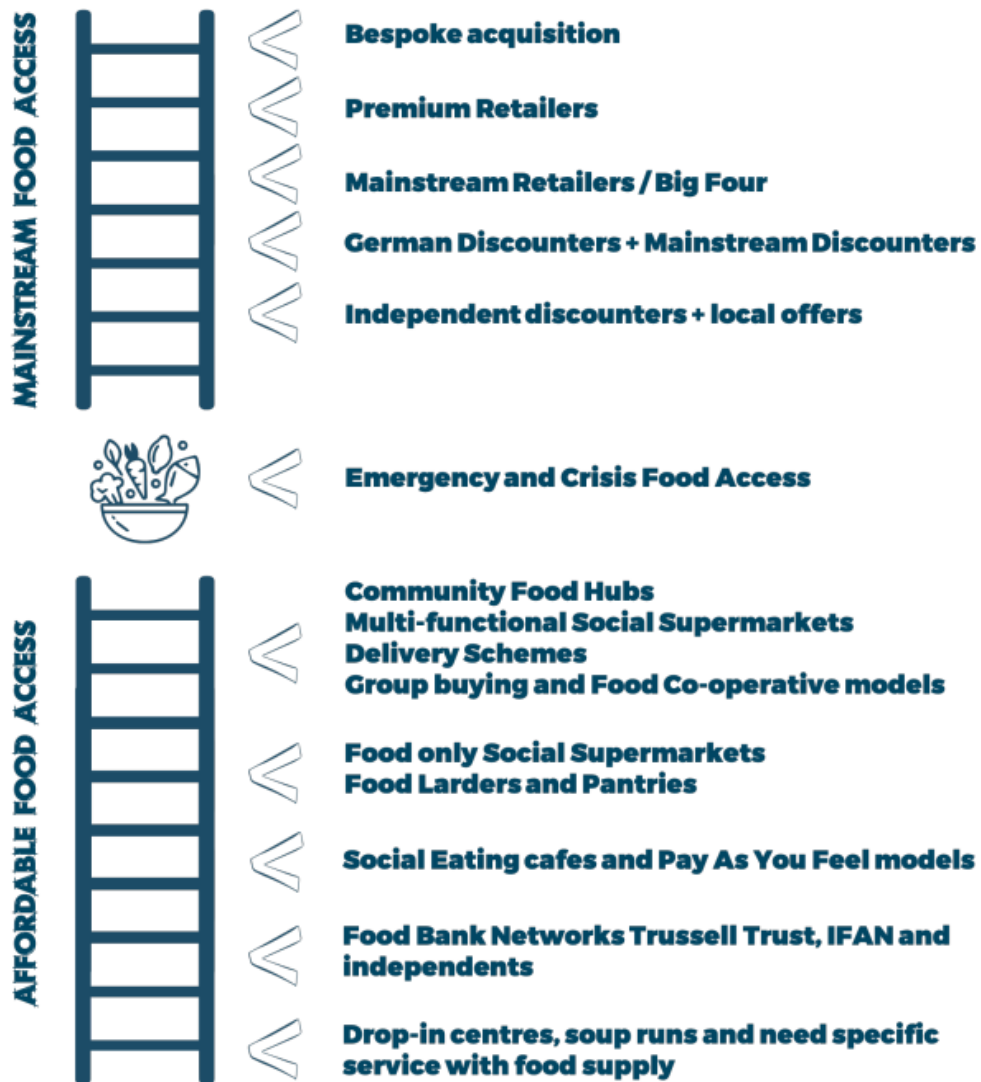
What we cannot fund:

- Individuals.
- Gaps in budget as a result of a savings decision made by Fife Council or other Community Planning Partner.
- Projects where financial gain goes to individuals.
- Projects that don't meet at least one of our local outcomes.
- Projects which duplicate others in the same community at the same day/time.

There is a mandatory monitoring/evaluation process for all recipients of funds, including a check-in with all projects funded at an interim stage.

THE FOOD LADDER

The concept of the Food Ladder is all about building our capacity and capability around food access at a both a community and a systems level.



In the same way that in mainstream shopping environments, people access different kinds of retail offers according to their budget, geography, and taste, not all people on the spectrum of food insecurity have the same needs or are best served by the same kind of project.

The Dignity Principles in Practice

Between November 2016 and October 2017, Nourish Scotland and the Poverty Truth Commission worked closely with people with lived experience of food insecurity, staff and volunteers involved in community food initiatives and wider stakeholders to explore what dignity means in practice.

The 'Dignity Principles in Practice' were developed to provide a way for community food providers to reflect on the design and delivery of their work and engage with the Dignity Principles from the perspective of someone experiencing food insecurity.

+ A sense of control

Having power to make choices about what, where, when, how and with whom you eat.

+ Able to take part in community life

Feeling able and welcome to take part in different aspects of community life, regardless of your financial situation.

+ Nourished and supported

Being able to enjoy food and access support that meets your needs.

+ Involved in decision-making

Feeling able to share your views and ideas and to have those views taken seriously in decision-making.

+ Valued and able to contribute

Feeling able to share your views and ideas and to have those views taken seriously in decision-making.