

EXETER COMMUNITY GRANTS PANEL MEETING – EXETER CITY GRANTS

23rd February 2026

Present: Cllr Diana Moore; Cllr Matthew Vizard; Cllr Deborah Darling; Cllr Tammy Palmer; Cllr Molly Miller-Boam, Cllr Paul Knott; Cllr Gemma Rolstone

Advisory Members Present: Ebbie Peters (Community Builder)

Mahi Ahmed Community Officer; Ben Langston Consultation and Engagement Manager, Exeter City Council

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Matthew Vizard chaired the meeting by welcoming all panel members, Ben Langston sent all the applications and summary to the panel prior to the meeting.

City Grant Budget:

- Total Budget: £50,000
- Round 1 Awarded - £17,084
- Round 2 Awarded - £16,740
- Round 3 Awarded - £16,176
- Spent to Date: £50,000

2. Recommendations and decision making

This funding is to support groups and organisations to help run events, festivals and projects that aim to encourage community participation. This fund can also be used for a one-off purchase or repair of equipment. These are one-off grants of up to £2,500. Further details of the criteria and details on how to apply can be found [here](#).

The Grants Panel wish to put on record its thanks to all 23 applicants in this round, who have taken the time to complete an application, as listed below:

1. Theatre Alibi
2. Step One Charity
3. Wellbeing Workshops Devon CIC
4. Sound Gallery CIC
5. Exeter Pride
6. The Secondhand Craft Shop CIC
7. Devon United Women
8. Beacon Wanderers
9. Wonford Health Matters
10. Sport in Mind
11. Exeter & Cullompton FC Community Interest Company
12. Our Exeter CIC
13. Love Food CIC
14. St Sidwell's Centre
15. Sylvania Community Stores and Cafe
16. Devon Development Education
17. Alphington Community Association
18. Art Work Exeter CIC
19. Documental Productions C.I.C.
20. Dreadnought South West

- 21. Exeter Seed Bank
- 22. Shumba Arts
- 23. Westbank Community Health and Care

The cumulative total requested by all 23 applicants combined was £50,460. On reviewing all the applications, the Grants Panel were pleased to be able to award the following grants:

Organisation	Awarded
Sound Gallery CIC	£2,000.00
Wonford Health Matters	£900.00
Dreadnought South West	£1,726.00
Sylvania Community Stores and Cafe	£1,000.00
Documental Productions C.I.C.	£1,500.00
Exeter Seed Bank	£990.00
Exeter Pride	£2,500.00
Devon United Women	£750.00
Sport in Mind	£750.00
Devon Development Education	£2,000.00
Shumba Arts	£960.00
Art Work Exeter CIC	£1,100.00
TOTAL:	£16,176.00

Application: Sound Gallery CIC

Programme designed to provide music-making and training activities for young people who are 'at risk of social exclusion' with an aim to engage and inspire them, increase their personal, social and technical skills, and improve their employability and well-being within a safe working environment.

- Applied: £2,000.00
- Awarded: £2,000.00

Application: WONFORD Health Matters

Opportunity for local groups and services to be showcased, health and wellbeing information accessed and community to be celebrated.

The aims of the festival are:

1. To promote local activities that support health and wellbeing
2. To provide access to health and wellbeing information and services
3. To have demonstrations, taster sessions and entertainment from local groups.

And most importantly to have a fun, positive, inclusive event with a feel-good factor

- Application: £1,800.00
- Awarded: £900.00

Application: Dreadnought South West

Bring together a group of women with an inclusive callout to encourage and welcome LGBTQIA+ identifying women and non-binary people from across Exeter to spend time making a new textile piece to be exhibited in the city. Alongside this a piece of writing will accompany the textile art work created in response to the workshops and conversations in the workshop space.

- Application: £1,748.00
- Awarded: £1,726.00

Application: Sylvania Community Stores and Cafe

Extend Saturday morning breakfasts to a daily service plus develop lunchtime menu.

- Application: £1,760.00
- Awarded: £1,000.00

Application: Documental Productions CIC

Programme of integrated, inclusive music events led by Documental Productions with their Sing & Sign Jukebox choir at the forefront, designed to address social isolation and inequality experienced by learning disabled adults and carers in Exeter.

- Application: £2,500.00
- Awarded: £1,500.00

Application: Exeter Seed Bank

Enhancing community outreach capacity raises awareness of the 'gift economy' or 'commons', through which nature's abundance can be shared within communities, and supports the sharing of knowledge and skills around growing food, biodiversity and beauty.

- Application: £2,500.00
- Awarded: £990.00

Application: Exeter Pride

March through city centre and other activities; promoting LGBTQ+ rights; awareness raising etc.

- Application: £2,500.00
- Awarded: £990.00

Application: Devon United Women

International Women's Festival - a programme for all communities to enjoy and share their experiences, learn more about women issues and learn more about their achievements and the way we should continue campaigning for their rights to be marked and achieved.

- Application: £2,000.00
- Awarded: £750.00

Application: Sport In Mind

provide a one-hour weekly physical activity session at The Mint Methodist Church to improve the mental wellbeing of adults, experiencing mental health problems.

Sessions to provide a safe, supportive environment and opportunities for all to get active. This session is Tai Chi which is an activity to suit all genders and ages, as sessions range from 17 yr to 90yr olds.

- Application: £2,000.00
- Awarded: £750.00

Application: Devon Development Education

Re-delivery of a previously successful project element: guided walks: in Exeter, the walk around the city, identifies historical locations associated with people from diverse backgrounds, from all parts of the world, who came to live, study and work in the city over many centuries.

- Application: £2,000.00
- Awarded: £2,000.00

Application: Shumba Arts

Project to support people struggling with mental health difficulties to be part of a regular weekly group. During the sessions learn African djembe drumming and percussions as well as playing freestyle 'in the moment music'. Aim is to provide accessible, inclusive, and creative activity that encourages positive mental wellbeing, social connection, and physical activity.

- Application: £1,930.00
- Awarded: £960.00

Application: Art Work Exeter CIC

Participatory arts project bringing diverse Exeter communities together to explore global salon (gathering) traditions through creative workshops and collaboratively designed conversation spaces at Exeter Custom House. Participants will help shape themed salons, develop hospitality elements and research both international and local salon cultures, leading to a vibrant weekend programme of hosted conversations, performances and opportunities for people to run their own salons.

- Application: £2,100.00
- Awarded: £1,100.00

2026/27

The Exeter City Grants will re-open for 2026/27 with dates to be confirmed. Details will be published on the [Exeter Grants Programme](#) webpages in due course.