**Criteria Community Grants – Ward Grant and City Grant 2017/18**

Community grants support residents and community groups to deliver their great ideas that help to encourage greater resident participation through more volunteering and so help build stronger, healthier and more vibrant communities.

**Ward Grants**

Key criteria:

Initiatives that encourage and support residents and community groups to build a stronger

community and encourage greater involvement in community activities.

The maximum grant is £300 per ward application.

Applications can be made to more than one ward for projects that work in a number of wards or across ward boundaries. Projects working across a larger area should make an application for a City grant

Ward Grant applications will be decided by the Councillors in the ward(s) in which the project is located

Ward Grants should be supported by a majority of Councillors in the ward(s)

Where Councillors within the same ward, or in adjoining wards, are unable to reach an agreement on the application, the Lead Councillor for Communities and Neighbourhoods will be asked to make a final decision.

**Any group or individual interested in applying for a ward grant should initially discuss their idea with their local Councillors, and then complete an application form.**

**City Grant**

Key criteria:

The maximum that can be applied for is £2,000

Initiatives that encourage and support residents and community groups working to build a stronger community and encourage greater involvement in community activities.

City Grants will be decided by the Community Grants City-wide panel which comprises the lead Councillor for Communities & Neighbourhoods, and a politically balanced panel.

City Grants will be decided in a series of rounds:

o **Round 1 –** By end of April

o **Round 2 –** By end of September Closing date – 14 September

o **Round 3 –** By end of February Closing date – 13 February 2018.

Demand for City Grants is very high. Please be realistic in your application and provide full details on how the money will be spent and how it will benefit Exeter residents.

**Criteria and application process for Community Grants – City and Ward Grants 2017/18**

All applications must be made by a community group or organisation by completing a Community Grants application form.

Funding should benefit the people and communities of Exeter, encourage volunteering and support local communities to address issues in their neighbourhoods.

**Funding can be used for small capital expenditure or to contribute towards revenue costs to help start a new initiative. The funding is not intended to support long-term revenue costs.**

Funding can be used for projects that support and promote partnership working with another agency, but the application should be made by a community group or organisation. Projects must meet the Council’s obligation to support Equal Opportunities:

***We are committed to equality of opportunity and to ensuring that no one receiving services is discriminated against on such grounds as disability, ethnic origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, locality, property, birth or other status.***

Funding will not be given retrospectively

Assistance and guidance on completing an application form will be provided by an Exeter City Council officer or City Councillor, where needed.

If you are successful, please acknowledge ECC’s contribution in any publicity material relating to your project

Those receiving funding will be asked to complete a short evaluation report on the benefit of the funding to the community

For further information please contact: grants@exeter.gov.uk or call 01392 265541