

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Please familiarise yourself with the requirements listed in Cranbrook

Town Council's Grants Policy before completing this form.

For your application to be considered please ensure you provide one of the following:

- Copy of the latest set of annual accounts including profit and loss and a balance sheet, or
- o Copy of bank statements for the previous six months, or
- A budgeted forecast

Any constituted organisation must also include a copy of their constitution.

Completed applications forms together with supporting evidence should be e-mailed to clerk@cranbrooktowncouncil.gov.uk.

The Council's Privacy Notice is accessible on our website at https://www.cranbrooktowncouncil.gov.uk/governance/.

1	In the interest of accountability and transparency, Cranbrook Town Council considers and determines grant applications at public meetings. This means that this application form will become a public document. Please would you give your consent that this application form can be published for public consumption. Personal and contact information will be omitted.	∀es Please note that if you do not give your consent for us to publish the information on this form, Cranbrook Town Council will unfortunately be unable to consider and determine your grant application.
2	Name and Address of Organisation	Home-Start Exeter, East & Mid Devon, Exmouth Business Centre 14 Hartley Road Ex. SG
3	Contact Details of Applicant Name and Job Title	Funding & Mager

	Telephone Number Email Address	g rteemd.org.uk
4	Are you a Registered Charity?	
		□ No
5	Amount of grant requested:	£1,400
6	When is the grant funding required?	March 2024
7	Is it a	□ one-off funding request
		☐ recurring funding request
8	Total cost of the project:	£9,243
9	For what purpose or project is the grant requested?	The grant will contribute towards the costs of sustaining two groups which take place in Cranbrook: Mothers-in-Mind and Family Wellbeing Group. Both groups started in Cranbrook in Sept 2023 and take place once a week at the Cranbrook Education Campus.
10	What are the project's aims?	Home-Start supports families with young children who are struggling to cope and who may be living with a complex mix of issues. Through one-to-one volunteer home-visiting support and group support families access local services and activities, make social connections, and re-discover the fun in family life. Our Cranbrook project consists of two weekly groups:
		 Mothers-in-Mind for women struggling with their mental health in the perinatal period This group supports women with poor mental health to become attuned to the needs of their baby and to develop

period. The group is a safe environment which gives mothers confidence to enjoy their babies and establish new friendships. Underpinning the ethos of the group is peer support. First established in 2018, the group has recently moved from Exeter to Cranbrook.

 Family Wellbeing Group – groups for all the family, encouraging social/emotional development and strengthening parent/child relationships

This group aims to support parents as their child's first teachers and encourages play, listening, talking, sharing books etc. The group also has themed sessions and is able to support families with other issues such as budgeting, healthy eating, advice on energy tariffs.

Both groups are facilitated by an experienced Group Worker alongside Home-Start Volunteers. There is no other organisation in our area providing the same services that we offer. Our strong partnerships with other health, social care and community services enables families to link into other opportunities and sources of support to help them get onto a positive track. Our track record means referrers see us a trusted partners helping them deliver outcomes for the families they in turn support. Referrers include health visitors, midwives, Children's Centres, perinatal-mental-health-team, Mother & Baby Unit, Talkworks(NHS), foodbanks, IDVAs, housing associations, schools and local organisations such as SNUG and ParentPlus. Families can also self-refer.

Maximum 300 words

11 Please evidence demand for this project:

The children we support are growing up in families whose parents are struggling to meet their physical/ emotional/ developmental needs. They are at higher risk of poor outcomes: debt/low income (80%), mental ill health (96%), lone parent (30%), disability (20%) and are missing out on early skills that lay the foundations for their future life-chances. One in 4 families

have complex needs as they juggle over 5 distinct needs. Some children suffer through neglect and other families are on the brink of crisis. Some are now experiencing poverty for the first time in their lives. There is also demand from refugee families who are housed at Exeter Airport who are currently attending group.

Last year we supported 184 children under 5. For those children, childhood had been impacted - family relationships were adversely affected, they were not getting out to groups/activities, were spending a lot of time at home, not socialising with their peers or gaining early social, emotional and developmental skills. In some cases, developmental delays were missed.

Practitioners agree that the pandemic had a significant impact on early years child development. Children are still catchingup. The ongoing stresses are having a wear-and-tear effect on parents and this impacts their ability to provide nurturing care. Isolation/ loneliness is identified by 72% of parents, with children being bored, frustrated and exhibiting unwanted behaviour and psychological difficulties.

The increase in families experiencing debt/financial concerns has risen exponentially in the last 6 months. Low-income households make up 80% of referrals to us; 18% are in debt. Many are in low-paid employment and are experiencing poverty for the first time. Families face uncertainty and instability, they are often unaware of the extra help available and miss out on utilities' savingtariffs. We understand how financial stress makes parenting harder.

Maximum 300 words

12 If the total cost of the project is more than the grant, how will the residue be financed?

We receive some core funding from the National Lottery Community Fund and Henry Smith Charity and are currently in year 2 of 3-year funding from both. For this project, other funding has been received from Devon County Council and DCC Councillors Henry Gent & Sue Randall-Johnson which expires in March 2024. Further funding will be secured through a combination of grants from

		trusts and foundations and our own fundraising.
		Maximum 300 words
13	How is financial sustainability being achieved in the long term?	We view group support as a core service within our support for families. We continue to apply for funding through trusts & foundations and we have a programme of 4 fundraising events throughout each year. Forecasts are reviewed monthly with funding gaps being identified well in advance in order to build sufficient unrestricted reserves to cover any anticipated shortfalls. Our core funding is not reliant on any one particular funder; our funding strategy is regularly updated and we have a plan which is implemented by the Funding & Development Manager. Our strategy includes development of fundraising via major donors and individual giving.
		Maximum 300 words
14	Have you applied for a grant for the same project to another organisation?	 ✓ Yes Please state which organisation and how much: Grants already received which end in Mar 2024: Neighbourly/Sainsbury's grant of £1500 for salary/food (healthy
		eating); • DCC, £5,000 towards salary and venue hire.
15	How will the community benefit from the project?	Our evaluations show that families are stronger after our support because: • parents are more confident to address the challenges they face and avert deterioration or crisis for the ultimate benefit of their children; • parents' mental health and resilience improves and family relationships are strengthened; • children are less isolated, experience positive new

friendships and have improved wellbeing; children are better equipped to reach their developmental milestones; gain confidence and other developmental skills; families connect with their local community and build networks; they are financially resilient: parents feel more in control of family management; we help to address immediate needs (food/access to debt advice) and provide guidance on budgeting and income maximisation. In 2022/23, we supported 101 families with 184 children. At the close of support, 93% had improved their scores, the majority by over 50%. 100% of women attending the Mothers in Mind group scored themselves higher at the end of attending group than when they started. One Mum had a starting score of 6, and on leaving scored herself 27! We support families to access extra support through applications to the Household Support Fund, food/baby banks, debt advice and grants. Within the group sessions, we have arranged sessions on Energy and Debt advice via Citizens Advice. Our Home-Start UK QA assessment report published in August 2023 has the following feedback: A partner agency commented on the success of the HSEEMD groups in the HSQA survey feedback: 'It is also great to have the Mothers in Mind group which is hugely beneficial to mums struggling with mental health and provides a small, close knit group of mums and group leaders supporting each other. Also lovely for the babies to be taken to this group where they have the opportunity to socialise.' Maximum 300 words 16 Are any of the beneficiaries non-residents of Cranbrook? ☐ No

- 17 Applicants are asked to familiarise themselves with the Council's grants policy and please tick the box on the right to confirm that you understand and agree with them.
- ☑ I/We agree with the terms and conditions of the Council's grants policy, especially in relation to crediting the Council in any publicity and providing feedback on the success of the grant within six months.

By signing this form, the applicant(s) agree with all the provisions detailed in the Town Council's grants policy, specifically regarding ownership of asset(s) and the requirement to repay funds where these have not been used in accordance with the

grant application.

Signed.....Date...6/12/2023...