

Southport Community Safety and Building Security Grant Scheme Application Guidelines

August 2025

Introduction

Sefton CVS in partnership with Sefton Council as part of the Southport Recovery Programme has secured funding to make grants to support VCF organisations for essential community building security work and community safety improvements. The awards are a one-off payment and cannot be used to support ongoing running costs or general repairs.

How do I apply

There is an online application process to apply, please click on the link below:

[Apply now...](#)

A word document version of the application form is available upon request.

For more information, Sefton CVS will be hosting a Meet the Funder event via Zoom on Thursday 25 September, 11am – 12pm. You can book your place below:

[Register here...](#)

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible organisations must: -

1. Be a constituted voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise organisation, operating on a not-for-profit basis.
2. Eligible legal structures include registered charities, not-for-profit unincorporated associations; not-for-profit company limited by guarantee with an asset lock; community interest company limited by guarantee; community benefit society
3. Have a bank account in the name of the organisation which requires at least two unrelated people to sign cheques and make withdrawals.
4. Have a robust Child/Adults at Risk Safeguarding Policy & Procedure where applicable and evidence that staff and volunteers are DBS checked.
5. Be a VCF organisation based in and supporting residents of Southport.

6. Provide 3 quotes inclusive of VAT to evidence best value.

Who is not eligible

- Public sector bodies (for example NHS trusts)
- Schools
- PTA's delivering projects to benefit their school
- Private sector organisations and businesses
- Projects for residential buildings

How does it work?

Eligible organisations can apply for grants of up to £5,000 maximum (inclusive of VAT). In exceptional circumstance awards may exceed this amount.

The programme will fund essential building security or measures that improve community safety

For grants that address building security applicants may be asked to have a building security survey completed to assess essential work required. If a technical assessment is requested we can arrange for it to be done by a partner organisation.

Applications will be required to provide evidence that you have sought value for money e.g. 3 written quotes.

What can be funded?

The requirement is that the award will contribute to building security ensuring a safe and welcoming community space. Examples of what the grant can be used are:

Electronic Security:

- CCTV system (number of cameras)
- Security lighting (motion-activated)
- Burglar alarm system
- Access control (keypads/fobs/intercoms)
- Emergency communication systems
- Remote monitoring equipment
- Improved external lighting

Physical Security:

- Security doors and reinforced entry points

- Window security (film/grilles/laminated glass)
- Secure storage (safes/lockable cabinets)
- Perimeter fencing and gates
- Shutters or roller doors

Community Safety Training:

- Understanding and Identifying personal risk
- Knife Crime Awareness
- Domestic Abuse Awareness
- Challenging Hate Crime

Areas of expenditure NOT eligible under this programme are

- Expenditure that is not considered to support security improvements
- Grants that are considered to be revenue based e.g. staffing or ongoing such as a contribution to running costs
- Statutory bodies, companies limited by shares, NHS organisations/GP practices.
- Start-up costs for new organisations
- Organisations where their registered or operating address is outside of Southport area.
- Retrospective funding: costs that have already been incurred.
- General building work or repairs

Monitoring and Evaluation

Successful applicants will be required to provide an end of project report that evidences the benefits of the grant and impact on the community including details of expenditure such receipts and invoice as proof of spend.

What Happens Next

Applications will be considered by a grants panel and will be assessed on the impact that the project will have on making the community building a more safe and secure place for the local community.

Additional guidance – what to enclose.

Applicants must be able to provide the documents below to support their application for consideration:

1. A copy of the organisation's approved governing document (e.g. constitution, trust deed, memorandum of articles/association) which explicitly includes:

- a. Clearly defined charitable or community purposes.
 - b. A statement that the organisation is not for profit and prohibits the distribution of profit, including the distribution of dividends to members.
 - c. An asset lock or a dissolution clause which states, in the event of the organisation being dissolved, it's remaining assets will not be distributed amongst its members but will be transferred to another not-for-profit organisation or for charitable purposes elsewhere.
2. Your organisation's latest annual accounts, or income/expenditure statement for the last 12 months ☐
 3. A copy of your organisations Safeguarding Policy ☐
 4. A copy of the technical building survey (if requested) ☐

**The closing date for applications to this round of funding is:
5pm, Monday 13th October 2025.**

Late or incomplete applications cannot be accepted. This includes applications that do not include the required supporting documentation.

Please refer to the eligibility criteria, guidance notes and FAQ's sheet carefully before completing your application.

If you are unsure or have any questions about the supporting documents required, please contact the Neil Gibson before submitting the application.

If we can be of any help, or you would like to talk to us about your project, then please email neil.gibson@seftoncv.org.uk with your contact details and we will arrange for a member of the team to get in touch.