

Member Funds for Newly Elected Members

Helping you make the most of allocated funding

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June 2026

Today's Session

Learn about the member locality fund



Locality Fund 2026-2027: What is your Role?



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Each member allocated £10,000

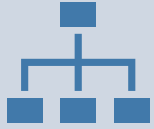
No money carried forward from previous year or into next year

Minimum spend of £300 per nomination

Members are **politically accountable** for the spend and must **maximise** community benefit

Permissions need to be submitted early

How can money be spent?



Grant funding to a properly constituted organisation, charity or local authority

eg money to a parish council to pay for community lunches



Additionality to ECC services

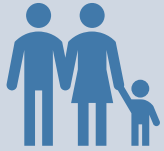
eg money for additional youth services



ECC commissions services specifically for the funding

eg commissioning a local artist to work with local children to produce a mural

What can money be spent on



Spend it on things which BENEFIT your **electoral division**



You must maximise benefit to the community



“We expect schemes to provide benefits which wouldn’t otherwise be provided. Where an organisation is already running services, we would not normally expect to provide funding to continue existing services.”

Money cannot be spent on or with:

An organisation in which the Councillor is involved

An organisation which is political or undertakes any political campaigning activity or on a councillor's constituency business

Anything with a significant ongoing maintenance or support liability which ECC would be required or expected to bear

Anything which benefits a particular individual, business or 'for profit' organisation

Any organisation which does not operate on an inclusive basis – services must be available to the community without discrimination

Any organisation which has previously misused public money

Anything which is unlawful

Reimbursing someone for expenditure which they are already committed to make

An organisation's day to day running costs for which they have already budgeted



Youth provision



Community capacity



Young Carers



Duke of Edinburgh



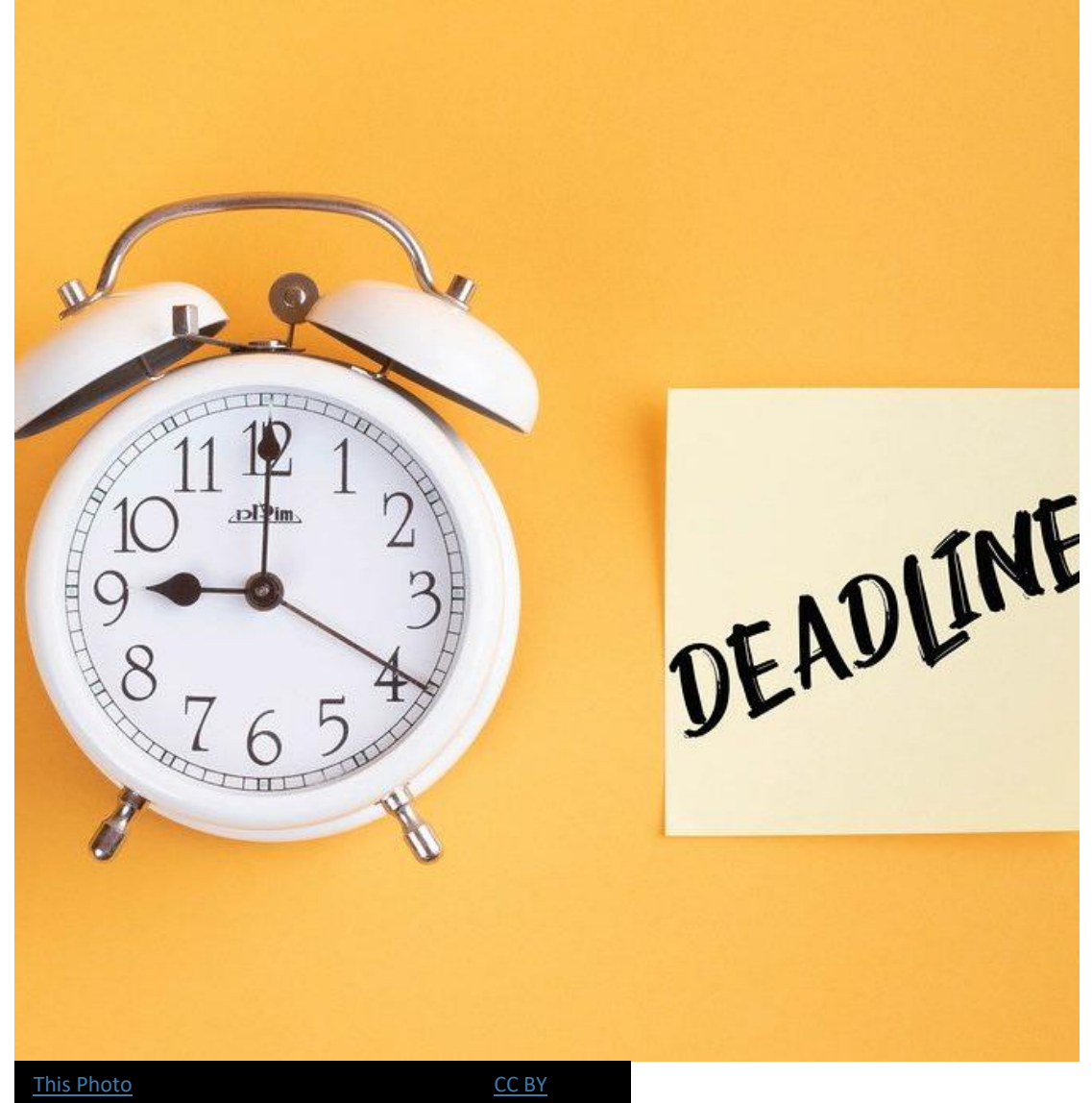
Hospital Youth Work Team



Targeted Youth Work

Deadlines –Locality Fund

- Applications will be approved as they are submitted
- Consider lead in times for initiatives to be implemented
- Deadline for nomination 8 January 2027
- Money must be spent by 20 March 2027
- Recipients to provide proof of works, receipts, payment by late March 2027



Members' Portal <https://members.essex.gov.uk/>

Meetings calendar, papers and
Forward Plan

Email

ECC Local Funds 2026/27

Highways issues and Member
Initiative

Member Development

Guidance, resources and key
documents

My Oracle

Key contacts

Scrutiny

What do I need to do?

Funds open on Friday 12 June 2026



Read the guidance



Complete the form



Any questions, contact the Team

Locality.fund@essex.gov.uk (part of the Democracy Team)

What information

Full
description of
the proposal

Breakdown of
costs

Expected
benefits

Single or joint
proposal

Name of
organisation
and contact

How does the process work?



It is **VERY POSSIBLE** to get through the process in a few days if the funding recipient responds quickly with the information we need.

You fill in the form, saying amount, purpose and contact details of recipient

We check the form and contact the recipient

Recipient completes a form to confirm details and that they are happy with the proposal

Form is then reviewed by Paul or Joanna for approval

Grant email is issued with terms and conditions and a claim form

Organisation provides receipts and claim form and is paid on receipt

We copy you into emails throughout the process.

Locality.fund@essex.gov.uk



This information is issued by:
Essex County Council

Contact us:
locality.fund@essex.gov.uk

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