

Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chests



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A Grant Programme Supporting Involvement in Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chests are part of the Government's New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal. They will support a wide range of community self-help and mutual support activities at a local or neighbourhood level through enabling local and voluntary groups in England's 88 most deprived areas to access small grants. The aim is to promote small-scale community initiatives that can improve the quality of people's lives and the strength of their community. For example "youth clubs and other young people's organisations i.e. Scout Groups".

The aim of this scheme is in 10-20 years time to have significantly improved deprived neighbourhoods in five key areas Health, Crime, Jobs, Education and Housing. It also aims to narrow the gap between deprived areas and the rest of the country.

The Community Chest Programme is a top up to existing support for the community/voluntary sector in disadvantaged areas. The scheme aims to give ground level support encouraging a 'bottom up' approach to regeneration. The Community Chest will make available £50 million over the next three financial years.

- £10 million in 2001-2
- £15 million in 2002-3
- £25 million in 2003-4

The grants are likely to be from £50 - £5000 as it has been demonstrated, via pilot schemes, that this level of financial support is the most effective in promoting community involvement.

The Community Chest grant money will be allocated to funded organisations within a local area by Government Officers (GO). Funded organisations must decide how to allocate funding to community groups etc, to best achieve the programme's objectives, judging each application

on its own merits. The objectives of the Community Chest programmes are:

- To encourage greater involvement in local community activities
- To improve the management of local community activities and organisations
- To help community groups to improve their local neighbourhood
- To help Black and Minority ethnic groups and other communities to explore their history, their cultures and their traditions
- To support any other activities by which local community and voluntary groups can contribute to the regeneration of their local area

Once the Funded Organisations have been selected for a local area they will need some financial support to administer the payments that they make to local groups. For this reason, they may use a proportion of Community Chests grant to cover these costs. Applications from local community groups should be made to the Funded Organisations.

When allocating the grant money Funded Organisations must make sure that they follow various guidelines. There will be regular monitoring of this process at both regional and national levels. The 88 deprived areas that have been allocated to receive funds for year one of the scheme are;

GO Eastern:

Great Yarmouth
Luton

GO East Midlands:

Ashfield
Bolsover
Derby

The Scout Information Centre

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Leicester
Lincoln
Mansfield
Nottingham

GO London:

Barking and Dagenham
Brent
Camden
Croydon
Ealing
Enfield
Greenwich
Hackney
Hammersmith & Fulham
Haringey
Islington
Kensington & Chelsea
Lambeth
Lewisham
Newham
Southwark
Tower Hamlets
Waltham Forest
Wandsworth
Westminster

GO North East:

Derwentside
Easington
Gateshead
Hartlepool
Middlesborough
Newcastle upon Tyne
North Tyneside
Redcar & Cleveland
Sedgefield
South Tyneside
Stockton-on-Tees
Sunderland
Wansbeck
Wear Valley

GO North West:

Allerdale
Barrow-in-Furness
Blackburn with Darwen
Blackpool
Bolton
Burnley
Halton
Hyndburn
Knowsley
Liverpool
Manchester
Oldham

Pendle
Preston
Rochdale
Salford
Sefton
St Helens
Tameside
Wigan
Wirral

GO South East:

Brighton & Hove
Hastings
Portsmouth
Southampton

GO South West:

Bristol
Kerrier
Penwith
Plymouth

GO West Midlands:

Birmingham
Coventry
Dudley
Sandwell
Stoke-on-Trent
Walsall
Wolverhampton

GO Yorkshire & Humberside

Barnsley
Bradford
Doncaster
Kingston upon Hull
Kirklees
Leeds
Rotherham
Sheffield
Wakefield

Contacts

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Or visit their website:

www.neighbourhood.gov.uk