

Appendix A: Background Information

The Community Resilience Fund (CRF) is a one-off capital grant fund established in response to recommendations of the Bristol VCSE (voluntary, community, social enterprise) Strategy Group and as part of an overall goal to build city resilience by growing the power of communities experiencing the greatest inequality.

Principles

CRF supports the recovery and resilience of the community and voluntary sector in areas of greatest deprivation, and self-organised equality groups, so they are better placed to:

- address inequity by recognising past injustice, understanding power, and taking positive action to make change.
- take an asset-based approach by building on and strengthening what already exists to build community connection and community action

Funding Priorities

CRF builds resilience of community and voluntary sector organisations by investing in the following priorities:

1. Accessibility improvements

Access is a major barrier to Disabled people of all ages preventing participation in community life. Accessibility improvements will increase inclusion and create a more viable space. This could include accessibility improvements to community buildings and equipment.

2. Environmental sustainability

- Energy efficiency improvements to save money on bills, make spaces more usable, increase environmental sustainability.
- Energy generation projects to create an income, save money on bills, increase environmental sustainability.

3. Financial sustainability

- Space improvements or expansions to bring in and maximise income
- Changes to increase usage and increase viability

4. Digital infrastructure

- Upgrading digital capability and future proofing

5. Equipment which contributes to any of the above

Participatory Decision Making

Funding decisions were made through a participatory decision making process, involving 100 diverse Bristol residents and 25 Councillors from across political parties. The below table shows the demographics of 100 resident and VCSE rep participants who consistently took part (in two or more CRF meetings). Please note, this breakdown does not include Councillors who participated.

Decision making group	Total number of resident and VCSE rep participants	Older People 55+	Young People 16-24	Women	TOTAL Black Asian and Minority Ethnic People	Black/ African/ Caribbean	Asian	Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups	Polish	Disabled people	LGBT+ People	Social Renters	Parents of children under 16 years
Equalities	20	4	4	13	7	3	2	1	0	6	5	4	6
1	13	3	2	9	3	1	0	2	0	1	2	3	7
2	13	5	3	7	5	2	0	1	1	6	1	6	5
3	14	3	2	10	4	0	2	0	1	2	3	2	4
4	16	5	2	11	6	4	1	1	0	3	1	4	5

5	11	4	0	8	2	0	2	0	0	2	4	1	5
6	13	5	0	10	1	0	0	0	1	5	2	4	7
TOTALS	100	29	13	68	28	10	7	5	3	25	18	24	39
	Percentage of decision makers	29	13	68	28	10	7	5	3	25	18	24	39
	Bristol average (as percentage)	22	15	50	15	-	-	-	1.5	9.3	11	15	23

Capital funding for grants

£4 million capital²

Capital neighbourhood grants: **£3,200,000**

Capital equalities grants: **£800,000**

Grant size

Grants are a minimum of £50,000. An exception was made as part of our commitment to take positive action on inequality; equalities grants were a minimum of £10,000.

Budget per area, weighted based on deprivation

This diagram shows the budget that was available to each area, weighted based on deprivation and only including neighbourhoods which represent the 30% most deprived in Bristol.

Area Committee	Eligible Areas	Indicative budget
Area 1	Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston (Lawrence Weston South, Lawrence Weston Parade, Lawrence Weston West, Lawrence Weston East, Shirehampton Centre, Barrow Hill, Avonmouth Village) Stoke Bishop (Sea Mills South)	£294,000
Area 2	Horfield (Horfield Common, Sheridan Road) Southmead (Southmead Central, Trymside, Fonthill, Southmead North, Southmead West) Henbury and Brentry (Crow Lane, Henbury, Crow Lane South)	£410,000
Area 3	Hillfields (East Hillfields and Hillfields North) Frome Vale (Gill Avenue) Eastville (Greenbank, Eastville Park, Speedwell) Lockleaze (Lockleaze South, Lockleaze North, Filton Avenue South, Filton Avenue North)	£444 ,000
Area 4	Easton (St Marks Road, Gilbert Road) Ashley (St Pauls Grosvenor Road, St Pauls City Road, St Agnes, St Pauls Portland Square, Lower Montpelier) Lawrence Hill (Easton Road, Cabot Circus, St Philips, Newtown, St Judes, Barton Hill, Stapleton Road, Old Market and Temple Meads) St George Central (Whiteway, Clouds Hill) Central (Redcliffe South, Stokes Croft West)	£887,000
Area 5	Southville (Bedminster East and Bedminster West) Brislington East and West (Broomhill Road, Hicks gate, St Anne's Park) Knowle (Ilminster Avenue West, Ilminster Avenue East)	£260,000

Area 6	Hengrove and Whitchurch Park (Whitchurch Park west, Hengrove west, Wharnecliffe Gardens) Filwood (Inns Court, Filwood Broadway, Throgmorton Road, Leinster Avenue, Glyn Vale, Markbury Road, Wedmore Vale, Novers) Hartcliffe and Withywood (Hareclive, Bishport Avenue, Bishport Avenue East, Fulford Road North, Whitchurch Lane, Bishport Avenue West, Four Acres, Fair Furlong, Withywood, Sherrin Way, Highridge Common) Bishopsworth (Highridge) Stockwood (Burnbush Hill and Burnbush)	£903,000
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CRF Funded Organisations and Extension Examples

Since the original funding decisions, when 53 projects were recommended for funding, some projects have withdrawn due to unforeseen circumstances and others have had funding offers withdrawn due to issues of eligibility (struck through on below table). There are now 55 projects awarded funding within the CRF programme.

The table below lists:

1. All organisations originally in receipt of a funding offer.
2. Struck-through organisations who have been withdrawn.
3. Organisations who received a grant offer when others withdrew. These were either reserves selected through the participatory decision making process, or were identified as community priorities in consultation with resident decision makers and BCC Community Development.

The table also highlights examples of the projects experiencing delays or complexities, which are anticipated to require additional time to complete. This is an indicative list and doesn't exclude other organisations from requesting an extension.

All organisations will be required to complete a full project plan which should be signed off, and their funding agreement in place by March 2026.

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Heating and energy efficiency for the future!	Avonmouth Community Centre	£90,000.00	£65,000	Area 1	The project will complete the work to improve the efficiency of the Heating system that began with their renovation and will repair windows and do secondary glazing. This will deliver on some the recommendations that are part of Avonmouth Community Centre's Energy Performance Certificate.	Underway
Shirehampton Public Hall Upgrade and Futureproofing	Shirehampton Public Hall	£130,000.00	£59,000	Area 1	Ensuring sustainability and financial viability with an improved range and quality of affordable facilities; enabling flexibility and simultaneous uses to serve existing and new groups. Upgrades include air source heat pumps, additional accessible toilets, and multipurpose green room extension	Underway
Boing! Softplay Family Centre @ Lawrence Weston Community Church	Lawrence Weston Community Church	£60,000.00	£60,000	Area 1	Conversion of the main church hall & kitchen into an accessible & affordable Softplay Café Family Centre for 0-5s and parents/carers in the local and wider area. Boing! Lawrence Weston will support families directly and signpost to advice and guidance.	Underway
Rock Centre Upgrades	The Rock Centre	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 1	Repairs of hard wearing flooring, installation of new lightning and improvement of multiple items within the centre.	Underway
	The Jobs, Training and Enterprise Hub at Shirehampton Methodist Church	£60,000.00	£60,000	Area 1	The JTE Hub and Church have long needed to upgrade both the heating and insulation, including windows and plan to include solar panels to provide comfortable spaces and facilities that are cheaper to run all week and to continue to help both individuals and families who are struggling.	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Greenway Centre Accessibility, Sustainability and Critical Repairs Programme	Southmead Development Trust	£315,097.92	£143,336	Area 2	This project will invest in LED lighting, insulation, repair of badly leaking roofs, double-glazing and accessibility to turbo-charge our provision for the community, carbon-neutral goals and sustainability of all SDT services	Underway
169 Expansion Needs	169 Bristol Scouts	£87,300.00	£96,030	Area 2	The project is in response to the continuing growth in numbers of young people joining the 169th Scout Group, improving current facilities and creating more indoor meeting space to allow for growth and the ability to have different age ranges meeting concurrently	Underway
Ebenezer Community Hub Improvements	Ebetrust	£151,000.00	£116,500	Area 2	improving their energy efficiency, reducing ongoing costs, and upgrading audio-visual facilities, their hope is to make the building even more inclusive, welcoming and safe, for continued community use	Underway
Many Faces Benefits Community (MFBC)	Manor Farm Boys Club	£80,000.00	£53,000	Area 2	The project will provide sustainable, financial stability to ensure the club continues serving, for another 60+ years, all members of the local community with greatly improved, accessible, inclusive and energy efficient facilities	In development
The Cabin	St Mary's and St James Church, Lockleaze	£60,000.00	£60,000	Area 3	The cabin aims to create a safe space for children and young people within the area to attend via youth groups as well as being mentored	Underway
Inclusive public spaces	Hillfields Family & Community Trust	£88,300.00	£88,300	Area 3	increase the accessibility of our building to the wider community through the creation of a covered, all weather outdoor space for use by all residents and community groups and the reconfiguration of toilets to make them more inclusive and accessible	In development Anticipated funding extension

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Barton Hill RFC Community Project	Barton Hill Old Boys RFC and Barton Hill RFC Charity Cafe	£75,000.00	£75,000	Area 3	Extension to provide a new social hub for local community offering darts, pool and sports entertainment to add to the already provided skittle alley, which will free up a large venue that can be used by local community	In development Anticipated funding extension
Vassall Centre Community Hub – creating a dedicated community space	Bristol Charities	£54,000.00	£54,000	Area 3	Create a community room, kitchen, and garden. Accessibility of building to be improved and essential space for community activities, uses, and services will be provided	Underway
Improvements to Oldbury Court Out of School Clubs community building to increase resilience and improve access for the local community	Oldbury Court Out of School Clubs	£159,500.00	£66,000	Area 3	Increase community access to sporting facilities; increase sources of income to improve resilience in order to continue to provide subsidised childcare for disadvantaged families; and make the building more environmentally friendly and cheaper to run long term.	Underway
The Vench Corner – community cycle café and workshop space	The Vench, Lockleaze Play and Adventure Space, managed by Groundwork South	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 3	add a new building onto our site, which will operate as a café, as well as a cycle repair hub which will offer accessible basic bike maintenance to enable sustainable travel	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Repair and insulate Main Hall roof and improve kitchen and heating controls	Speedwell Methodist Church	£100,000.00	£50,000	Area 4	Repair/replace the Main Hall roof, adding insulation and solar power. Upgrade Kitchen equipment to better enable a community kitchen and café. This will enable them to extend their work with the Food Club and Children's Centre and enable higher levels of community engagement and participation.	Underway
Transforming adventure play for the young people of St Pauls	A.P.E. Project CIC	£110,000.00	£110,000	Area 4	Repairing the 'old' playground, currently out of use due to wood rot thereby limiting the capacity and disabled access. Installing a Solar PV system to reduce energy bills and promote environmental sustainability. Implementing recommendations from an Access Audit to improve access for disabled people.	In development Anticipated funding extension
Creating Racially Equal Access to Training & Employment (CREATE)	Centre For Employment and Enterprise Development (CEED)	£56,500.00	£56,500	Area 4	Disabled lift to first floor and restoration of the roof	Underway
Increasing the sustainability and energy efficiency of our community centre building for the benefit of our current, future users and local community	Full Circle @ Docklands	£71,467.00	£71,467	Area 4	Replacing sports hall heaters and windows to increase energy efficiency. Upgrade existing fridges and freezer in community kitchen to energy efficient models. Install two air-conditioning units to two offices. Refurbish their property at Beggarswell Close, to rent to a local VCSE organisation.	In development

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
inHope Digital Infrastructure Project	InHope	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 4	A large-scale upgrade of IT systems and equipment which is currently desk-based, ageing, unreliable and unsupported by Microsoft after 2023. This project will also involve migrating to a cloud-based server.	Underway
Upgrade of Malcolm X Community Centre	Malcolm X Community Centre	£231,000.00	£112,000	Area 4	Malcolm X Community Centre are planning to carry out much needed upgrade to the building i.e. access improvements.	In development Anticipated funding extension
Stage three Regeneration of Meadow Vale Community Association Buildings	Meadow Vale Community Association	£82,500.00	£82,500	Area 4	Funding for the final stage of their building work creating storage and shower facilities and improved access to complement their newly built multi-use hall. Their aim is to create a vibrant community hub for speedwell which is economically sustainable.	Underway
An electric van for One25's night outreach van service, and accessibility improvements to drop-in	One25	£71,703.00	£71,703	Area 4	The purchase and re-fit of an electric van to improve the sustainability of our night outreach van service. The van will be a safe space for the c.120 women street sex-working in Bristol who face violence, addiction, poverty and poor health. It will offer practical support, warmth, safety and love.	Underway
St Agnes Community Development Project	St Agnes Church	£300,000.00	£86,808	Area 4	St Agnes Upgrade – to make the building more user-friendly	In development

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Settlement	Wellspring Settlement (in partnership with Bristol Refugee Rights)	£86,647.00	£86,647	Area 4	Solar panels, lift and accessible toilet improvements and refurbishment of the Community Hall. An off-road ramped walkway and lay by loading bay, between the lower Micro Settlement and upper Ducie Road site. Installing lift access to the first floor of the Micro Settlement prior to phase 2 building.	Underway
Reducing the carbon footprint of the building (Phase 2 of our building redevelopment work)	Easton Christian Family Centre	£60,000.00	£60,000	Area 4	Their building is used by a wide range of community organisations every day of the week. They are refurbishing the building and as part of that project they wish to reduce their carbon footprint by adding: external wall and roof insulation, double glazing and solar panels.	In development Anticipated funding extension
Future Horizons	Bristol Methodist Centre: Project of the Bristol and South Gloucester Methodist Circuit	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 4	The project is a twofold enterprise aimed at delivering updated digital infrastructure and sustainable energy. They provide computer access for those who have none and are in need of upgrading their systems. They provide showers and sanitation and warm safe space during winter and need to upgrade the heating system.	Underway
Café Conscious – It Takes a Village	Café Conscious	£50,000	£49,375	Area 4	Refitting the kitchen to make it accessible and enable the organisation to provide community meals.	In development

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Improving both physical and digital infrastructure at our specialist SEMH & SEN hub	Love Squared	£49,375.00	£49,375.00	Area 4	The project is focused on improving IT infrastructure, such as upgrading to a case management system and upgrading equipment for volunteers and core team as well as making physical improvements to their specialist SEMH & SEN hub in Stokes Croft and purchasing new equipment to facilitate more in person sessions.	
St Annes House - Improvements for greater accessibility, sustainability and financial resilience	Bricks	£100,000.00	£75,000	Area 5	Upgrading St Annes House lighting to LED and installing light switches and dimmer switches and motion sensors, to give higher controllability of lighting. Buying equipment for St Annes House Community Kitchen, to fit out a kitchen they are being donated	Underway
Improving disabled access at Windmill Hill Community Centre	Windmill Hill Community Association	£55,500.00	£50,000	Area 5	This project will improve access and use of Windmill Hill Community Centre for people with physical disabilities	Underway
Bedminster Quakers seek funding for their Meeting House to become a carbon neutral, sustainable building	Bedminster Quaker Meeting House	£79,800.00	£79,800	Area 5	Improve energy efficiency; installing air source heat pumps, improving insulation and upgrading solar panels	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Creating accessible and sustainable Food Education to create stronger, more connected communities	Square food foundation	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 5	Improving accessible cooking facilities for wheelchair users, so classes will be inclusive and improve user experience	Underway
Reducing cost to be sustainable for next 5 years	Filwood Hope	£55,000.00	£55,000	Area 6	Making Filwood Hope's building and advice, safer, warmer and more accessible	In development
Transform the Inns Court Community & Family Centre into a much more accessible and sustainable centre	The Inns Court Community & Family Centre (ICCFC)	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 6	Change the building front door to an electric door to make it more accessible, secure and energy efficient. Modernise the toilets making them better and more accessible for increased centre numbers. Create an all-weather terrace at the front to expand the café	In development
Community Access For All	Sturminster Community Association	£300,000.00	£177,065	Area 6	To provide a warm place for those who need it. To provide a base for community groups that require a meeting place, and provide community kitchen facilities	Underway
Hartcliffe City Farm Community Kitchen and Rental Space	Hartcliffe City Farm	£132,000.00	£132,000	Area 6	Fit out of a community space, including a kitchen, for use for family cooking projects, as a space for people to rent for parties and as an education space for school groups. A second element is to refit two studio spaces for rental to third parties	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Vital capital improvements to BS14 youth centre to enable community use of the building	Young Bristol (BS14 Youth Club)	£127,483.24	£162,230	Area 6	Improve access to BS14 building. Redesign front entrance. Create new usable room. New flooring for entrance and main hall. Sensor lighting. Refurbish exterior sports court and Art Room for community use	Underway
Improvements and upgrades to Hartcliffe Club for Young People	Hartcliffe Club for Young people	£43,140.00	£50,000	Area 6	Upgrading the current building: improving heating, replacing the wooden, single glazed windows and entrance doors with PVC windows and doors, replacing flooring in reception, kitchen and main space to make the building more energy and cost efficient for the long term	In development
The St Barnabas Access and Energy Project	St Barnabas Church, Filwood Park Parish	£94,500.00	£76,705	Area 6	The project will greatly enhance accessibility for clients using the BS4 Foodbank, and enables them to offer better access and services to the local community using the building for activities like Welcome Warm Space, coffee morning, and their after school children's club.	In development
Funding for an electric vehicle and equipment that will reduce environmental impact and increase financial sustainability	Re:work	£50,000.00	£50,000	Area 6	The project will enable them to deliver long term work experience for up to 25 young people per year, and reduce the cost of garden and house maintenance for low income households.	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Overall upgrade of the Community Centre	Novers Social Club	£232,500.00	£100,000.00	Area 6	The project is aimed at improving all different areas within the club. To make accessibility greater and easier for everyone in the community. To provide a safe place for all ages to be able attend a variety of different activities that are provided. To ensure the survival of the club for another 60 years.	In development Anticipated funding extension
A community space where everyone is welcome	Oasis Hub South Bristol	£100,000.00	£50,000.00	Area 6	Building reconfiguration and access improvements.	In development
Café/Clubhouse Upgrade and Refurbishment	Mendip Broadwalk	£212,300.00	£195,205.00	Area 6	Refurbishment and refit of clubhouse including café/bar together with changing facility upgrade, sustainable energy efficient heating supply and hot water system, with insulation of the single skin building	
Filwood Community Centre: Amplify Filwood (an amplified welcome and a futureproofed infrastructure)	Community in Partnership Knowle West	£81,500.00	£81,500.00	Area 6	Redesign of the main entrance's front doors to modernise and make more accessible. Improve the digital infrastructure. North roof major refurbishment. Investment in the centre's room hire capacity	
Upgrade for Outreach	Age UK	£55,123.00	£55,123	Equalities	Upgrade IT systems so they will be better able to work remotely and hybrid. They see the need for more of our services (especially the Information & Advice team) to be delivered remotely, either directly in people's homes or from local community centres/Hubs.	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
An accessible warm confidential space with free Wi-Fi and access to computer for community use	Nilaari	£58,500.00	£58,500	Equalities	Reconfigure and create additional confidential accessible space for one-to-one computer/therapy space. Upgrade of ground floor accessible toilets. Provide access to computer and free Wi-Fi.	Completed
Transforming the Bangladeshi Centre into an all-purpose, fully accessible building	Bangladesh Association, Bristol, Bath, and West	£97,140.00	£97,140	Equalities	The project is to make their run-down community building fully accessible to their service users, update the building to comply with the latest building regulations, and ensure that it is energy efficient to meet the challenges of rising energy costs and the climate crisis.	In development
Bring Bristol Women's Centre to Life	Nelson Trust	£150,000.00	£150,000	Equalities	This project is to renovate a building that they have purchased to become their permanent Bristol Women's Centre. The building needs renovating to make it a welcoming, friendly and safe space for clients, staff and visitors. The Women's Centre supports women that are experiencing multiple disadvantage and complex needs.	Completed
Somali Community Space (Tenants Hall)	Bristol Somali Resource Centre	£200,000.00	£197,000	Equalities	BSRC are working with architects to design a new Somali community centre for the city as part of housing development on the Tenant Hall site. The space is for wide range of community activities e.g sessions for older people, after school and holiday clubs, education classes and advice services.	In development Anticipated funding extension
Remodel and Expansion of Ground Floor of main building	The Avon Centre	£525,000.00	£96,500	Equalities	Refurbishment of the ground floor area to make it accessible. This would include improved access to parking, automatic doors, accessible downstairs café and accessible toilets, meeting spaces and open plan, wheelchair accessible office space.	In development Anticipated funding extension

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Ujima Infrastructure Development Project	Ujima Radio	£55,921.00	£55,921	Equalities	The project is designed to provide much needed renewal and/or refurbishment to our existing office equipment and digital infrastructure. The project will provide the opportunity to develop a new revenue income streams to support the financial reserves of the organisation in case of further financial disruptions.	Underway
SPICIC Tech Development Programme	St Pauls carnival CIC	£10,700.00	£10,700	Equalities	Tech Development Programme follows a medium to long term strategy to improve our resilience and access to our services with technology and digital equipment.	In development
Digital upgrade to improve access to services and support for marginalised women	Bristol Women's Voice with Refugee Women of Bristol	£10,174.00	£10,174	Equalities	This project is delivering enhanced IT and digital capacity for BWV and Refugee Women of Bristol to support marginalised women's access to information, events, advice, and support and to support women across Bristol to engage with campaigns to increase their rights and entitlements. The bid is a joint one to increase cost effectiveness.	Completed
Breaking Down Barriers Between Communities in our City	91 Ways to Build a Global City	£11,143.00	£11,143	Equalities	Equipment for a portable pop up kitchen and a much needed new website.	Underway
Misfits Reaching Out	The Misfits Theatre Company UK	£11,178.90	£11,178.90	Equalities	Replace and acquire new equipment that will enable them to create the content for their online creative membership for People with Learning Disabilities on their new website and work more efficiently.	Underway

Proposal name	Organisation	Funding requested	£ Grant offered	Funding group	Project summary	Status
Digital Fusion Collaboration	One Bristol Curriculum and Cognitive Paths	£28,269.20	£24,000	Equalities	Their partnership aims to collect, create and distribute diverse and inclusive media and curriculum content digitally, print and through public exhibitions. This project will deliver a wide range of representative media and creative sector training to minorities communities and audiences.	Underway
Moving towards a hybrid-working model and improving our website	The Brigstowe Project	£22,642.00	£22,642	Equalities	Provide staff with updated and faster IT equipment and new mobile devices to help them adopt a hybrid-working model, allowing them to work more efficiently. Allow them to modernise their website so that it is more accessible for clients and supporters, including by mobile devices.	Underway

Organisations awarded CRF grants