

REPORT OF THE INTERIM SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES**LOCAL COMMUNITIES FUND FOOD REDISTRIBUTION GRANT
RECOMMENDATIONS****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for Round Two award funding of the Food Redistribution Grant (FRG) that supports the delivery of the Council Plan through meeting the Local Communities Fund 2022-26 criteria.

Information

2. The Local Communities Fund is the County Council's key vehicle for delivering grant funding to voluntary and community groups.
3. In December 2022, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health approved £210,000 over 3 years from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026 for the establishment of a Food Redistribution Fund to support continued investment in food redistribution schemes.
4. The FRG aims to support local projects addressing food insecurity and improving access to nutritious and affordable food through food redistribution schemes. A total of three funding rounds have been agreed with an allocated budget of £90,000 in 2023/24, £65,000 in 2024/25 and £55,000 in 2025/26.
5. The first funding round opened in February 2023, with a total of fourteen eligible applications being awarded £90,000.
6. The second funding round opened on 15th April 2024, inviting voluntary and community groups to apply for up to £10,000, and closed on 24th May 2024. Thirty applications totalling £254,062 have been received, assessed, and moderated by Officers from the Communities Team and Public Health.
7. Of the thirty applications received twelve met the eligibility criteria of the fund, which are recommended to be awarded an equal proportion of their stated eligible costs. This will ensure all eligible projects are supported and maximum impact for communities is achieved. In taking this approach, the total recommended expenditure of this round is £65,000 and if approved, will not exceed the allocated budget of £65,000.
8. If these recommendations are approved, a total of £55,000 remains for the proposed third and final future funding round which is planned to open in Spring 2025.
9. Applications to the FRG should demonstrate how the project benefits the community and how the project intends to continue as the result of any funding awarded.

10. The key funding principles of the Local Communities Fund are:

- Member led – Members take the lead for decision making on design of the scheme, and approval of awards
- takes a corporate and co-ordinated approach – decisions are aligned to the Council’s ambitions, priorities, and outcomes sought
- recognises the role of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) – values the enormous contribution made
- takes account of any Compacts in place that set out the nature of our relationship with the VCS
- is proportionate at all stages – including a simple application process, simplified monitoring etc.
- makes the best use of digital technologies

11. To be eligible for FRG, applications must:

- meet the definition of a food redistribution scheme, i.e., utilises surplus from the food sector and must be for home preparation and cooking
- require a payment contribution for the food and provide a healthy range of fresh (perishable) and non-perishable food including fresh fruit and vegetables and low-fat low sugar foods
- increase access to affordable, nutritious food for families and individuals experiencing food insecurity
- demonstrate that the majority of their food provision is preventing food waste by utilising surplus food from a variety of food businesses / industry / sector along with community schemes
- support the Council’s strategic priorities
- have a clear purpose
- show evidence of community need and address health inequalities
- primarily benefit Nottinghamshire County residents
- show that there will be inbuilt financial sustainability beyond the lifetime of the grant
- use local assets to increase health and wellbeing for local communities
- encourage partnership working

12. **Appendix One** provides a summary of the FRG applications recommended for funding.

13. A breakdown of previously approved FRG applications alongside their value is displayed below and in further detail in **Appendix Two**:

Detail	Date	Value
FRG Fund available		£ 210,000
FRG applications approved (14)	2023-24	£ 90,000
Total allocated as of 15/07/24		£ 90,000
FRG applications pending approval (12)	2024-25	£ 65,000
Uncommitted balance remaining		£ 55,000

Other Options Considered

14. Not to recommend these applications for funding. This may mean that voluntary and community groups will find it difficult to continue to provide or establish new projects resulting in poorer access to affordable and nutritious food for those at increased risk of food insecurity.
15. To award a higher level of funding to a smaller number of applications that have demonstrated they meet the criteria of the fund. This would result in fewer groups receiving support.

Reasons for Recommendation

16. The applications recommended for funding as listed in **Appendix One** to this report, meet the published criteria for the Food Redistribution Fund.

Statutory and Policy Implications

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability, and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

18. Thirty applications have been received. It is recommended that twelve of these are awarded as set out in **Appendix One** to this report to the value of £65,000.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

- 1) Approves £65,000 for Round Two of Food Redistribution funding as recommended in **Appendix One** to this report.

Mark Walker
Interim Service Director, Place and Communities

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Constitutional Comments (EKH 05/07/2024)

19. It is appropriate for the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health to consider this report.

Financial Comments (PAA29 03/07/2024)

20. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 17 of the report. Three funding rounds are planned with budgets of £90,000 allocated for 2023/24, £65,000 for 2024/25 and £55,000 for 2025/26. These are all to be funded from Public Health reserves. The 2023/24

budget of £90,000 was fully utilised and the approval of the recommendation will fully utilise the 2024/25 budget of £65,000.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- [Report to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health – Food Redistribution Fund \(15 December 2022\)](#)
- [Report to the Cabinet Member for Communities – Food Redistribution Fund \(29 March 2023\)](#)

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

- All

APPENDIX ONE**Local Communities Fund - Round 2: Food Redistribution Grant Recommendations****29 July 2024**

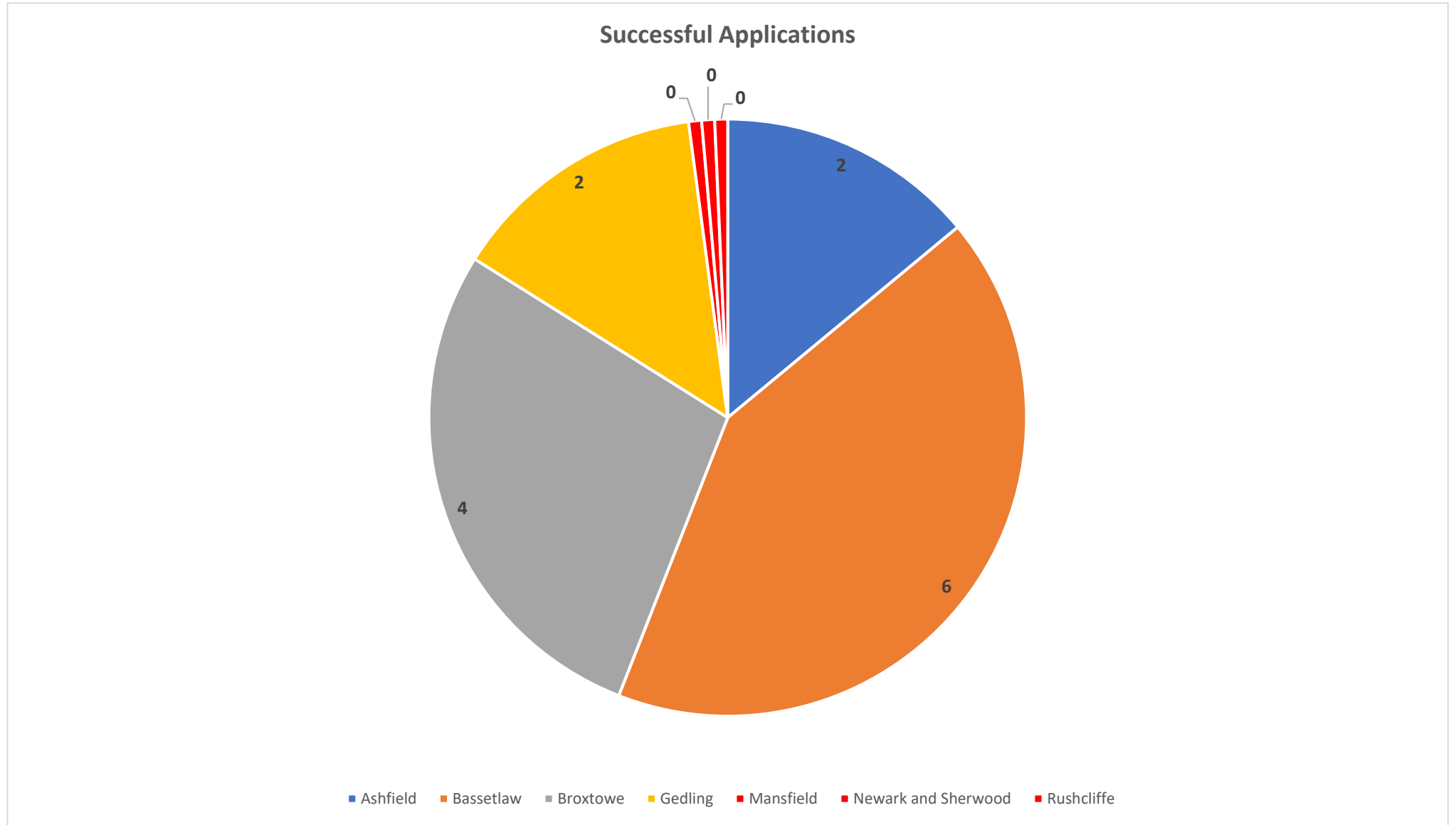
	Organisation	Project: District(s)	Project Summary	Recommended amount
1	Barnby Road Academy Community Wellbeing Group	Newark and Sherwood	The purpose of this project is to support individuals and families living in food poverty and reduce food waste in Newark and Sherwood. This project will benefit children on Free School Meals and working families in food poverty by providing a regular supply of fresh and frozen food. Funding, as a contribution towards FareShare food membership.	£ 3,200
2	Broxtowe Community Projects	Broxtowe	The purpose of this project is to address food insecurity and provide support in Broxtowe. This project will benefit low-income households and individuals facing financial crisis by offering foodbank services, advice sessions, and food share services. Funding, as a contribution towards FareShare subscription and supplementary food costs.	£ 6,390
3	Cotgrave Community Kitchen	Rushcliffe	The purpose of this project is to reduce food poverty and social isolation in Cotgrave. This project will benefit residents, especially families with young children and older people, by providing food bags and running social eating events. Funding, as a contribution towards FareShare subscription and food distribution initiatives.	£ 4,190
4	Crescent Primary School	Mansfield	The purpose of this project is to provide essential food support services in Mansfield. This project will benefit families and children in need by offering access to affordable and nutritious food, reducing hunger, and supporting community well-being. Funding, as a contribution towards yearly FareShare membership and electricity costs.	£ 6,390

	Organisation	Project: District(s)	Project Summary	Recommended amount
5	East Kirkby Miners Welfare Trust	Ashfield	The purpose of this project is to provide affordable nutritious food to combat food insecurity in Ashfield. This project will benefit families and elderly people by maintaining access to healthy food and offering support services. Funding, as a contribution towards FareShare, volunteer expenses, and electricity costs.	£ 5,120
6	Harvest Community Haven CIC	Broxtowe	The purpose of this project is to address food poverty, social isolation, and loneliness in Beeston. This project will benefit residents experiencing food insecurities by providing access to surplus food, socializing opportunities, and support services. Funding, as a contribution towards food cupboard items, volunteer costs, and food surplus collection transport.	£ 2,500
7	Hope Nottingham CIO	Gedling	The purpose of this project is to provide affordable, healthy food and community support in Carlton. This project will benefit local families and individuals facing food insecurity by offering food boxes at reduced costs and fostering community connections. Funding, as a contribution towards food purchase costs, project worker salary, and utilities.	£ 6,390
8	Newstead Colliery Miners Welfare Trust	Gedling	The purpose of this project is to provide affordable, nutritious food and support services in Newstead Village. This project will benefit residents facing food insecurity by improving access to diverse and healthy food options and offering wraparound services like budgeting and energy efficiency advice. Funding, as a contribution towards food subscription costs, utilities for storage, and exclusive use of a room for food distribution and health guidance.	£ 6,390

	Organisation	Project: District(s)	Project Summary	Recommended amount
9	Now Church	Bassetlaw	The purpose of this project is to reduce food waste and support those struggling with the cost of living in Bassetlaw. This project will benefit people by providing affordable food, reducing food insecurity, and offering a community space for support and wellbeing. Funding, as a contribution towards a storage container, refuse collection, and wholesale purchasing.	£ 6,390
10	PTA Kingston Park Academy	Bassetlaw	The purpose of this project is to address food poverty in Bassetlaw. This project will benefit vulnerable families and the local community by providing affordable food bags and promoting nutritional education. Funding, as a contribution towards purchasing additional food from FareShare, subsidising food bags for those in need, and maintaining the food hub facility.	£ 6,390
11	The Core Centre	Gedling	The purpose of this project is to provide affordable food boxes to supplement local people's weekly shop in Calverton. This project will benefit around two hundred residents by alleviating the cost-of-living crisis and preventing food waste. Funding, as a contribution towards rent, utilities, and administration.	£ 5,910
12	The Social Action Hub	Mansfield Newark and Sherwood	The purpose of this project is to combat food poverty and foster social connections in the rural, ex-mining communities of Rainworth, Blidworth, and Bilsthorpe. This project will benefit vulnerable and isolated households by providing access to nutritious food, emergency food parcels, and social support services. Funding, as a contribution towards energy costs, rent, and volunteer expenses, will enable the continuation and expansion of these vital services.	£ 5,740
Total				£ 65,000

APPENDIX TWO

Local Communities Fund FRG 2023 – 24 – Breakdown by Area



Funding Delivered

