# **cid:image001.png@01D61958.4130EC30Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru | The Welsh Assembly Governmentquite good pavs logo**

**Carers Support Innovation Fund – Round 2**

**Guidance for Applicants**

**Guidance Notes**

The Carers Support Innovation Fund has been established with funding from the Integrated Care Fund (ICF), providing an opportunity for third sector organisations to access funding to trial new activities and services to support carers.

The **Carers Support Innovation Fund** offers an opportunity for third sector organisations to apply for funding to run a project for Carers groups across the west Wales counties of Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion. This fund is being administered by PAVS, in collaboration with CAVS and CAVO.

The Carers Support Innovation Fund is brought to you through the West Wales Carers Development Group, part of the West Wales Care Partnership, a multiagency working group bringing together representatives of County Councils, County Voluntary Councils across west Wales and Hywel Dda Health Board.

The **Carers Support Innovation Fund** will provide **up to 100% of revenue costs up to** £5,000 for projects in one county area and £15,000 for regional projects, some match funding is encouraged. Up to 20% of the total funding request can be for capital items where applicants show a clear link to the revenue request.

All requests for support must offer value for money and demonstrate clear and direct benefits for unpaid Carers. ICF funding is intended to support the development and testing of new innovative models of support for Carers, and not to supplement existing activity or budget pressures for core services.

All spend has to be committed by 31st March 2022 and reporting requirements met by mid-April 2022.

**Activity will be supported under one or more of the following themes:**

**Fund Themes:**

* **Supporting life alongside caring**

All Carers must have reasonable breaks from their caring role to enable them to maintain their capacity to care, and to have a life beyond caring.

* **Providing information, advice and assistance**

Ensuring access to information, advice, assistance and training meets local demands including benefits advice, housing & accommodation and transport information.

* **Identifying and recognition of carers**

Fundamental to the success of delivering improved outcomes for carers is the need to improve carers’ recognition of their role and to ensure they can access the necessary support.

* **Supporting digital inclusion and access to digital services for carers**

Developing innovative digital services and activities for carers and supporting carers to use digital technology & offer activities digitally

* **Improving carers’ physical health and mental wellbeing**

Finding ways to help carers keep themselves active, fit and well and able to cope with the demands of their caring role.

***All applicants will be asked to explain the way in which their project takes current or potential future COVID restrictions into account.***

**Fund themes:**

* **Supporting life alongside caring**

All Carers must have reasonable breaks from their caring role to enable them to maintain their capacity to care, and to have a life beyond caring.

* **Providing information, advice, assistance**

Ensuring access to information, advice, assistance and training meets local demands including benefits advice, housing & accommodation and transport information.

* **Identifying and recognition of carers**

Fundamental to the success of delivering improved outcomes for carers is the need to improve carers’ recognition of their role and to ensure they can access the necessary support

**Who can apply?**

The fund is open to constituted voluntary and community groups and social enterprises with established governance structures.

Applications are particularly encouraged from carers groups who are supporting vulnerable individuals including (but not limited to):

* Older people
* People with learning disabilities
* People living with dementia
* Unpaid carers/young carers
* People with physical disabilities
* People with mental health issues
* Children and young people

If your organisation had funding in 2020/21 through this fund, given the exceptional circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic, applications to continue this activity will be considered. Please note that innovative elements to build on the existing project are encouraged and all applications will be assessed through the same competitive process.

**What can the grant be spent on?**

The funding is for **revenue costs\*\*** associated with developing and delivering innovative activities and services which meet the funding themes.

Eligible expenditure items include (but are not limited to) the following:

* Specialist expertise to create new on-line materials/activities
* Upskilling staff, carers, volunteers, beneficiaries and members
* Marketing & promotion
* Peer support sessions
* Respite opportunities
* Leisure and social activities
* Services to enhance carer health and well- being

Ineligible costs include (but are not limited to):

* Ongoing running costs of existing activities or services
* Retrospective costs incurred and paid prior to the grant award
* Projects which cannot be delivered by 31st March 2022

These lists are not prescriptive and are intended for guidance only.

Grants will not be awarded as a general contribution to a larger project unless the funding can be directly linked to a discrete element of the overall service.

Please ensure that the costings you provide are as accurate as possible, and that you have obtained quotes (for costs over £500), where you can and if relevant, in order to demonstrate how you have ensured good value for money.

**\*\* Up to 20% of the total funding request can be for capital items where applicants show a clear link to the revenue request.**

**Period of grant funding**

Applications will be assessed and outcomes communicated to groups by mid-December.

Funding is for projects running from until 31st March 2022.

All funding must be spent by **31st March 2022.**

**The Application Process**

Complete an application form, available by email from development@pavs.org.uk or telephone 01437 769422 to receive a hard copy. Application forms are available in Welsh and applications made in Welsh are welcome.

Applications and supporting documentation must be submitted by e-mail to development@pavs.org.uk or by post to:

PAVS, 36/38 High Street, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA61 2DA – clearly mark the envelope **CSIF** (**Carers Support Innovation Fund)**.

Applications must be submitted by the grant deadlines: **Friday 30th April 2021 & Friday 25th June 2021.**

All supporting documents must be received before applications can be processed.

Applications will be assessed by a multi-agency panel and applicants will be notified of the panel decision by e-mail or phone within 3 weeks of the application deadline.

**Groups applying for a grant must:**

* Clearly benefit carers in Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion or Carmarthenshire or regionally across these counties
* Be a formally constituted voluntary or community group or social enterprise which is self-governing, non-profit distributing and for public/community benefit.
* Send in their governing document (Constitution, Memorandum & Articles of Association or a Trust Deed) with the grant application
* Have a bank account set up in the organisation’s name with at least two named signatories who are not related.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

Successful applicants will be expected to complete end-of-project monitoring documentation within two weeks of the project end date.

Successful applicants will be required to acknowledge the source of funding in any publicity materials.

**Further Support**

If you have any queries about the fund or would like support with a potential application, then please contact your local CVC.

* **Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services (PAVS)**

**E-mail**: development@pavs.org.uk

* **Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services (CAVS)**

**E-mail:** Jackie.Dorrian@cavs.org.uk

* **Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO)**

**E-mail:** gen@cavo.org.uk