



Co-operative Councils
Innovation Network

COMMUNITY BUDGET

Stevenage Borough Council

Local Community Budget Scheme

The Local Community Budget scheme was launched by Stevenage Borough Council in 2011 to help community groups and organisations to develop an idea, support an existing initiative or deliver a local priority.

Stevenage Borough Council Councillors each have a budget of £2,500 and the Youth Mayor a budget of £3,300: a total of £100,800 to be allocated to support initiatives across the Borough.

Some examples of our community using this funding are below:

- **Friends of Hampson Park – community event**
The Friends of Hampson Park voluntary group required resources such as; gazebos, and promotional materials for their community events which are becoming increasingly popular each year. In 2016/17 this included a family fun day and an evening of Jazz in the Park.
- **Hampson Park Community Centre Coffee Shop**
Being able to access this scheme has enabled the community based coffee shop to purchase additional outdoor seating and kitchen equipment that has seen the coffee shops revenue increase by giving its customers greater purchasing choices.
- **Oak Church Stevenage Pop Up Café**
The pop up café is an initiative by Oak Church Stevenage, a local church with a specific heart for young people.

The vision for the term-time café is to use it as a place to engage with young people who spend their time in King Georges' playing fields after school. The young people who have used it so far have had some very positive things to say about it:

'It's a great chance to hang out with people who are friendly and approachable' - Georgia, 17

'There is a great diversity that hang out in here and the guys just come and hang out and show us respect' - Mo



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- **The Neighbourhood Engagement Development Grant (planned for 2017/18):**
An additional funding scheme will be available to specific neighbourhoods such as Pin Green to apply for in partnership with their ward councillors enabling them to; develop, sustain or increase neighbourhood engagement through activities such as; improving or developing community gardens, local neighbourhoods, and local events

For further information contact:

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