**Derbyshire Rural Hardship Fund Guidance, Eligibility and Application Form**

Rural Action Derbyshire (RAD) is a registered charity that aims to improve the life of those living and working in rural Derbyshire. The Rural Hardship Fund provides one off small grants of up £250 to people in rural areas who have suffered hardship because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The grants are provided to improve the health and well-being of the rural community in cases where circumstances have led or are leading to a significant deterioration in an individual’s health and well-being.

Derbyshire is a large rural county, with lots of small towns and villages with rural peripheries. The Hardship Fund **does not exclude partner referrals for residents living in the small and medium sized Derbyshire towns and villages**, but does exclude the larger urban areas of **Chesterfield and Derby City**.  We are particularly interested to hear from people who are living and working in isolated rural locations and have little support.

**1. Eligibility**

1. Applicants must be over 18 years and living or working in a rural areawithin the county of Derbyshire (excluding Derby City and Chesterfield).
2. Applicants must be in severe financial hardship - unable to pay for necessities such as food, household bills, utilities, rent etc.
3. Applicants must first apply to the [Derbyshire Discretionary Fund](https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/adult-care-and-wellbeing/benefits-debt-and-legal-matters/managing-money-and-debt/derbyshire-discretionary-fund/derbyshire-discretionary-fund-ddf.aspx) (DDF) before making an application to the Rural Hardship Fund. You can apply to the DDF by phone, call: 01629 533399

And/or applicants may be

1. In severe emotional distress or poor mental health (anxious, lonely, depressed) and not currently receiving treatment or mental health support.
2. In financial difficulties despite having already accessed government support
3. Ineligible for government support, including benefits and credits
4. Waiting for benefit checks and payments to be processed and paid

**2.** **How to apply and conditions**

1. Applications should be completed in full and returned via email to Jo Peck at Rural Action Derbyshire j.peck@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk
2. Applications should clearly outline the applicant’s current situation and particular needs, and

how the grant will help to improve well-being & mental health.

1. The referrer must provide information of any applications their client has made to the [Derbyshire Discretionary Fund (DDF)](https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/adult-care-and-wellbeing/benefits-debt-and-legal-matters/managing-money-and-debt/derbyshire-discretionary-fund/derbyshire-discretionary-fund-ddf.aspx), including a copy of the DDF decision letter, a reference number and the name of the DDF decision maker.
2. In cases where farmers are facing significant financial hardship, a referral can only be considered alongside applications to other national charities such as RABI, the Addington Fund and other local statutory or charitable support.
3. Rural Action Derbyshire will provide a grant that enables the beneficiary to pay for a product or service. The total cost of a product or service including installation and set-up cannot exceed £250.
4. All grants must be used for the purpose agreed in the application.
5. All applicants must provide proof of address and identification.
6. If the application is approved, the beneficiary and referrer must provide a follow-up ‘impact statement’ to Rural Action Derbyshire that clearly explains the benefit the support has provided.
7. All applications need to be approved by the CEO of Rural Action Derbyshire.
8. RAD reserve the right to withhold payment if circumstances change.

**Rural Action Derbyshire,Town Hall, Bank Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3NN**

**Jo Peck Mobile: 07738 107072 Office: 01629 592970 email: j.peck@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk**

**APPLICATION FORM**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Referrers name and organisation** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Applicants name** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Applicants address** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Reason for application** Include details of:* the applicant’s current situation and particular needs, including the item or service they require financial support with
* how the grant will help to improve well-being & mental health.
 | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Has the applicant applied to Derbyshire Discretionary Fund?**If yes, please insert reference number or copy of the correspondence including details of the DDF decision maker.Please confirm if the DDF application successful? Yes/No | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Identification**Please tick indicate that the applicant has at least 2 forms of ID – we may ask for a copy to be supplied | [ ] Driving Licence [ ] ID Card [ ] Bank Debit/Credit Card [ ] Utility Bill [ ] Bank Statement[ ] Other Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Bank details** | Name of bank Click or tap here to enter text.Name on the Account Click or tap here to enter text.Account Number Click or tap here to enter text.Sort Code Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Amount requested** In order to purchase the item or service required. This must not exceed £250 and must include the cost of an item’s installation. | £ Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **RAD OFFICE USE ONLY** |  |
| **Authorisation Signature 1** | Name:Signature: |
| **Authorisation Signature 2** | Name: Signature:  |