

Councillor Initiative

1. What is the Initiative?

£500.00 grant for Melksham Foodbank

2. Where is the initiative taking place?

Melksham and surrounding area.

3. When will the initiative take place?

It's important for this grant to start as soon as possible.

4. What are the Community benefits/evidence of need/desired outcomes?

This grant will benefit local families (including children and young people) and others in great need in Melksham and surrounding area on a short term basis.

5. Who will Project Manage/be responsible for this initiative?

Melksham Foodbank

6. Costs/quotes/ match funding?

No match funding required as grant is not above £500

7. Additional information

Melksham Foodbank has been running for 6 years. It is run solely by volunteers and relies on donations to operate. At the beginning of September 2013 the Foodbank moved to new premises in order to gain improved storage facilities and to be able to offer additional services in the form of a weekly 'drop-in'. Consequently additional costs will be incurred, hence this grant application.

Melksham Foodbank helps to alleviate poverty in our locality by providing practical short term help to a person or family (including children and young people) in need during the short interval between a need or problem arising and Social Services organising the benefits. This is done by providing a food parcel containing sufficient food basics for 3 days. This will allow the person or family concerned to concentrate on resolving their problem (in conjunction with the appropriate agencies) without them also having to worry about their food needs. Food parcels are collected from the Foodbank by 'social care workers' who then give them to the family in need. The drop-in adds the capability for the beneficiary to collect in person and will be safe place for vulnerable people to call in and chat.