



Newsletter

15 May 2025

HAF Grant Funding Open for Summer 2025

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Grant is now live for Summer 2025, and we're inviting applications from providers across Herefordshire to deliver fun, enriching summer holiday activities for children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

Whether you've been involved before or are brand new to HAF, we're keen to hear from schools, clubs, voluntary groups, and community organisations. If you're part of an organisation that offers safe, inclusive, and engaging activities for children, or you know a fantastic group that could, this is the perfect time to get involved.

Returning providers can express interest by emailing the team directly at:

HAFProviders@herefordshire.gov.uk

New providers can find out more and apply via the [Talk Community Directory](#).

Please note, priority may be given to providers who are able to deliver in areas of high need or limited existing provision.



The Here For Herefordshire Holidays Programme is funded by UK Government.

Mental Health Awareness Week 12 - 18 May 2025: The Power of Community

This week is [Mental Health Awareness Week](#), an annual campaign to raise awareness of mental health across the UK. It's a time to encourage open conversations, challenge stigma, and remind us to look after our mental health, just as we do our physical health.

This year's theme is "Community," highlighting how the people around us - family, friends, neighbours, and local groups - play a vital role in our mental wellbeing. Strong communities create strong mental health, helping us feel connected, valued, and supported.

How You Can Make a Difference in Your Community:

- **Reach out** to someone you haven't spoken to in a while.
- **Join or support** a local wellbeing group, like a walking group or volunteer initiative.
- **Share your story** or listen to someone else's to reduce stigma and build resilience.
- **Celebrate diversity and inclusion** by supporting people from all walks of life.

If you're looking for ways to connect in your local community, the [Talk Community Directory](#) is a great place to discover wellbeing activities, support groups, community initiatives, and so much more!



Support for Families: Get Help with the Cost of Healthy Food

Did you know you could get help with the cost of healthy food if you're pregnant or have young children?

The Healthy Start scheme is an NHS initiative that offers a prepaid card to eligible families, helping them buy essentials such as milk, fresh or frozen fruit and vegetables, and infant formula. Families can also access free Healthy Start vitamins to support a healthy pregnancy and early child development.

To find out how much you could get, how to activate your card, where you can use it, and how to spend it, visit the [Talk Community Directory](#).



Keep Antibiotics Working: What You Need to Know

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has launched a national campaign to raise awareness about antimicrobial resistance - a growing issue that could affect the way we treat everyday infections in the future.

Antibiotics are vital medicines, but they're becoming less effective because of how often they're used when they're not needed. Most people don't realise that antibiotics won't work for colds, flu, sore throats or coughs. UKHSA's message is simple: only take antibiotics when they're prescribed by a healthcare professional and always follow the advice you're given. Don't save antibiotics for later or share them with others. These small actions make a big difference in helping antibiotics stay effective for everyone.

You can find out more about the campaign and how to protect antibiotics on the [UKHSA blog](#).



Warm Homes Local Grant funding for Herefordshire residents

Residents can now apply for the Warm Homes Local Grant scheme. The aim of the scheme is to improve as many 'fuel poor' homes as possible, helping to reduce energy bills for the occupants, and cut carbon emissions.

The scheme aims to support low-income Herefordshire households living in the least energy efficient homes and will follow a whole house approach. This means ensuring that the building has appropriate windows, doors and insulation before looking at heating systems.

For full details of the scheme and to apply visit: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/warmhomes

Herefordshire Council

"Changed our lives... because you don't realise how important warmth is ...I'm beginning to love my house now."
Sally, Leominster

Warm Homes LOCAL GRANT

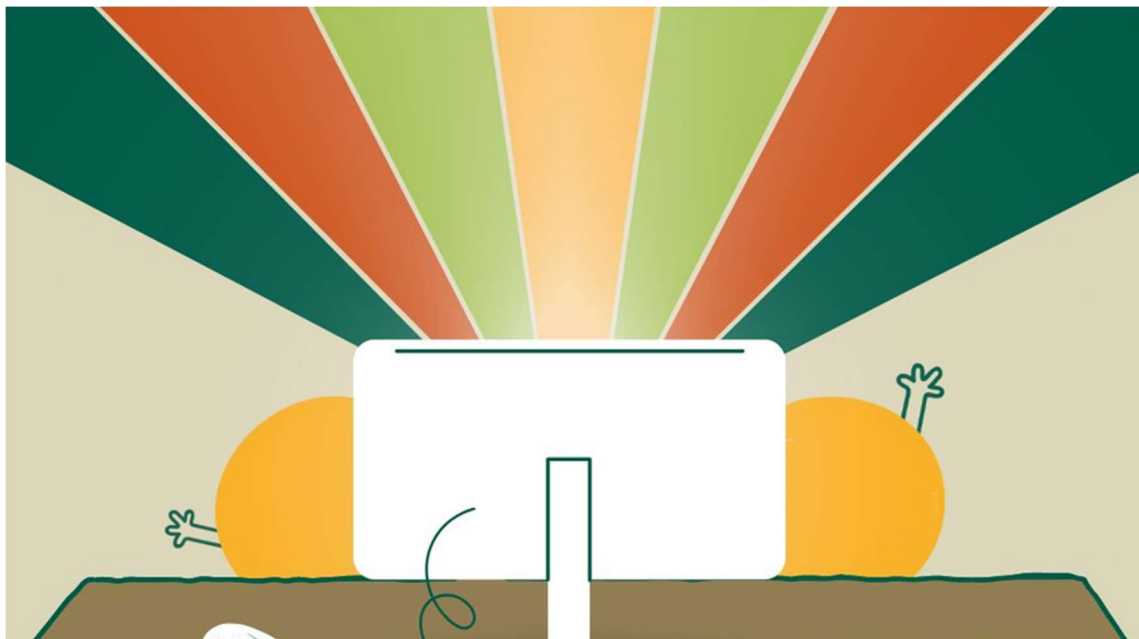
Apply now
herefordshire.gov.uk/warmhomes

Grant funding opportunities

Talk Community's Grant Finder tool is a one stop shop for funding information, providing continuously updated funding opportunities. The grant finder enables you to browse the different grants which are available, whether you are a charity, social enterprise, community group or parish council. Offering access to thousands of funds available on a European, national and regional basis.

If you have a specific project in mind, you can search for those funding opportunities which may be most relevant to you and once you are signed up, you can receive updates of new funding opportunities.

[Explore the grant finding tool now.](#)



What's new on the directory?

There's always something happening in Herefordshire, and this week we've added some fantastic new events, clubs, and opportunities to the Talk Community Directory. Whether you're looking to learn something new, enjoy a local concert, or get involved in a fun day out with the family, there's something here for everyone.

[Healthwatch - Free Community Health Champion Training](#)

[Junior Bowls Club](#)

[Ewyas Harold Scarecrow Festival](#)

[Wartime Llangarron – VE Day 80 Exhibition](#)

[Madley Church Spring Concert](#)

[St Bridget's Church Fundraiser – Quebb Quire in Concert](#)

[Herefordshire Histories Festival: Dynasty of Destiny, 1066 - 1485](#)

[Friends of Steiner Academy Hereford - Fun Dog Show](#)

[ECHO ColourFest 2025](#)

[Open Day - Bowls' Big Weekend](#)

[Rhythms of Hope Family Event](#)

Our socials are a great way to keep in touch with what's on too, whether you're

- a [Facebook](#) fan
- tuned in to [Twitter](#)

- or instantly on [Instagram](#).

Have you heard of Shared Lives?

Our Lives get better when they're shared

Herefordshire Shared Lives is a Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered service provided by Herefordshire Council. Shared Lives is a highly personalised form of care that supports people

