



COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND APPLICATION

Please answer all questions which are relevant to your organisation – failure to do so may result in a delay in the determination of your application

PROJECT (In no more than 25 words)	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew 2026	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED	£2000
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Contact Details

Q1 Name of organisation making application:

Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – Charity No 1125144

Name of contact for this application

Title: Mr

First Name: Maelor

Surname: Owen

Position held in the organisation:

Contact address, including full postcode:

Postcode:

Contact Telephone Number:

Email address:

About your organisation

Q2 What type of organisation are you?

Tick (✓) relevant category:

Registered Charity: (✓) Charity Registration Number 1125144

Voluntary Organisation: ()

Company Limited by Guarantee: () Company Number

Other – Please specify:

Q3 When was your organisation established?

March 1994

Q4 Briefly describe your organisation.

Describe your organisation, including how many members/users you have, whether there is a subscription fee and the usual activities/services you provide.

If you are a new organisation, describe the services/activities you plan to provide.

Crucial Crew facilitates safety education for Year 6 Primary school children at their most vulnerable and impressionable age, just as they prepare to move on to Secondary education. Up to 1560 children attend from 50 schools in a pre-defined central Shropshire area. About 1000 children come from primary schools in Shrewsbury. A two week event will be held at Shrewsbury Flaxmill in June 2026 managed by an unpaid committee of eleven. The content of thirteen safety scenarios will be delivered by our professional partners and volunteers. The up-to-date safety and social skills scenarios will reflect the needs of the borough and the partner agencies.

Crucial Crew is about safety and to ensure the safety of the children attending we invite about 100 unpaid members of the local community to volunteer as chaperones. We are proud to advise that this format was endorsed recently by Buckingham Palace, resulting in the award of the Kings Award for Voluntary Service.

Q5 If you are a subsidiary of a larger organisation, please state which one.

Crucial Crew is a national concept but each one is run independently. There is no parent body.

Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew is overseen and monitored by the West Mercia

Police and Crime Commissioner, Shropshire Council Education Dept and the Community

Safety Partnership.

Q6 Does your organisation have an agreed Constitution or Memorandum of Association?

We have a Constitution and a Trust Deed registered with the Charity Commission.

Q7 What is your primary source of funding?

An unpaid fundraiser on the management team raises 70% of the running costs from local trusts, Rotary groups and local businesses. The Police and Crime Commissioner is contributes the remaining 30%.

•Details of the project or activity you are planning

Q8 Describe the projects/activity you plan to use this grant for.

i. Try to be specific about what you will do and how you will do it.

We plan to run our 32nd annual event from 1 – 12 June 2026 at Shrewsbury Flaxmill.

Monthly meetings with our partner agencies between February and June will determine the 13 safety scenarios to be delivered.

ii. Please state how you have identified this need and how the project will benefit the people of Shrewsbury, together with the estimated time span. If you are seeking continuation funding for this project, please provide evidence for this continued need.

The concept was agreed at a meeting of a Crime Prevention Panel at Credenhill, Hereford, in 1994 and subsequently run by West Mercia Police Officers out of Monkmoor Police Station. Continuous feedback over the years has more than reinforced the need and fully justified the annual event which is very popular with the schools involved.

iii. How many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit directly from your project or activity?

1000 children, their households & communities, plus 100 unpaid volunteers

iv. Please indicate which of the key pillars of the Council's Vision are met and how:

Pillars	Met	How
Building Resilient Communities For Shrewsbury t a i l s	√	We prepare our youngsters to become responsible Junior Citizens at a key stage in their education. In 2025 the council ran a further event in the Quarry called ‘Youth Social’ aimed at 14 – 18 year olds. Those attending remembered going to Crucial Crew as 11 year-olds and agreed that Youth Social was a great follow-up event.
Supporting Shrewsbury Residents To Live Active And Healthy Lives Through The Provision Of Quality Services t h e p r o j e c t o r a c t i	√	At Crucial Crew there is time each day for 13 scenarios. At the end of each event the children and teachers are given a workbook which contains 21 scenarios. Initially, the teachers use the books during the last few weeks of Year 6 to reinforce the information given. Thereafter, the children take the safety workbooks back to their communities where they are encouraged to share the information and use it to educate others.
Preserving Shrewsbury’s Heritage j e c t o r a c t i	√	Crucial Crew is held at Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings. At lunchtime each day Historic England / English Heritage give a presentation and show a film about this valuable asset to the town to all the children and their teachers. The idea is to encourage them all to return and look at one of the many historical buildings in our town. (The bit about starting work at age 6 takes them by surprise though).
Creating A Greener And Better-connected Shrewsbury c t i	√	For 12 years Veolia have delivered a scenario entitled ‘Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Recover’
Maintaining A Sustainable, Resilient And Efficient Organisation t y o u a r e	√	Resilience has been the theme of the School Nurses scenario and the the water safety scenario, two of a number of active scenarios which require children from a mix of schools to actively work together. The children attending are split up on arrival, ‘not because we are spoilsports’, but they are told that situations do not always occur when they are out with their best friends. It may involve working with strangers. At Crucial Crew they are encouraged to work together as mini teams.
Taking Positive Action To Tackle Climate Change p l a n	√	AS previously mentioned, for 12 years Veolia have delivered a scenario entitled ‘Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Recover’. Over the last two events SYA all about youth have delivered a scenario on vaping, including the correct disposal of the product. The scenario discourages the use of vapes and highlights the effect of the waste product.

Q9 What criteria will be used to measure the success of the project and how many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit from it?

Each year we invite VIP guests along to scrutinise and endorse the event. That continued this year with the Lord Lt Anna Turner, three deputy DLs, Simon Hardiman, Chf Fire Officer, Chf Insp Graham Preece & Chf Insp Claire Greenaway, Kerry Woodhouse and Gillian Denning of Telford Council and others. In 2024 we were more heavily scrutinised by the Kings Award team who spent the best part of 6 months going through their eligibility criteria. News of our recent award has re-energised the unpaid management team and our volunteers.

Health & Safety

Q10 What, if any, special safety issues are related to your project/activity?

Please provide the following information:

- i. What kind of insurance does your organisation have?

Public Liability and Trustee Insurance

- ii. Do the leaders have the relevant qualifications and/or experience?

The safety scenarios are delivered by our highly trained partners in the police, fire service, RNLI, Shropshire Council, National Grid, Cadent , NFU etc.

- iii. What policies does your organisation have in place (i.e. Health and Safety, Child Protection/Safeguarding, working with vulnerable adults, Equal Opportunities, CRB Checks etc.)? *You may be required to submit copies of your policies.*

Child protection policy, Code of behaviour, Constitution. We secure the Dye House and the area behind the Flaxmill with fencing. Children of all backgrounds and abilities are invited. Those with special needs are accompanied by trained staff from their school. This year Severndale and Keystone specialist academies attended. There are briefings at the

outset for chaperones, teachers, teaching assistants and the children themselves. When Crucial Crew staff and the professional partners are factored in there are about 50 adults and about 12 teachers & teaching assistants keeping an eye on the children attending. Members of the management team receive first aid training prior to each event.

Funding of your project

Q11 Previous Applications

If you have applied for and received funding from Shrewsbury Town Council in the past please provide details of the amount, the year and briefly what the funding was used for.

Year	Project Description	Award £
2007	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – June 2007	5000
2008	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – June 2008	1000
2012	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – June 2012	500
2018	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – June 2018	250
2019	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – June 2019	1000
2024	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew – June 2024	1000

Q12 Project Funding

Tell us the amount of grant requested **£2000** and provide a detailed breakdown as to how you have reached this figure

Project Expenditure Please list all items of expenditure for your project	Amount of Project
Accommodation & storage	£4850
catering	£3500
children's transport	£5000
t-shirts	£4500
workbooks	£3000
operational / administration / insurance	£4150
SYA, All about Youth – specialist vaping scenario	£1000
memorabilia	£1000
Total	£27,000
Project Income Please list how the project shall be funded	
Police & Crime Commissioner	£8,000
fundraising	£17,500
What is the difference? This should be the same as the amount of Grant you are applying for	£2000

Q13 Covering a Shortfall

If the Town Council makes an offer less than the amount requested, how will that impact on the Project and how will you cover the shortfall?

We have reserves to cover any shortfall. As we need to tell schools in September, that they have an event the following June, we have sufficient reserves to guarantee the next event.

Q14 Sustainability

What plans do you have in place to ensure that your organisation becomes more sustainable and less reliant on grant funding, particularly from the Town Council?

An unpaid fundraiser is tasked to attract funding from numerous sources whilst continuing to identify new sources of income. We do not apply to the same sources every year, but having recently achieved the Kings Award, we thought the Town Council should be associated with the award.

Your Accounts

Q15 Please provide the following details from your most recent annual accounts

Total Income 2024	£35,362.58*
Less Total Expenditure	£20,994.62
Surplus	£14,637.00
Savings (Reserves, Cash, Investments)	£86,080.61**

***Note:** The 2023 event was only held for one week following the governments decision to house asylum seekers at Nesscliffe. The average income over three years 2022 to 2024 was £24,777.68. The total for 2024 includes receipts from the previous financial period and a one off Community Champions award of £5,000 from Tesco.

**** Less invoices for the 2025 event at c£27,000 (=£59,080.61)**

Please provide a copy of your most recent annual audited accounts or, in the case of newly established organisations, the projected income and expenditure for the next twelve months.

You need to include these documents with this application.

Account Details

Q16 Please provide your bank or building society account details

You can only apply for grant if you have a bank/building society account in the name of your organisation. We will only pay grants into an account which requires at least two people to sign each cheque or withdrawal. **These people should not be related.**

Account name: [REDACTED]

Sort Code: [REDACTED] Account Number: [REDACTED]

Bank name: [REDACTED]

Bank address: [REDACTED]

Who are the signatories and what position do they hold in your organisation?

1 Name [REDACTED] Position Deputy Chairman / Trustee

2 Name [REDACTED] Position Trustee, Treasurer

Any Other Information

Q17 Any other information which you consider to be relevant to your application.

2024 was both a challenging and rewarding year for a charity celebrating its 30th birthday. Having been asked to vacate the army camp at Nesscliffe, our home since 1994, we had to find an alternative venue. This involved multiple detailed visits to five shortlisted sites. A key concern was transporting Oswestry schools to a new location that could deliver the programme between 09.30 and 14.15 each day. We also had to seek the views and agreement of our professional partners, schools and regular volunteers. In the event a successful result was achieved at Shrewsbury Flaxmill after gargantuan efforts by key members of the management team. The team quickly established an excellent rapport with Historic England and the flaxmill, all working closely together to ensure a further successful event for the children of 2024 and 2025. Whilst this was going on, the KAVS team and the Lord Lieutenant herself were close at hand scrutinising the charity for its voluntary work. Mounting yet another successful event for 1500 children and achieving the Kings Award against all the odds speaks for itself.

Declarations

Q18 Declaration

Please give details of a senior member of your organisation.

For example, this may be your Chairperson, Treasurer or Secretary. They must read the application and sign below. **(This must not be the main contact name in Q1).**

I confirm, on behalf of Shrewsbury & Oswestry Crucial Crew

That I am authorised to sign this declaration on its behalf, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all replies are true and accurate.

I confirm that I have read the Terms and Conditions set out in the Notes which accompanied this application and further confirm that this application is made on the basis that if successful, the organisation will be bound to use the grant only for the purpose specified in this application, and will have to comply with those Terms and Conditions and any others which the Council might attach to the Grant.

Post held in organisation: [REDACTED]

Title: [REDACTED] First Name: [REDACTED] Surname: [REDACTED]

Organisation address:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Signed: [REDACTED] Date: 4 July 2025

Q19 Signature of Person Completing the Application

This must be the signature of the person named in Q1 as the main contact and **not be the same person who has signed in Q18**

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application from is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for additional information at any stage of the application process.

Signed: [REDACTED] Date: 4 July 2025

Checklist

1. Have you answered every question? ✓ ☐
2. Have all signatures been completed? ✓ ☐
3. Have you included a copy of your constitution? ✓ ☐
4. Have you included a copy of your most recent audited accounts? ✓ ☐
5. Please state any supporting documents you are submitting: ✓ ☐

Attached:

Constitution

Final accounts - 2024

2026 Briefing Sheet (for reference)

Crucial Crew funding application (for reference)

Please return your completed application form to:

**Town Clerk
Shrewsbury Town Council
Livesey House
7 St John's Hill
Shrewsbury
SY1 1JD**

Telephone: 01743 281010

Email: Helen.ball@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk