



St Basil's
Neighbour Fund
FAQ

What is the Neighbour Fund?

The St Basil's Neighbour Fund is a community-fundraised pot of money from which grants can be made to local people driven into a vulnerable financial position. The fund will make one-off grants of up to £300 to individuals for immediate emergency needs. For example if someone is unable to buy groceries, pay bills or prescriptions, fix a car, replace a household appliance or other similar needs arising from financial hardship.

Who can apply?

Our desire is to show the love of God through supporting those in our local community and surrounding area through this difficult time. The geography of the Neighbour Fund includes the postcodes of EX6, EX5 5, EX4, EX2, EX17, EX20, TQ13. Applicants will be able to apply up to three times to the fund.

If I donate to the Neighbour Fund, who manages the money?

St Basil's is a registered charity (charity number: 1193097). All donations to the Neighbour Fund go into a designated fund that will not be spent on anything other than the alleviation of financial hardship, which is currently expressed in the form of these emergency grants. St Basil's has its own set of trustees who meet at least once a term to oversee the governance of the church, including rigorous financial oversight. St Basil's is also part of the Diocese of Exeter in the Church of England, which means we submit to the authority of our Bishop and have accountability within this structure.

Can I gift aid my donation?

Yes. Because the money is being given to charity, those who pay taxes in the UK can gift aid their donation.

Who oversees the running of the Neighbour Fund?

There is a panel of 7 people – who are part of the St Basil's community, chaired by a staff member and who are ultimately overseen by St Basil's trustees – that assess each application made to the fund and make recommendations as to whether a grant should be made. Each of them has signed a confidentiality agreement to ensure the applications are handled sensitively, discretely and confidentially. The panel have a set of principles to guide their decision making. Applications will be judged on their relevance to the purpose of the fund, where household income has been suddenly and severely lowered, resulting in financial hardship. The panel will not discriminate against individuals in the provision of grants on the basis of their faith, sexuality, gender or ethnicity.

In what form are grants made to an individual?

Grants will not be made in the form of cash to an individual. Grants will be made where an individual can show a receipt for the expenditure they are requesting to be supported with or an invoice for works and services due to take place. In the case of the latter, payments shall be made directly to the company or organisation referred to in the invoice. We will occasionally issue a grant in the form of vouchers.

If I want to find out more information, who can I get in touch with?

Please email neighbourfund@stbasils.church and someone will get back to you shortly.