



Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements – Overview and Guidance Notes

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1. Introduction to Guidance Notes

Hello! We are pleased that you are considering applying for a **Broadmead Activation Grant**. Thank you for taking the time to read the Overview and Guidance Notes. This document is designed to help you understand more about the funding process and what we would like to support and make happen through the grant scheme.

There are two different grants available through the Broadmead Activation Grant. They are:

1. Extended Opening Hours
2. Pavements

These guidance notes relate to 2. Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements

Hospitality businesses, or businesses with a hospitality offer, can apply for up to £1,500 through this grant to trial or extend an existing hospitality offer on the pavement outside their premises. The grant can be

used to apply for a Bristol City Council pavement licence (£100) and/or infrastructure to support outdoor hospitality such as tables and chairs.

Applicants for this grant must be either sole traders, or the owner, main director or partner of a small or micro business, charity or CIC and have full control over all business decisions. Franchise holders are not eligible to receive this funding.

Guidance on outdoor hospitality can be found here: [Outdoor hospitality: licences and guidance](#)

If you would like support to help you understand the guidance notes or complete the application form, please email artsdevelopment@bristol.gov.uk

Closing Date

The closing date for applications is 10am on Wednesday 28 October 2026. You must send your full application to us by this date. This includes:

- Application form with all fields complete
- Public liability certificate (minimum £5 million)
- Employer liability certificate (if applicable) (minimum £5 million)

We will not be able to consider applications for this funding if any of the above has not been sent to us by the closing date.

2. What is the aim of this grant?

The Broadmead Activation Grant will support businesses and community organisations to introduce new activities, extend trading opportunities and make use of improved public spaces alongside major transport and regeneration improvements being delivered in the area.

3. How much funding is available and how much can each business apply for?

The total amount of funding available for Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements is £15,000.

Each hospitality business can apply for up to £1,500 to cover a pavement licence and outdoor hospitality infrastructure such as tables, chairs and small parasols.

4. Eligibility for the Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements

Location: Your hospitality business must be located on one of the following streets: The Horsefair, Penn Street, The Arcade, Bond Street, Union Street and Merchant Street. More weighting will be given to businesses applying with premises on The Horsefair, Penn Street and The Arcade where the traffic and bus stop changes will give the most potential for business to try out new approaches.

Existing pavement offer: All hospitality businesses, or businesses with a hospitality offer, in the designated streets are eligible to apply for this grant. Priority will be given to businesses which do not already hold a pavement licence and operate in the space outside their premises.

Type of organisation, goods and services provided:

All types of organisations can apply for this funding, including Businesses, Charities, CIC's Community & Voluntary Groups, Social Enterprises, and Sole Traders.

To be eligible your business must meet **ALL THREE (3)** of the following criteria:

1. Premises where you intend to trial an outdoor hospitality offer must be within one of the designated streets. You must hold a lease for this premises at the time of submitting your application.
2. An independent business or small company with a balance sheet of £7.5 million or less – in line with the government's definition of a small business.
3. A consumer-facing organisation operating in retail, health and beauty, culture or hospitality.

In line with Bristol City Council policy, some types of business and organisations will not be eligible to receive funding, including: any business subject to a franchise agreement that gives control over business decisions to a franchisor, betting shops, pawn brokers, tanning salons, amusement or gaming arcades, tobacconists, vape shops, shisha bars, fast-food outlets, shops or venues wholly or mainly offering material of an adult or sexual nature, businesses or activities for political purposes or gain, for activities promoting religious beliefs or to proscribed organisations or organisations that support radicalisation or terrorism. This is not an exhaustive list. We retain the right to add to it at any time.

Applicants or businesses that are in administration, insolvent or where a striking-off notice has been made are not eligible for the grant.

Number of applications per business:

Each business may only submit one application to the Broadmead Activation Grants. A business submitting an application for Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements may not simultaneously or subsequently submit an application for the Broadmead Activation Grant: Extended Opening Hours and vice versa.

Insurance:

Your organisation or business will need to have valid insurance policies for public liability (minimum £5 million) and if you employ people, employer liability (minimum £5 million).

5. Conditions of the Grant

What can the Grant be spent on?

- A Bristol City Council Pavement Licence
- Outdoor infrastructure such as tables and chairs
- Additional staff costs attached to providing outdoor hospitality
- Additional insurance costs attached to providing outdoor hospitality
- Additional energy costs attached to providing outdoor hospitality
- Marketing and promotion costs

What can the Grant not be spent on?

- Costs incurred prior to the award of a Grant
- Activities beyond the scope of the Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements
- The purchase or lease of a property
- The relocation of a business
- Expenditure on permanent fittings on the interior of a premises

- Business rates
- Accommodation
- Legal and accountancy fees
- Annual insurance costs (with the exception additional insurance attached to providing outdoor seating)

This is not an exhaustive list. We retain the right to add to it or amend it at any time.

In addition to the grant itself, Bristol City Council wishes to support grant recipients with cafe barriers which will contribute to a unified look and feel on these streets. Exact arrangements will be confirmed with grant recipients following the award of grants.

6. When must pavement hospitality take place?

The use of pavement licences and outdoor infrastructure funded by the Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements must begin during 1 January and 30 September 2027. You may wish to begin using the pavement space outside your premises from Easter 2027, to coincide with warmer weather.

7. Licensing and permissions

Pavements licensing

If your application for a grant is successful you will require permission from the council to have tables, chairs and other pavement furniture on the pavement or road. The licences and permissions you need will depend on what furniture you want to use and where it is going to be used. The cost of the license can be included in the grant you apply for. You can find out more about outdoor hospitality licences and guidance here. [Outdoor hospitality: licences and guidance](#)

Premises licensing

If you have a premises license for alcohol, entertainment or late night hot food and drink, you might need to make changes to your licence. If you don't have a premises licence you might need to apply for one. You can find out more about premises licensing here. [Premises licences for alcohol and entertainment](#)

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

If you are successful in securing a Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements, you will be required to gather specific information outlined below to assess the reach and impact of funding. Templates and forms will be provided to the successful business to gather the following information over a sample period:

- Additional customer numbers served by outdoor hospitality provision
- Total takings from the outdoor hospitality and average spend per person
- Number of staff hours the outdoor hospitality has supported
- What has gone well and intentions to continue outdoor hospitality
- Evidence of advertising relating to the outdoor hospitality

We may also choose to produce a case study about your outdoor hospitality offer, which may be made publicly available on Bristol City Council's website and through our social media channels.

Bristol City Council officers may also visit your venue.

9. Process and Key dates

Wednesday 19 August 2026: Broadmead Grant Scheme opens for applications

Wednesday 28 October 2026: Application window closes

Early December 2026: Applicants informed of decision by this date

January – September 2027: Operation of outdoor hospitality begins.

10. Grant Application Form

Please complete the Grant Application form which is available as a Word or PDF document. Applications in either format are acceptable; simply download the version that works best for you.

The PDF version is designed to be simpler for all. It meets the access requirements of applicants with visual impairment and is designed to work with supportive technology like screen-readers and audio description. The Word version provides an option for those who have computers that don't allow use of pdfs. Whichever format you use, please keep this guidance for reference while you work through the application form.

Please answer all the questions and once you have completed your application, please email your final version to artsdevelopment@bristol.gov.uk by 10am, Wednesday 28 October. Please use 'Broadmead Activation Grant: Pavements', and your business name as the subject heading.

11. How does the Council decide whether to award this grant?

Your application will be assessed by a Grant Panel made up of Bristol City Council officers. Decisions made by the panel are final. There is no appeals process. Grants are discretionary and merit based. There is no automatic entitlement to funding based solely on the location of a business within the designated area.

In order to make a decision, the Grant Panel will assess your eligibility (see up to date list above) and some of the answers to questions on the application form, including:

- Location: We will accept applications from any eligible business on the following streets: The Horsefair, Penn Street, The Arcade, Bond Street, Union Street and Merchant Street. However, we wish to prioritise certain retail streets, which are: The Horsefair, Penn Street and The Arcade. Applications from businesses on these retail streets will score more highly on that question.
- Timing: when you intend to start operating outdoor hospitality, and the rationale for this.
- Marketing and promotion you intend to carry out to ensure that your outdoor hospitality offer is a success.
- How will you decide whether to continue with outdoor hospitality: what is your benchmark of success and your approach to measuring success, e.g. realistic projections of target numbers attending.

12. What happens if my application is successful?

If your grant application is successful, you will enter into a formal grant agreement which will set out specific and general terms and conditions relating to this Grant Award. This agreement will be between you, the applicant, and Bristol City Council. There is no possibility of an applicant negotiating or changing the terms of the grant agreement.

13. Grant payments

Bristol City Council will issue 80% of your funding on receipt of a signed funding agreement. The final 20% of your grant will be paid on submission of satisfactory monitoring and evaluation information (date to be agreed between Bristol City Council and the grant recipient). Bristol City Council Arts Development team may carry out checks to ensure activity takes place as stated in application.

14. Marketing and publicity

Outdoor hospitality must be advertised locally to ensure maximum visibility. All marketing and publicity materials should include the Bristol City Council (BCC) logo and must be approved by Bristol City Council before issue.

Bristol City Council may be able to help promote your grant-funded outdoor hospitality through its social media channels. If you are successful in securing a grant we will be in touch to gather information and a picture of your business/premises which we may use in our social media.

15. Subsidy Information

This funding is offered to businesses as a subsidy as defined by the Subsidy Control Act 2022. For registered charities the funding is offered as No Subsidy. All grants will be awarded through Minimal Financial Assistance. Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) is capped at a threshold of £315,000 over 3 financial years. All businesses will be asked to declare any subsidies that count towards this limit on their Grant Application form. These include:

- subsidies that fall within the category of 'Minimal or (SPEI) financial assistance'
- aid given under European Union state aid de minimis regulations
- subsidies given as small amounts of financial assistance (SAFA) under the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement after 31 December 2020 but before the Subsidy Control Act came into force.

Please consult any past grant offer letters and documents for the legal basis of grants that you have received and contact previous grant issuers if you are unsure.