

Appendix 9: Create Community Network CIC

=Document Control:

Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	CG-217			
Name of Organisation	Create Community Network CIC			
Organisation Type	CIC			
Ward	All Letchworth Wards			
Project Type	Community			
Green option considered?	N/A			
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	Cllr Prendergast gave £500 from his 2025/26 locality budget to help with the transition to their new, smaller, premises.			
Previous financial support within six years	Community Interest Fund (CIF) grant £19,610 granted February 2024 towards the Funding manager role and the Facilities manager role for 2024/25			
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts	Yes
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes		
Total applied for	£2,500	Total project cost	Approx. running costs of £24K to £30K for the year	

Officer Summary

[Create Community Network CIC](#) have been providing a valuable service to North Hertfordshire residents since 2016. They work particularly but not exclusively with the long term disenfranchised, the unemployed, the socially isolated and disconnected, together with those struggling with poor mental health.

They open three days a week and provide a safe space and support to whoever needs their help, which is usually between 150-200 new individuals each year with attendance ranging between 25 and 50 individuals per week.

Recently they have moved premises to the Garden Square Shopping Centre in a bid to significantly reduce their outlay (quarterly rent reduced from £7.1k to £1.15K), and they now only have one part time paid member of staff, everyone else volunteers.

Despite successfully navigating their way to significantly reduce costs, they are not out of the woods yet and still need critical funding to enable them to simply open the doors, turn the lights on and continue to deliver their core provision. The core overheads of rent/service charges, utilities, staffing and back of house costs come to around £2,000 to £2,500 per month, any funds received would go towards these core costs.

Their services offer an essential connection for the community, creating a bridge to local services and support, as well as a safe haven and connection point for the community.

*Funding will only be released on receipt and approval of all supporting documentation