

THE APPLICATION FORM

Name of Group Applying	CASSPLUS
Are you a registered charity? If so, please give your number	1160513
Please give estimated dates for Project start? Project end?	Ongoing Project
How much will the project cost? How much is your grant request? How will you raise the rest? Will the project receive match funding – please provide details What other grants have been given or refused for the same project?	£1000 £1000 Ongoing grant applications for IT equipment for other sites No None

Tell us about your group, what does it do?

Myself and our CEO Carole Edwards met with the Town Council late last year and they were kind enough to advise about this and other grants. We believe that applying for the lesser grant was sensible and realistic.

CASSPLUS delivers services from Family, Crown, Coroner and Magistrates' Courts in Devon (Newton Abbot, Plymouth and Exeter) and Cornwall (Truro and Bodmin).

Our primary aim is to provide free advice and support to defendants and families to reduce the risk of re-offending. Strong secondary aims relate to social inclusion and improved health and wellbeing.

CASSPLUS plugs a gap in a court system which processes low level offenders, with no attention to the underlying needs that have steered them towards criminal behaviours. Approx 75% people attending courts do not meet the threshold of statutory responses (prisons and probation); they generally receive low level disposals of fines or conditional discharges and would simply continue to revolve through the system without positive interventions.

At its most basic, we support people caught up in the justice system – helping them understand process and jargon (especially critical for 'first timers'). Without our support, many of these people would not be able to effectively navigate the system and be treated inappropriately. Examples of this is where a defendant would inadvertently elect to go to trial as they are unable to access legal advice or fully understand their situation. By doing so, they would then be subject to high levels of costs and possible sentence outcomes.

We identify the underlying issues that have brought people into courts, then provide onsite advice and support to help address those needs; accommodation and mental health are both high priority areas (approx. 40% of all clients) closely followed by employment, benefits and debt (30%), substance misuse, domestic abuse and physical health (all circa 20%). An average CASSPLUS client presents with three separate areas of need, with the highest percentages of need relating to accommodation, mental health and criminal justice. Clients are complex and many attend court without legal representation (not qualifying for legal aid). CASSPLUS is located in public areas and our support is delivered face to face, with follow on calls generated as and where needed

Does your project/organisation have a social media/website presence?

www.cassplus.org

How will you publicise the Newton Abbot Town Council grant?

We will share on social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn) and will also include on our website

How will the funds be spent? How will it benefit the people of Newton Abbot?

We are applying for a small grant of £1000 to enable us to purchase new IT equipment for our front-line staff working out of Newton Abbot Magistrates' Court but also in the outlying areas due to their outreach work. Our work whilst directly with members of the public coming through the magistrate's court, is heavily reliant on being able to access up to date information about partners working across Newton Abbot in which we can refer clients to for support. Our laptops and printers are very old and therefore slow and not always reliable, which can result in delays in being able to access information and limited abilities to be able to print out vital information for our clients.

Our financial resources are limited and our staff work very hard to keep their costs to a minimum and in fact donated a laptop for our volunteers as it was newer than the one they had which was not working.

The ability to purchase new IT equipment will increase our ability to deliver a high-quality service to the people of Newton Abbot who find themselves going through the court system. It will enable us to communicate more effectively with stakeholders across Newton Abbot, creating a joined-up approach to work with clients and help to reduce the risk of reoffending, which directly impacts people living within Newton Abbot.

In reality it helps us utilise our time working with our clients, rather than waiting for a laptop to unfreeze etc.

(You can continue on an extra sheet if you wish to)

Sustainability Plan

This is a one-off application

Safeguarding

Where appropriate please provide us with a copy of the project/organisation's safeguarding policy with reference to children and vulnerable adults.

Contact name	Henri Treece
Contact address	Newton Abbot Magistrates' Newfoundland Way Newton Abbot TQ12 1NG
Contact telephone and email address	Henri.Treece@cassplus.org

Bank Account Details

Account Name CASSPLUS

Sort code 40-52-40

Account Number 00026989

Bank Address

CAF Bank Ltd, 25
Kings Hill Avenue,
Kings Hill, West
Malling, Kent,
ME19 4JQ

If you do not have a Bank Account for your group, the Council will arrange to hold any grant awarded for you for up to 12 months and will reimburse against receipts.

Does your group meet all legal requirements for this project (e.g., Public Liability, insurance, protection of children and vulnerable adults etc.)	YES It is YOUR responsibility to check
	Signed <i>Henri Treece</i> Print Name Henri Treece Date 27 th December 2023
<p>Declaration.</p> <p>I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that a request may be made for additional information at any stage of the application process. By completing this form, the signatories hereto agree to this information being retained in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act and for that information to be printed in official council publications and forwarded to other agencies as necessary to facilitate this application for grant aid but for no other purpose.</p> <p>Signed <i>Henri Treece</i> Date 27/12/23</p>	

Please include your constitution and most recent set of accounts if you have these, but it is not essential to receive a grant.

If you need any help in completing this form, please telephone the Deputy Town Clerk on 01626 201120

