

NRW Reinvigoration Pact

Together against poverty

Across Germany, prices for energy and food are rising. The reason for this is not least the Russian war of aggression. The economic effects are being felt in this country particularly by people on low incomes and social infrastructure facilities.

In order to help the people in North Rhine-Westphalia, the state government has made **around 150 million euros** available as part of the "Strengthening Pact of North Rhine-Westphalia - Together Against Poverty", in addition to the measures taken by the federal government.

For the period from January to December 2023, the **city of Bocholt** has been granted **support in the amount of 303,849 euros** . These funds are to be used to support social infrastructure facilities in the Bocholt municipal area upon application to the city of Bocholt, based on the following distribution principles.

Frequently asked questions

– Who is eligible to apply?

Entitled to apply are social infrastructure facilities located in Bocholt (e.g. providers, associations, etc.) to adapt to the increased need and to maintain an increasing take-up of counselling and assistance services.

In particular, the following can be taken into account

- the support of social and debt counselling in municipalities as well as
- support for the social infrastructure in municipalities (e.g. food banks, clothing shops, social department stores, food distributors, homeless and addiction counselling centres, centres for the unemployed, senior citizens' meetings etc.), meeting facilities and neighbourhood networks in the neighbourhoods / districts ("neighbourhood living rooms", "warm rooms").

The NRW strengthening pact is primarily intended to support contact points and facilities for people from low-income households and/or with special needs, who are dependent on assistance due to their individual circumstances and are particularly affected by the considerable price increases.

– What are the eligibility requirements?

- Equity benefits are only granted for expenses that are directly related to **offers in the Bocholt city area**.
- Equity benefits are only granted for expenditure for which no other funding has been applied for and/or approved.
Double funding is excluded.
- In the event of overcompensation (compensation, insurance benefits, other funding measures, earmarked donations, etc.) or non-spending of funds, the benefits granted must be repaid.

– What is funded and how much?

Eligible expenses include:

- Crisis-related additional expenditure for current offers:
 - Increase in heating and energy costs (based on the current monthly instalment payments in comparison with the corresponding expenditure in 2022).
 - Increase in rental and ancillary rental costs
 - Increase in current expenses, e.g. for waste disposal, cleaning and disinfectant agents, gloves, masks, etc.
 - Additional expenditure on cutlery, disposable or reusable crockery, kitchen utensils etc.
 - Additional expenses for the creation and production of information materials (for social and debt counselling)
- Crisis-related creation of additional services:
 - Expenditure for additional heating and energy costs
 - Expenditure for additional rent and ancillary rental costs
 - Expenses e.g. for waste disposal, cleaning and disinfectant agents, gloves, masks, etc.
 - Expenses for cutlery, disposable or reusable crockery, kitchen utensils etc.
 - Expenses for the creation and production of information materials (for social and debt counselling), insofar as these are additionally offered in 2023.

In addition, **personnel and fee expenses are eligible** if the personnel is directly employed to provide services in the social and debt counselling centres or in the eligible social infrastructure facilities. This must be additional expenditure due to a crisis-related, temporary extension of employment periods for existing staff or higher, additional staff requirements due to increased utilisation and an associated, also temporary expansion of the social service. The funding is limited to the personnel expenses incurred in the calendar year 2023.

Excluded are personnel expenses directly related to the administrative implementation of the support services as well as investment expenses for procurement, maintenance and construction measures.

Only expenditure actually incurred by the applicant in the months of January 2023 to December 2023 can be taken into account.

Any resulting tax implications and declaration obligations are the responsibility of the recipient of this benefit.

The City of Bocholt shall decide on the granting of the subsidy at its due discretion. The maximum amount of funding is 60,000 euros per facility.

– How and when can I submit an application?

- The application must be submitted in writing (incl. attachments) by 30 April 2023 to:

City of Bocholt
Department of Finance and Participations / Funding Management
Kaiser-Wilhelm-Str. 52-58
46395 Bocholt

- The application form and Annex 1 provided by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs must be used for the application. In addition, the application must be accompanied by a cost plan of the notified expected funding requirements according to Annex 1.
- The applicants confirm that they will provide the City of Bocholt at any time, upon request, with the information and documents necessary to clarify the facts without delay. This applies in particular in the context of a possible audit by the audit department.
- The applicants give their consent to the collection and processing of the data necessary and required for the granting of the support within the framework of the provisions of data protection law.
- Institutions that have received equity support under this funding guideline must provide evidence to the City of Bocholt by 29 February 2024 at the latest that the equity support has been used for the intended purpose by submitting a tabular overview of the expenses incurred (Annex 4); the submission of individual receipts is not required. All relevant documents (invoices, receipts, etc.) must be kept **until 31 May 2034**.
- **There is no legal entitlement to receive a support payment within the meaning of this guideline.**
- The general ancillary provisions of the City of Bocholt apply.

The municipal procedure for passing on the equity payments from the state of North Rhine-Westphalia to third parties has been determined by resolution of the Bocholt city council (bill 89/2023).

Further information on the directive can be found in the accompanying information from the Ministry.

Contact

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Finanzen und Beteiligungen



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Further information

[On the strengthening.pact](#)

[Funding guideline for the "Stärkungspakt](#)

[Accompanying information from the Ministry](#)

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