

COMMUNITY GRANT FUND

GUIDANCE NOTES

North Lincolnshire Council recognises the importance of individuals, local groups and organisations in delivering on priorities in local communities, which in turn help to make North Lincolnshire an excellent place to live, work and play. The Council has a funding pot with a view to:

- Encouraging and supporting communities who wish to strengthen their local community through the provision of facilities, events, activities or services to local children and young people, families, and adults of all ages
- Encouraging and supporting voluntary groups to run existing Council facilities, services and activities
- Encouraging town and parish councils to run existing and new services
- Support and enable talented people to progress their development and realise their full potential in the field of sport, arts and culture.

Who can apply for the fund

INDIVIDUALS

Talented Individuals resident in North Lincolnshire who are able to demonstrate excellence in sport/art or culture, supported by independent evidence, e.g. selection to a recognised governing body national sports squad, working with professional artists, practitioner in a residence, mentoring or master class setting.

ORGANISATIONS

The fund will support the following organisations if they are non profit making and have social aims:

- Junior and Youth Groups
- Charitable bodies
- Trusts
- Co-operatives
- Industrial and provident societies
- Not for profit constituted organisations
- Town and parish councils

Applications from new groups are welcomed.

What kind of activity will be supported

The fund will support a wide range of facilities, events, activities and services that will help deliver some of the council priorities:

- **SAFE** Safer roads. Safer people. Safer communities. Safer environments. Safer spaces
- **WELL** Cleaner and greener spaces. Good health and wellbeing. Quality housing. Vibrant leisure and culture. Improved quality of life

- **PROSPEROUS** More jobs, better paid jobs. Improved skills. Excellent education. Thriving businesses. Accessible childcare
- **CONNECTED** Accessible transport. Flourishing communities. Superfast digital connectivity. Better roads and rail. Strong sense of pride and belonging

Further details of the council priorities can be found at northlincs.gov.uk.

The fund may be used to support the following

- Equipment
- Transport
- Training
- Hire of premises (for junior or young groups where a concessionary rate has not been secured)

Examples of Capital Projects that may receive support include:

- Playing fields/sports, arts & heritage facilities
- Children's playgrounds
- Community buildings
- Major equipment

What we cannot normally fund

- a) Repairs to damage caused by fire or vandalism
- b) Groups not legally constituted
- d) Groups who can not demonstrate evidence of their own fund raising efforts
- e) Projects to premises used solely as places of worship
- f) Retrospective applications
- g) Schools and colleges
- h) Political groups or groups promoting political activities
- i) Groups/organisations where the majority of the membership live outside of North Lincolnshire Council boundaries
- j) Groups whose activities exclude young people under 18 years
- k) Grant making bodies applying for funding to redistribute to individuals or groups
- l) Repair and maintenance projects
- m) Please note we will not consider applications for support with staffing

How much will we fund

INDIVIDUALS

Our normal grant offer is £500, unless a lesser amount is needed. Talented sports individuals will also receive free off peak access to the council's fitness centres and swimming pools for one year from when the grant was given.

PREMISES HIRE

Normally the maximum grant awarded will be up to 70% of revenue costs for premises hire for junior and youth organisations.

Funding towards premises hire aims to help a group become sustainable. If a group has been awarded 2 previous grants for premises hire since 1 April 2019 no further support for premises hire will be considered.

OTHER PROJECTS

The normal maximum grant awarded for other project cost will be up to 90% (maximum £15,000). For projects with a capital cost in excess of £60,000, groups could be eligible for one grant of up to £30,000 in any five year period. There are no restrictions on the number of smaller grants a group can apply for, but priority may be given to groups who have not previously received support from the fund.

Grant aid will be based on the estimated net cost of the work involved. Any VAT payments will only be covered by grant aid if they are non-reclaimable.

The applicant group will normally be expected to contribute a minimum of 10% or £5,000, whichever is the lesser, towards the cost of the project.

Important things to note

1. Each application will be considered on its own merits.

Consideration will include

- a) The benefits that will accrue to the children, young people, families, adults or community to which the application applies
 - b) The children, young people, families, adults or community must be within the North Lincolnshire Council boundary
 - c) The aims of the event, activity or service must contribute to the Council's priorities and in the case of junior or youth or family focused applications must contribute to achieving priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy
 - d) The purpose for which the financial assistance is being requested
 - e) Whether the objectives can be achieved more effectively
 - f) Evidence of the applying body's efforts to raise the funding themselves
 - g) Evidence of financial need. We would not normally expect you to have unallocated reserves in excess of six months turnover. If you have more than this in your bank at the time of applying for financial help, please explain what this is for.
2. Applicants for individual support will be expected to use their talents to make a difference in the community. For example, to help run a coaching session for young people, give a performance to a local group or work with schools or youth clubs.

How to apply

Complete the application form at www.northlincs.gov.uk/communitygrants.

Help and guidance is available on request via telephone on (01724) 297257 or email: communitygrants@northlincs.gov.uk. Examples of support include advice, information and guidance on safeguarding, governance arrangements etc.

Applications must be fully completed and will not be considered unless full supporting information, as indicated in the application process, is provided.

Talk to the Council about your proposed project, staff can offer pre-application support. Applications for financial support should be made only for the financial year in which the money will be spent.