



## Grassroots Grants

### Introduction:

The Grassroots Grant Fund is designed to support small community projects that foster local empowerment, and pride in place, and enhance life chances within the Kirklees area. The fund aims to enable communities to identify and build upon their unique strengths and address specific needs at a local level. This document outlines the eligibility criteria for organizations seeking grants of up to £2,000.

Funding should be used to support the implementation of community-led projects, covering necessary expenses such as materials, equipment, or venue hire.

This funding is being provided by The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK government's ambitious Levelling Up agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. The UKSPF is led by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities nationally with a Lead Authority identified for each place. In West Yorkshire, this is the Combined Authority which is responsible for the delivery of the region's funding allocation. Locally One Community, Third Sector Leaders and Kirklees Council are working in partnership to deliver the programme at a place-based level.

### Eligibility Criteria:

Priority will be given to small community organisations and groups who have a turnover of less than £25,000. (Priority will be given to groups who have not had funding previously. However, this does not exclude groups who have been funded previously but have an annual turnover of less than £25000 from applying).

Funding should be used to support the implementation of community-led projects, covering necessary expenses such as materials, equipment, or venue hire.

*If you require help to apply, please contact our partners TSL who are providing non-financial support, Ibrar Hussain, Community Anchors Lead, [ibrar@tslkirklees.org.uk](mailto:ibrar@tslkirklees.org.uk) Office: 01484 519053 Mob: 07443 191205*

### Geographical Focus.

Projects must take place within the Kirklees area.

### Empowerment and Community-Driven:

Initiatives must be driven by the local community, ensuring that the proposed activities align with the needs and strengths of the community. Organisations should be based in the community the activity will take place in.

**Place-Based Activities:**

Projects should have a tangible impact on the local area, contributing to the overall improvement of the community's well-being and sense of pride in place.

Activities must be focused on enhancing the physical or social environment within the Kirklees community.

**For example**, establishing community gardens can promote healthy eating, provide a sense of community ownership, and beautify the area. Residents can work together to maintain the gardens, fostering a stronger sense of connection.

Initiatives such as fitness classes, wellness workshops, and health screenings can improve the overall health of residents. Healthy communities tend to be happier and more engaged.

Investing in programs for youth, such as after-school activities, mentorship programs, and sports leagues, contributes to the development of strong, resilient future community leaders.

Establishing a coffee morning can connect people, tackle isolation or loneliness and provide a safe space for people to meet.

**Who can apply:**

Constitutional Status: Organisations applying do not need to be registered charities; however, they must be constituted community groups. (Constituted groups are defined as having a formal structure or set of rules governing their operation). You do not need to have a GAP registration.

You will need to have at least 3 unrelated Trustees/Directors.

You will need a bank account in the name of your organisation, and you will need to have at least 2 unrelated bank signatories. (If you do not have an account in the name of your community group, please contact TSL?). Note: If a charity has qualified accounts, is under investigation by the Charity Commission, or has an active warning on the Charity Commission Website, we will not accept applications.

You will need to provide us with your accounts or cash flow forecast for the whole of your organisational activities for the year.

**Application Process:****Application Submission:**

- Interested groups must complete and submit the official application form.

**The funding rounds are as follows.**

Round 1 Open 08/01/2024 – 16/02/2024 Projects should start after 22/03/2024

Round 2 Open 01/05/2024 - 31/05/2024. Projects should start after 26/07/2024

**Budget**

- Applicants must provide a budget outlining how the grant funds will be utilized.

## **Timeline**

- Projects should have a realistic timeline for implementation.
- Funds must be utilized within a specified timeframe (within 12 months of the allocation or a specified date which will be provided in the offer email), and a progress report will be required at specific intervals.

## **Assessment and Selection:**

**Community Impact:** Applications will be assessed based on the potential positive impact on the local community.

**Empowerment and Engagement:** The degree to which the project empowers and involves the community will be a key consideration.

**Feasibility:** Projects should be feasible within the proposed budget and timeline.

**Alignment with Criteria:** The extent to which the project aligns with the fund's criteria will be a determining factor in the selection process.

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**Constitutional Status:** Organisations applying do not need to be registered charities; however, they must be constituted community groups. (Constituted groups are defined as having a formal structure or set of rules governing their operation). You **do not** need to have a GAP registration.

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## **What do you need to supply with your application?**

Organisations that have not applied before or have not applied in the past two years must provide:

- Constitution or governing document
- Bank statement (no older than 3 months)
- If you are a registered charity your latest accounts. Constituted organisations should supply a cashflow/accounts.

If your organisation has applied in the past two years and is not a registered charity, you will need to supply:

- Cash flow or accounts.
- Bank statement (no older than 3 months).

Applicants will be required to confirm (on the application form) that they have no changes to their constitution since their last application.

If your group has applied in the past two years and is a registered charity, you need to supply:

- Bank Statement (no older than 3 months).

Applicants will be required to confirm (on the application form) that they have no changes to their constitution since their last application.

### **What we don't fund.**

Activities we don't fund include party political activity, promotion of religion, replacement of statutory funding, projects cost that have already been paid for, groups that have not complied with previous monitoring requirements, and organisations that predominantly support animals.

**Note:** If a charity has qualified accounts, is under investigation by the Charity Commission, or has an active warning on the Charity Commission Website, we will not accept applications.

### **Reporting and Monitoring:**

#### **Progress Reports:**

Successful applicants will be required to submit interim monitoring reports and an end of project report, outlining the outputs and outcomes of the project and details of how the funds were spent. You will also need to supply a case study and photograph that depicts your project. You will need to retain all of your receipts relating to this grant.

#### **Monitoring Visits:**

The fund administrator may conduct monitoring visits to observe project implementation and engage with the community.

#### **Visibility and Acknowledgment:**

Successful applicants will be expected to acknowledge the Kirklees Community Empowerment Grant Fund UKSPF, WYCA, Kirklees Council and One Community in project communications and materials.

The fund administrator may conduct monitoring visits to observe project implementation and engage with the community.



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