



Cronfa Cefnogi Cymunedau Gwynedd

Gwynedd Community Support Fund

Guidelines

1. What is the Community Support Fund?

Gwynedd Council administers the grants for community and voluntary groups in Gwynedd. The main aim of the grant is to support projects that will improve the quality of life of residents, groups and communities throughout Gwynedd.

The Community Support Fund is a capital and revenue fund. The allocations are expected to encourage communities to be more proactive in their areas. The purpose is to enable the third sector to play a full role within Gwynedd communities by reflecting one or more of the aims below:

- i. Encourage communities to take a more proactive role in their areas.
- ii. Recognise and respond to the social, linguistic and cultural needs of communities.
- iii. Promote investment and development of the local economy.
- iv. Improve locations that are important to communities
- v. Increase employment opportunities, develop skills of individuals and communities and promote equality of opportunity for all.
- vi. Support Volunteers and promote volunteering opportunities.
- vii. Encourage protection and enrichment of the environment.

The Fund offers grants that reflect the aims and targets of Gwynedd Community Strategy.

2. What level of grant can be awarded?

There is a Capital fund and a Revenue fund available to distribute to groups throughout Gwynedd. **Individual applications of up to £10,000 are invited.**

Groups that have previously received a grant from this fund may re-apply once all the monitoring requirements of the original grant have been completed.

3. What type of projects could this Fund support?

It is expected that applications are based on new projects or services or new ways of providing services that achieve specific and clear objectives.

Grants will not be given towards regular, day-to-day, maintenance costs.

Examples of CAPITAL projects that the Fund could support:

- Purchase of equipment or improvements to a building that will enable volunteers to provide new services or accept responsibility for services that are being transferred from Public Bodies.

- Projects that streamline the provision of community buildings within a specific community to create a more sustainable model.
- Local environmental improvement projects.

Examples of REVENUE projects that the Fund could support:

You can apply for revenue funding during 3 financial years but we can only confirm availability of funding annually, based on budget availability.

- **Training** – for voluntary committees and groups e.g. First Aid, committee skills, food safety, event planning, health & safety, fundraising, liaising with the press etc.
- **New jobs – Full or part-time that recruit, support and develop volunteer skills.** (If you are applying for a contribution towards the cost of a post you will need to present a business plan to show how the job or activity will be sustained after the grant period).
- **Events – for new events or for festivals that are already established but have not received a CSF grant before and wish to improve their event’s financial sustainability.** (If you are applying for a contribution towards your event, you will need to present a business plan to demonstrate how the event will sustain itself after the grant period).
- **Develop activities and new services that are led by volunteers,** e.g. educational activities; dinner clubs; set up a community cafe/shop; provide facilities for tourists that will create income for the local community; set up a community enterprise.
- **Promote community activities and resources–** e.g. provide marketing materials/information, information boards or heritage pamphlets that will be developed by volunteers.
- **Business Plan** – to commission a business plan for an enterprise/new activity that will improve the financial viability of the group, or to update the business plan on behalf of an enterprise that is facing financial difficulties.
- **Feasibility study /option appraisal** – to pay for professional fees to research the viability and practicality/ new activity of the enterprise.
- **Energy assessment** – to pay for professional fees to assess energy performance in a community building and to produce a report with reference to the steps that need to be taken to improve effective energy performance.
- **Professional fees** – when the fees are a necessary part of a regeneration project.

Please note, the above are examples only

4. Who can apply for funding?

Community groups with a project which provides for Gwynedd residents may apply for support through the Community Support Fund. It is important that you meet the following criteria before applying for funding through this fund:

- Your organisation must be a community or voluntary organisation located within, or operating within, Gwynedd;
- Your organisation cannot distribute profit;
- Your organisation must have a legal and constitutional framework;
- Your organisation must have a clear management structure;
- Your organisation must have clear financial management systems;
- Your organisation must have operational principles which accord with legislation on employment, health and safety, equality for workers and volunteers;
- Show an understanding and commitment to equality in respect of access, language, culture, gender and ethnicity;
- Possess aims and objectives that accord with the activities financed through this grant;
- Show that other groups and individuals in the area support the activity/scheme;
- It must be shown that the principles of value for money have been followed in developing, implementing and running the scheme, such as ensuring that your project follows the Tender Application Guidelines (copies are available from the Cist Gwynedd website) for the work/service, particularly in respect of capital projects;
- Have operational principles in place that are in accordance with the legislation relating to protecting vulnerable adults and children.

If promoting religion is your group's main aim you will need to prove that what the grant is supporting is available to the whole community.

Although Town/Community Councils can contribute financially towards a project, they may not apply directly due to their status as local statutory authorities. It will be a requirement that every project approved complies with the terms and conditions of the Community Support Fund. In some circumstances special conditions may be placed on a project.

5. How to apply for funding?

You may apply for funding from the Community Support Fund by completing the appropriate application form. It is important that you follow the notes carefully and ensure that your project responds to the guidelines and criteria.

Gwynedd Council officers are available to provide you with guidance. **It is strongly advised that you contact an Officer to discuss the project before applying.** The details of these officers are below:

Cist Gwynedd Senior Officer 01286 679 153

Ogwen Community Support Officer
dafydddeinionjones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru 01248 605 276

Gwyrfai Community Support Officer
rhianelingorge@gwynedd.llyw.cymru 01286 882 968

Dwyfor Community Support Officer
alyslloydjones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru 01758 704 120

6. When should an application be submitted?

You should ensure that the application form has been completed **and all** the essential supporting and technical documents have been submitted by the appropriate closing date.

CLOSING DATE for receiving applications:

Friday, May 13th, 2022

We aim to process applications within 6 weeks of the closing date.

We are happy to receive application for less than £1,000 at any time and we aim to process such applications within 4 working weeks, subject to available funding.