



Community Infrastructure Grant Programme

Round 2 2026

Community Infrastructure Grant Programme

Background

Wyre Council has established the Community Infrastructure Grant Programme to support the development of local community assets that will serve to enhance local health and wellbeing, provide inclusive facilities, support the local economy and bring people together.

The funding seeks to promote the wider use and sustainability of important local assets. We define community assets as physical buildings for public use, which include village halls, community hubs and heritage buildings.

Grants available will be for capital expenditure. The funding will prioritise investment for buildings that:

- increase the use of community buildings for local people, and businesses, to benefit the local economy
- improve the environmental and financial sustainability of community assets through carbon reduction measures
- serve to improve the health and wellbeing of its users

Projects must be fully completed before **30 November 2027**. This will allow the project to be operational, and the agreed measures to be reported against by 31 March 2028.

The programme is a discretionary grant scheme, which will be determined through assessment of fully completed applications, subject to required criteria being met.

Application process

Step 1 – registration of interest. Complete the short registration of interest (ROI) online form. A cost estimate is acceptable at this stage. We will invite interested parties to an online session, to assist with the understanding of the funding requirements, and the application. It is imperative that projects can deliver and be operational within the fiscal year 2027/28.

Complete the registration of interest form via this link:

[Community Infrastructure Grant Programme - Round 2](#)

Step 2 – application form. You can start to complete your project application form at any time; it is available online via this link:
<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/community-grants>

The application process is open and will close on **13 September 2026, at midnight**. Applications should be returned to communitygrants@wyre.gov.uk

It is not essential to attend an online session about the application process, however, it may save you time and clarify your understanding of the requirements.

We intend to facilitate an online session via Microsoft Teams.

Eligibility

Eligible organisations – Any not-for-profit organisation with a formal/registered legal status, including:

- registered charities
- Companies limited by guarantee and social enterprises/community interest companies with a minimum of three unrelated Directors, that also do not reside at the same address
- parish and town councils
- faith-based organisations and sports clubs (where the building can be clearly evidenced as being for the wider community/a multi-use hub)

Applicants will be asked to provide various forms of evidence. Due diligence checks will be undertaken, including a legal entity check, bank account verification (two unrelated signatories), credit check, and compliance with subsidy control regulations. It is important that all information provided is factual and true. Successful organisations will need to comply with the requirements of the scheme via a sealed grant agreement. Failure to comply or false information may lead to claw back, or the rescinding of funds.

What can this grant be used for?

Grants must be for enhancements to existing assets within the Wyre Borough area. It can be used for building and equipment costs, and professional project manager/contractor costs directly evidenced to the project. These enhancements should serve to:

- significantly lengthen the life of the asset;
- significantly increase the value of the asset;
- significantly increase usefulness of the asset; and
- significantly decrease the carbon footprint of the asset.

Examples include:

- sustainable & net zero - grants for insulation, low carbon infrastructure/ green power, LED lights;
- adding value - alterations, improvements, new facilities;
- thriving & inclusive - diversification of the space; and creating/improving meeting, activity and workspace, provision of additional services.

What this grant CANNOT be spent on:

- ✗ maintenance or renewal

- ✗ projects that are religious/faith based in focus, or that support a party-political campaign or cause, or that may bring the grant programme into disrepute
- ✗ projects located at religious/faith-based buildings (unless the project is clearly for the benefit of the wider community, for example a church hall improvement project where the building is available to the general public)
- ✗ private membership-based sports clubs, and/or clubs where there are restrictions to the general public due to membership and/or sports associated use
- ✗ anything that an organisation/local authority has a legal obligation to fund
- ✗ improvements to car parking
- ✗ a property which is for domestic use
- ✗ VAT if your organisation can reclaim it
- ✗ anything that will bring Wyre Council into disrepute
- ✗ anything contrary to the Council's financial regulations, policies or strategies
- ✗ projects based/operating outside of the Wyre Council boundary
- ✗ money already spent/committed before receiving a grant (retrospective funding)
- ✗ projects that only benefit individuals or private concerns
- ✗ anything illegal.

Grant criteria:

- the project must be delivered within the Wyre Council boundary
- the project must support the development/creation of a multi-use community asset
- the project must demonstrate strong community support and benefit
- the project should demonstrate local partnership/stakeholder engagement
- the project must not contravene the Council's core policies, procedures, or strategies
- grants are one-off grants with no on-going funding commitment
- project completion (expenditure and activity) must meet 30 November 2027 deadline
- the project must show health and wellbeing benefits to the community
- it is favourable, but not essential, for the applicant organisation to have raised match funding. Projects that lever in other funding may be prioritised over those that have no match funding, to optimise the value for money delivered. Please note, in-kind contributions can be used as match funding.

How we make decisions

Decisions will be made using the detail provided in the application alongside the eligibility criteria using the following process:

1. Eligibility Check – information and evidence check

2. Application Scoring – review and assessment against funding criteria
3. Decision making – recommendations will be made by a decision panel.
The final decision will rest with Wyre Council's Management Board.
Grants over £100k will require further elected member approval.

It is not the Council's responsibility to contact applicants for missing information.
As a discretionary scheme, any decision made will be final.

Measuring impact and change

Applicants will be asked to set out what positive benefits (outcomes) are expected from the grant support, and explain how these outcomes will be measured and monitored over time.

Procurement

To ensure that value for money has been obtained in the procurement of goods or services funded by the grant, Government rules require the following minimum procedures for recipients. To optimise local benefit, we would encourage the use of local suppliers.

Value of works	Minimum procedure required
£0 to £24,999	3 written quotes or prices sought from relevant suppliers of goods, works and / or services.
£25,000 plus	Tender process – please discuss via contact at communitygrants@wyre.gov.uk

Branding and publicity

Grant recipients will need to seek approval before using the Wyre Council logo. This covers both press activity, plaques and printed and online materials.

Permissions

Where an applicant requires planning, building regulations or any other approval/consent to deliver their proposal, but has not yet secured it, any award from this scheme will be 'subject to securing the necessary permissions/consent'. In short, failure to demonstrate that the necessary permissions have been secured within an agreed timescale (set out in the grant agreement) will mean any grant offer may be withheld or withdrawn, and any grant paid be potentially repayable to Wyre Council.

Funding thresholds – amount and timeframes

The minimum grant application is £20,000.

Whilst match funding is not essential, projects that lever in other funding may be prioritised over those that have no match funding to optimise the value for money delivered. Projects must declare other funding being sought for the project and demonstrate that the elements of the project being funded through this scheme will not be 'double funded'.

Please note, Wyre Council has a fixed amount of funds available for the programme. If the number of eligible applications exceeds the funds available, we reserve the right to close the scheme and/or alter the funding levels accordingly. The application form allows applicants to demonstrate if and how the project could maximise successes with a lower grant amount.

Payment

Payment schedules will be agreed with successful applicants i.e. whether that be in advance or in stages. No grants will be awarded without an application being made and considered.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation is an important part of any grant funding scheme. It enables us as an organisation to ensure a project is achieving best value and delivering results for the local community. It also highlights what has worked well and where there have been challenges.

Successful applicants will be required to provide regular reports on project progress and project finances, as well as updates on performance against outputs and outcomes. Post-completion monitoring will continue to enable the capture of outcomes expected to continue beyond the 31 March 2028. This means that data will need to be collected, before, during and after the project has been delivered. Failure to comply with this may result in the Council seeking to recover some or all of the grant that has been paid.

Please note: this programme may be subject to changes/updates due to requirements issued by Wyre Council.