



TEVIOT & LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP

Community grant fund - a new way forward, April 2021

SBC have agreed a new approach to awarding funds from the Community Grant Fund (CBF) It has been seen as limiting based on a one size fits, unhelpful to many groups/projects which did not fit the award criteria.

Teviot & Liddesdale community councils have been working together since Nov 2020 proposing a new way forward for the fund which in principle has been approved by SBC. Now we need to refine the details of how the fund might be administered and seek feedback from our communities as to how you see this working.

Teviot & Liddesdale communities cover Hawick, Burnfoot, Denholm Bonchester Bridge, Chesters, Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage, Upper Borthwick & Teviot Water and Newcastleton. A mix of urban, rural, and remote communities, what is agreed should be flexible and adaptable to work for a wide spectrum of projects.

To enable the smaller communities to have a greater chance of being awarded funds going forward the CC's proposed a two-fund approach:

Type A Fund, Points 1 & 2 have been agreed across the communities, we are seeking your views on 3 to 9:

1. 50% of total pot allocated into 10 shares (all CC regions get 1 share exc Burnfoot/Hawick who get 2 given their size in relation to the rest). Based on 2021-22 budgets this equates to £21k/£2.1k pr rural CC.
2. Applications for funds would be based locally in the first instance via the community council, a funding panel will assess any applications based on the criteria set.
3. Newcastleton CC proposes that as the sums this year are relatively small no 'theme' should be agreed. We need flexibility to respond to local needs therefore any project that **provides a community benefit within the boundaries of Newcastleton District and demonstrates wide community support** can be considered for review by the panel.
4. Max of £500 pr application constituted groups
5. Unconstituted groups could apply for max of £250
6. No funding deadlines when it is gone, it is gone
7. Assessed with scores published so all can learn reasoning behind awards/not granted
8. Panel representatives: we would like to see a mix of groups represented but if one of these applies then they must step back and declare an interest
9. Awards would be reviewed/scored locally, winning bids submitted to Area Partnership for final sign off - shortlisted groups should expect to attend (digitally) to support their bid and speak if needs be.

Type B Fund, Points 1 & 2 have been agreed, we are seeking your views on 3 to 9:

1. 50% of balance = £21k for 2021-22
2. Any constituted group within the T&L AP can bid for this.
3. This should relate to local place plans and demonstrate wide community support within their submission.
4. Preference given to bids benefiting more than 1 Community Council area for cross boundary projects, particularly relating to the environment; flooding, forestry, dark skies etc.
5. Max of £2.5k per award for this year given low base?
6. Max of 3 awards pr round (this year likely only 3 Area Partnership meetings)?
7. Assessment panel 1 x each Community Council, 6 x elected members. (Community Council representing the bid must abstain)
8. Scores summarised to provide a recommendation from the panel.
9. Approved at AP by those in attendance.

Newcastleton Community Council is seeking feedback on the suggestions and to ask for local panel representation for Type A fund.

If you think there is a better way for award criteria to be set and assessed that enables a wide group of projects to be considered than at present, then we want to hear about it. **Get in touch** by April 23rd, email secretary@newcastletoncommunitytrust.co.uk

Newcastleton Community Council strongly believes that our community knows what it needs and has a much better understanding of the community benefits of any local projects coming forward.

We would really like to have a panel of mixed groups to assess any applications so there is a fair representation of views when judging the awards. Please get in touch to nominate your group if you would like to be considered on the panel.

Thank you.