

**Connecting Communities Small Grants Fund**

**Assessment Criteria**

Please use the criteria below to assess applications to the Small Grants Fund. You are encouraged to consider the application as a whole when choosing your five scores, but your main reference is likely to be the response to the question listed above each section.

1. **What do you want to do with the funding and how will it meet a social need in your neighbourhood or community?**

**Asset-based:** does the project make the most of the skills, interests, spaces, and community spirit present in the location or group the application has come from, with awareness of what is already on offer in the area and how this will serve an unmet need?

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| **5** | The application is clearly asset-based, and demonstrates strong awareness of what is already happening in the community and what local older people need and want |
| **4** | The response makes reference to the community’s assets, and demonstrates awareness of older people’s needs and wants |
| **3** | The application is asset-based, but does not adequately explain why the project is needed or wanted |
| **2** | The application explains the social need, but is not asset-based |
| **1** | The application is neither asset-based, nor adequately illustrative of the social need |

1. **How have older people have been involved in planning your activity?**

**Supported by older people:** how well does the application demonstrate that older people support the idea?

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| **5** | The response demonstrates that older people have been fully involved in designing the activity and in writing the application |
| **4** | The response demonstrates that the application has good support from older people |
| **3** | There is some evidence of support from older people for the activity |
| **2** | There is little or no clear evidence of support from older people |
| **1** | There is no evidence of support from older people |

1. **What difference do you think this project will make to people aged 50+, and how will you make sure your activity is as accessible as possible to people who could benefit from it?**

**How the project will make a difference:** how strong a chance does the project have of improving the wellbeing of older people? Has the applicant made clear how they will ensure the activity is accessible and inclusive?

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| **5** | The project has a high chance of improving wellbeing, and has given meaningful consideration to inclusion of people from diverse backgrounds and those who are not currently involved in their local community |
| **4** | The project has a good chance of improving wellbeing, but has not fully addressed inclusion of those not already involved in their local community |
| **3** | The project has some chance of improving wellbeing for a particular group. The applicant should give more consideration to inclusion. |
| **2** | The project aims to improve wellbeing, but it is not clear how this will happen or how it will reach people |
| **1** | The project is unlikely to improve wellbeing of older people |

1. **Who do you think will benefit from the project? Please give an estimated number of older people**

**Value for money:** how proportionate is the cost to the benefit to the people involved?

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| **5** | The cost offers excellent value compared to the outcomes for the number of beneficiaries |
| **4** | The cost is proportionate to the outcomes for the number of beneficiaries |
| **3** | The cost is slightly high compared to the outcomes for the number of beneficiaries |
| **2** | It is unclear how many older people will benefit or what the outcomes will be for beneficiaries |
| **1** | The cost is far too high for to the outcomes for the number of beneficiaries |

1. **How do you plan to continue the project beyond the Connecting Communities funding?**

**Continuity:** is the project likely to generate long-term community impact and continue beyond the initial funding?

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| **5** | There is very strong evidence that the activity will generate long-term community impact and continue beyond the initial funding |
| **4** | There is good evidence that the activity will generate long-term community impact and continuing beyond the initial funding |
| **3** | There is some evidence that the activity will generate long-term community impact or continue beyond the initial funding |
| **2** | There is little evidence that the activity will generate long-term community impact or continue beyond the initial funding |
| **1** | There is no evidence that the activity will generate long-term community impact and continue beyond the initial funding |

Applications must score 3 or higher for all sections in order to be approved. Further information may be requested from applicants if the panel requires further information about the application, or if anything is unclear.