

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE CRITERIA AND ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK FOR
SMALL AND MEDIUM COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Current Criteria	Proposed Revision
The Council will fund the total costs of projects seeking assistance under the small grant level (£100 to £500)	All applicants are required to fund at least half of the project costs from other sources. It is proposed that a maximum intervention rate of 50% is introduced; in line with the current intervention rate for medium level grants (£501 to £1,000)
The maximum amount of funding available is £1,000 under the medium grant level (£501 to £1,000)	<p>The maximum amount of funding available is raised to £2,000 or 50% of total eligible project costs, whichever is the lesser. This will enable larger scale projects to be funded through the community grant scheme</p> <p>Also include a new condition that “projects of an exceptional nature may be awarded a higher level of funding”</p>
Intervention Rate – the same rate applies to all eligible groups	Where the applicant organisation has tax raising powers, the maximum intervention rate is set at 25% of total eligible project costs or the maximum level of funding available, whichever is the lesser
There are no prescribed criteria with regard to source of match funding.	<p>Matched funding should not be from an alternative Craven District Council source</p> <p>Organisations already in receipt of core funding or service level agreements are not eligible to apply</p>
Applications for the same project are submitted on an annual basis	Applicants able to apply for two years funding in the one application. For example, a project could be awarded a total grant of £1,000: £500 in year one and £500 in year two – with the second year’s grant being subject to satisfactory progress being made in year one

Current Criteria	Proposed Revision
<p>There are no prescribed criteria with regard to the type of projects that will be funded. The only requirement is that the project contributes to the Council's Corporate Priorities and/or supports the delivery of Council Services</p>	<p>In addition to supporting the Council's priorities, the purpose of the funding is to enable groups to extend their existing work or try new things. The replacement of equipment, general repairs and maintenance, and operational costs will not qualify for funding. This will encourage groups to use the funding to deliver "added benefit" such as reaching new audiences, increasing number of new users and/or increasing participation levels</p> <p>Example of projects, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schemes which improve the standard of provision or increase participation • Provision of a new community facility • Adaptation of existing building or facilities to accommodate new users such as disability access • Community ventures which increase community activity and participation <p>However, in exceptional circumstances the Council will consider applications for replacement of equipment, general repairs and maintenance</p>
<p>Priority Issues LSP – applications assessed by extent of contribution to the key priorities of the North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011-2014</p>	<p>That this no longer forms part of the assessment criteria, and that the focus is purely on the project's contribution to the Council's priorities</p>
<p>Ineligible activities</p>	<p>List of activities be extended to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects that have previously been funded by other organisations • Fundraising • Expenditure that takes place prior to grant approval, including planning fees and professional fees • Running costs of the organisation and/or facility

Current Criteria	Proposed Revision
<p>District Councillor support – the application is given a score if they have received a letter of support from the relevant Ward Councillor</p>	<p>Rather than the burden being on the applicant, the assessor resumes responsibility to consult with the relevant Ward Councillor(s)</p> <p>The present condition can be considered “unfair” and in some instances difficult to achieve, especially where a project encompasses a number of wards or even the whole District.</p> <p>That District Councillor support be changed from being a “scored” condition, to being reported as part of the project details on the Assessment Form</p>
<p>The applicant is required to take up the offer of funding within six months of approval</p>	<p>Applicants are required to:</p> <p>(a) accept the offer of funding support within 30 days of receipt of the grant offer letter, and</p> <p>(b) work must commence within six months of acceptance of the offer of grant.</p> <p>If the above timelines are exceeded, the grant is withdrawn and the applicant must re-apply. This will help to prevent funding being “tied up” for an unreasonable length of time and provides an opportunity for the funding to be re-allocated in the event of the budget being over-subscribed and where other projects are ready to be delivered</p>

APPENDIX A(2)

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE SCORING FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS

	Criteria	Evidence	Summary	Maximum Score
1	Council priority	The extent that the project contributes to the Council's priorities	A strong contribution to more than one priority	4
			Contributes to one priority	2
			Does not make any contribution	0
2	Local need for the project	Factual evidence demonstrating the need for the project such as surveys, local research, customer feedback, parish plans	Clear evidence of need provided	4
			Some evidence of need provided	2
			No evidence of need provided	0
3	Extent of community benefit	Measured against the added benefits that the project will deliver such as number of new users, increased participation levels and reaching new audiences	Added benefit for at least two categories of beneficiaries	4
			Added benefit for one category of beneficiaries	2
			No added benefit	0
4	Benefiting those in most need	The project will help the most disadvantaged sections of the community	Benefits at least two specific disadvantaged groups	4
			Benefits one specific disadvantaged group	2
			Does not benefit any specific disadvantaged group	0
5	Local involvement in planning the project	The project should demonstrate that the proposed beneficiaries have been involved in the planning.	Strong evidence of beneficiaries have been involved in the planning	4
			Some evidence of beneficiaries have been involved in the planning	2
			No evidence of beneficiaries been involved	0

	Criteria	Evidence	Summary	Maximum Score
6	Local community support	Letters or other evidence of support from members of the local community and/or beneficiaries	Clear evidence of support and/or four letters of support provided	4
			Some evidence of support and/or less than four letters of support provided	2
			No evidence of support provided	0
7	Parish/Town Council support	<p>Letter of support from Parish/Town Council/Meeting serving the community that the project will benefit.</p> <p>Where the project encompasses a number of parishes or even the whole District, the Council would expect to see evidence that the applicant has provided the relevant Parish/Town Councils with details of the project and that they have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposal.</p>	Written confirmation from the Parish/Town Council of financial support	4
			(a) Letter of support, but no financial contribution awarded by the Parish/Town Council and/or (b) written evidence that the Parish/Town Council has been consulted	2
			No evidence (a) of support from the Parish/Town Council, and/or (b) that the Parish/Town Council has been consulted	0
8	Value for Money	The extent that the project provides value for money	Demonstrates added value by attracting matched funding; goods and services have been procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules; delivers a reasonable cost per beneficiary	4
			Goods and services have been procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules; delivers a reasonable cost per beneficiary	2
			No evidence of value for money consideration been given; delivers an unreasonable cost per beneficiary	0

	Criteria	Evidence	Summary	Maximum Score
9	Managing, running and monitoring	What arrangements are in place to ensure the timely delivery of the project within budget and that achievement of desired outcomes are monitored	Appropriate arrangements, with clear lines of responsibility for managing, running and monitoring	4
			Some arrangements in place; however, not adequate for the scale and complexity of the project	2
			No arrangements in place	0
10	Forward Strategy	<p>What plans are in place for the project after the period for which the funding has been requested:</p> <p>a) If the project is to continue - how will on-going costs be met; or</p> <p>b) If the project is to stop - how will it be closed down to ensure that the beneficiaries are not adversely affected</p>	Clear plans for the future of the project are in place, including realistic financial projections and is not reliant upon on-going/future funding from the Council	4
			Consideration has been given to the future of the project; no financial provision in place	2
			No plans are in place	0