

COMMUNITY FUND GUIDELINES

Homes for Northumberland can provide your group or organisation with some financial support from our Community Fund. This can be used to support groups in the area in which Homes for Northumberland works.

1. Who can apply?

This grant is intended for groups/organisations who often find it difficult to access funding. Its aim is to benefit tenants and residents of Homes for Northumberland and their local communities.

2. How much can you apply for?

You can apply for up to £500

3. Groups or organisations applying should have:

- A written set of rules

OR

- A constitution
- Details of how your group or projects finances are managed, i.e., approved accounts, or for a new group, evidence of your recent financial transactions (3 months)
- Up to date bank statements

4. It is essential that

- Your project has a realistic budget, and shows good value for money
- The project must benefit the community in which HfN has an interest
- The project's purpose and aims should be clear with achievable targets which can be met by members of the group

5. We will look at
 - Projects that contribute to the social and economic well being or improvement of the area or community
 - Projects which deliver lasting benefits to the community

6. The types of projects we are interested in funding are;
 - To develop projects which encourage community participation
 - Projects which improve environmental facilities
 - Training for groups and associations
 - Community art projects
 - Activities for young people and families
 - Setting up a new residents association activity
 - Production of a community newsletter
 - Purchase of equipment

7. To apply for a grant for your community group, fill in a Homes for Northumberland Community Fund Application form, which can be requested by contacting Julie Turner on 01670 542239, or email julie.turner@hfn.uk.com

How will the application be assessed?

The Community Fund Committee assesses all applications (which meet the application criteria) using a scoring matrix, which has been developed by Homes for Northumberland in consultation with the Community Fund Committee. The scoring matrix sets out to ensure that the following criteria are met;

- A genuine need for financial assistance
- Value for money
- Benefit to the community
- Projects aims that are be clear and achievable
- Contribute to the social, economic and physical regeneration of the area
- Deliver lasting benefits to the community

Finally

- Read the Guidelines carefully
- Fill in the application form
- **Use the attached Checklist to ensure you have enclosed all information requested, and answered ALL of the questions. We will only assess COMPLETE applications.**
- Sign and return with your completed application form using the pre paid envelope provided.
- If you require any assistance or advice regarding your application, please contact Julie Turner, Resident Involvement Officer on 01670 542239 or email using Julie.turner@hfn.uk.com

We look forward to hearing from you.