

Supporting Local Communities Fund

Scheme suggestion form

The Supporting Local Communities Fund is a £500,000 fund which is used to help various groups and volunteers deliver community-based environmental improvement schemes. Local groups within Nottinghamshire are invited to put forward ideas for environmental improvement schemes in their local area. We are looking for proposals that will help deliver economic and local community benefits to the community. To maximise the number of schemes that can be supported, the County Council will only consider funding up to £50,000 of each proposed scheme. To be considered all projects must include an element of match funding and/or volunteer hours. The proposed scheme must also be deliverable in the 2015/16 financial year with no outstanding land issues to be resolved. This form should be completed giving as much information as possible about the scheme you would like to be funded by the Supporting Local Communities Fund. Completed forms should be submitted to your local County Councillor by 1 December 2014.

Once the deadline for scheme suggestions has passed the County Council will assess each one and decide which can be taken forward for further design and feasibility work. The applications will be assessed against a number of criteria so please provide as much information as possible to help this process. The local County Councillor has a key role to play as a scheme will not be considered unless it has their support. The County Council may also discuss any scheme suggestions with community safety partnerships as we do not want to create a community safety problem. Decisions on which schemes will receive funding will be based on the benefits of each individual scheme and their deliverability within the funding timescales. We do not discourage any groups from applying, or making multiple bids, but priority may be given to groups that have not previously received Supporting Local Communities funding.

1. Applicant's details

Your name:	
Name of the community/volunteer group you represent:	
Contact details:	Please provide a postal address; telephone number; and email address

2. Scheme details (please refer to the guidance notes on page 4)

A. Brief description of your scheme and why you think it is needed:	Please include details of what you would like to deliver and the location of the scheme. Please also attach plans or designs if these are available	
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3. Economic benefits (please refer to the guidance notes on page 4)		
What will be the economic benefits of the scheme?	Please provide details of how the scheme will deliver these benefits	
4. Community benefits (please refer to the guidance notes on page 4)		
A1. What is the level of local support for the scheme?	Please provide evidence of the local community support as well as additional support from local groups	
A2. How many local people will benefit from the scheme?	What types of people will benefit from the scheme? Also, what number and percentage of people in the local community will benefit from the scheme?	
B. How does the scheme support community cohesion?	Please provide details of how the scheme will help deliver neighbourhood priorities and if it is linked to any other community projects. Also detail how the scheme will help deliver a sense of belonging in the local area and the county, build positive relationships between people from different backgrounds, and raise community confidence and improve local security	
C. What other local benefits does the scheme deliver?	For example, give details of how the scheme will help reduce crime, improve health in the local community, or preserve local heritage, conservation or bio-diversity. Also how will other local groups (e.g. schools) use the planned facilities?	

5. Funding and delivery (please refer to the guidance notes on page 4)		
A1. What is the total cost of the scheme?	This should be the total cost of the scheme, not just how much money you are asking the County Council to fund?	
A2. How much funding are you asking for from the County Council?		
B1. Who is funding the remaining cost of the scheme?	Please list all of the funding sources separately and their status – e.g. have you secured the funding (please provide evidence), have you applied for funding (please state when will you find out if they have been successful)	
B2. What level of voluntary hours will be committed to delivering the project	Please list all of the hours that will be committed by the local community in the delivery of the project and how they will be used as a certain amount of voluntary hours may be counted in lieu of a cash contribution	
C. How will the scheme be maintained in the future?	Please detail how the scheme will be maintained in the future, how often it will be maintained, who will fund this and how long the maintenance arrangements will last for	
D1. Who owns the land where the scheme is planned?	Please confirm who owns the land. If you do not own the land do you have a temporary or permanent right to access and use it. Also if land still needs to be secured so that the scheme can be delivered please state what level of commitment has been given by the land owner (and provide proof)	
D2. What do you think will be the main difficulties delivering the project?	Please state what you think are the risks to delivering the project, what might go wrong and how these will be addressed (including contingency that will be put in place)?	

Your signature: Date:

Signature of County Councillor to indicate support:

Ward: Date:

All projects will be assessed and those which in the County Council's view will deliver the greatest benefit compared to their cost will be developed further in consultation with the local County Councillor and community group concerned. We aim to contact each community group about the success of their proposal by the end of April 2015.

Guidance on filling out this form

The information you put on this form will be used to assess your scheme suggestion. Please read the guidance notes below before completing the form as they will help make sure that you include as much information as possible in each of the sections.

2. Scheme details

Please give as much information as you can about the scheme that you want to deliver. Make sure that you give the location of the suggested scheme, why this location has been selected and details of what the suggested scheme will include. Also give details of why you want to deliver the scheme. Most areas could benefit from some environmental enhancement but part of the assessment of which schemes receive funding will include an assessment on whether the scheme will make a significant and lasting improvement.

If you need more space than is given on the form please use a separate sheet if necessary. If you have plans or a design for the suggested scheme please also attach these to your form.

Please confirm who owns the land. If land still needs to be secured so that the scheme can be delivered please state what level of commitment has been given by the land owner (and provide proof).

3. Economic benefits

One of the things used in the assessment is how the scheme will help to deliver economic benefits to the local community. Some of the things that need to be considered are:

- Will the scheme help deliver new jobs and if so, you will need to state how many and how this figure has been assessed?
- How will the scheme help regenerate the area by encouraging people to spend money in the area or bring new people to the area?
- Could the scheme be delivered by local businesses?
- Will the delivery or maintenance of the scheme provide training opportunities to local people that may help them get a job in the future, and if so you will need to state how many and how this figure has been assessed?

4. Community benefits

Local groups must be able to demonstrate that the suggested scheme has wide support in the local community. Some communities may already have plans that have involved the whole community, such as parish or community plans. Other communities may have held public meetings to determine local support. Also give details of the additional local groups that support the scheme and/or will benefit from the scheme.

It is also important that you detail who in the community will benefit from the scheme and what these benefits will be. Some of the things that need to be considered are:

- Is the scheme a community priority and how does the scheme link to any local community objectives?
- Is the scheme linked to any other projects in the community?
- How will the scheme help make the community stronger and bring them together?
- What are the wider community benefits to the scheme (e.g. encouraging healthy lives, crime reduction, conserving the local heritage and bio-diversity, etc.)?

5. Funding and delivery

Some schemes may ask for the majority of the cost of the scheme but others will only need a small percentage of the cost. Schemes that have matched funding will be looked upon favourably as they will bring in further investment to the local communities. Therefore it's important that you list all of the matched funding for the scheme. This could include local contributions, grants from other agencies (e.g. lottery funding), or could be in the form of voluntary labour. Where you have matched funding you should also tell us if the funding has been secured yet or if you are still waiting to hear the outcome of the application.

Supporting Local Communities funding will only be available to help with the initial cost of the scheme, not for ongoing maintenance. You will therefore need to show that you have plans and funds in place to maintain the projects.

You will also need to consider the risks to delivering the scheme within the timescales as we will need to consider all of these risks. These risks will include whether or not you have permission from the landowner to deliver the scheme, whether the scheme may attract vandalism or anti-social behaviour, whether there may be underground cables, etc..