

FAQ's for CIF

Which types of organisations are eligible to apply?

Your group will need to be a: not-for-profit; community group; social enterprise; or registered charity. Businesses and individuals are not eligible to apply. Your group doesn't need to be constituted, but you will be asked to tell us about your group when you apply.

What should we do if we don't have a bank account set up?

Don't worry. Your group can still apply for the Community Investment Fund. What you need to do is to get another community group to hold onto the funding before you deliver your project and you will need to provide us with their bank details on your application form. The Bank Account must have two signatories who are unrelated and are not living at the same residence.

Will the Ward Panel give all groups who apply a proportion of the available funds or will they give it to one large project?

The Ward Panel will use their experience and judgment to determine how much funding to award an applicant. Each Ward area has £50k allocated for this round of the fund.

In 2018/19 the Community Investment Fund received a large volume of applications in some Ward areas so some applications did receive partial funding and some were not funded at all.

When do we have to spend the money by?

If successful you will need to spend the money within 6 months of receiving the funding.

What happens if we don't spend all the money by the deadline?

Groups are required to spend their funding within the agreed deadline. If you have any issues you should contact the Community Planning Team as soon as possible.

Can we apply for running costs like heating and lighting for our building/activities?

This fund is for new projects or initiatives and doesn't cover general running costs associated with existing activities.

Can we apply for funding to pay salaries?

No, this fund does not cover salaries. The fund does cover sessional fees such as bringing in specialists to run a workshop or an event.

What costs will the CIF pay for?

CIF will pay for a broad range of project costs. However, there are some which are specifically excluded, such as ongoing running costs, salaries and professional fees. A fuller list of eligible costs is provided in the guidance document.

Our project will benefit residents of more than one ward. Are we eligible to apply and what is the best way to do this?

Yes, you are eligible, we advise you apply for the ward where the majority of the project takes place. Please check which ward your project is delivered in by checking the postcode- <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/15505/Find-your-local-councillor>

Do we need to send in any quotes or other documents with our application?

Any information that will support your application is welcome. We strongly advise your group to explore the cost of your project before submitting your application. i.e. if your project is to enhance a community asset then quotes from contractors on how much these works would cost will help justify the amount you are applying for.

When will we be told if we are being awarded a grant and when will we be given the money?

Ward Panels will meet a few weeks after the deadline to make a recommendation on which projects will receive funding going forward. These recommendations will need to be approved by the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee. We will let you know the outcome as soon as the Committee has made its decision. The Committee meets on the following dates.

Tranche 1: 27th November 2019

Tranche 2: February 2020 (exact date TBC)

Funding will be transferred to your nominated bank account as soon possible after the decisions have been made.

My group has already received funding from the Community Investment Fund, can we still apply?

To be eligible the project must be different from that which previously received funding, or be an expansion of that project.