

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What changes are being introduced?**

North Lanarkshire Council has approved a programme of improvements and modernisation changes to community-focused grants. These changes aim to improve fairness, transparency, consistency, support arrangements, and overall programme administration.

### **Why are changes being introduced?**

The improvements are intended to:

- Improve the applicant experience
- Strengthen governance and accountability
- Improve consistency in assessment and decision-making
- Enhance support available to organisations
- Improve monitoring of community impact
- Modernise and streamline processes

### **What is the new Participation and Inclusion Premium (PIP)?**

The Participation and Inclusion Premium (PIP) is a proposed additional uplift of up to 10% that may be applied to approved project awards where organisations can demonstrate that additional participation barriers exist, and that extra measures or costs are required to support inclusive delivery.

Examples may include translation support, accessible communications, transport support, childcare provision, accessibility adjustments, or culturally appropriate engagement activity.

The PIP would only apply to projects that already meet the normal scoring and funding thresholds.

### **Will existing funding programmes continue?**

Yes. Existing community focused grant programmes will continue, although some processes, guidance, and delivery arrangements may change over time.

### **Will eligibility criteria change?**

Some programmes may introduce updated guidance or clarification around eligibility requirements. Full information will be published in advance of future funding rounds. Please note – that since August 2024, all CVS organisation looking to apply for community focused funding must be registered with us beforehand. If you are a Community Interest Company (CIC), you must contact us so that we can confirm eligibility (Additional information will be required if eligibility is approved).

### **Will there be support available before applications open?**

Yes. Enhanced pre-application support arrangements are being introduced, including:

- Guidance sessions / Locality briefings
- Improved Application guidance documents
- Example documents
- Frequently asked questions
- Officer support and signposting

### **Will there be changes to assessment processes?**

The Council is introducing updated assessment and moderation arrangements to improve consistency, transparency, and accountability.

### **Will reporting requirements change?**

Some monitoring and reporting arrangements may be strengthened to better demonstrate the impact of funded activity and ensure appropriate use of public funds.

### **Will organisations still be able to speak to officers?**

Yes. Organisations will continue to be able to contact officers for guidance and clarification.

### **How will organisations know when funding opens?**

Information will continue to be published through:

- Council webpages
- My Town social media pages
- Direct communications
- CVS communications
- Briefing sessions and engagement activity

### **What is changing regarding the Grant Award Programme (GAP) delivery timetable?**

A revised annual delivery schedule is being introduced to provide clearer timelines and improved planning opportunities for organisations.

### **Will briefing sessions be available?**

Yes. Additional engagement and briefing sessions will be organised as part of the implementation process.

### **Who can I contact for further information?**

Community Partnership Team (Grants Section)

**Email:** [communitygrants@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:communitygrants@northlan.gov.uk)

Your enquiry may be passed to management and/or your local Community Partnership Officer.

**Where can I access the Communities Committee report?**

The full report can be accessed using this [link](#).