

VE Day Grant Programme 2025: Eligibility Criteria

1. Background

This year, we commemorate the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day - a special occasion in our shared history that marks the end of the Second World War in Europe. The war touched everyone's lives in different ways, leaving a legacy that has shaped the world we live in today. From the sailors, soldiers and aviators who served, to the children who were evacuated and those who supported the effort from home, the contributions of that generation continue to inspire us.

To honour these historic moments and bring our community together, we're excited to introduce the VE Day Community Grant Programme. Through this programme, community groups can apply for grants of up to £1,000, with a total of £25,000 available. These grants are here to help support activities that commemorate VE Day while bringing our local community together.

We welcome ideas for various activities, such as community gatherings (please note, street parties are not eligible), educational events, exhibitions, arts, culture and heritage projects, intergenerational activities, and special talks. In particular, we encourage projects that promote community engagement, historical reflection, inclusivity and sustainability.

2. Key notes

The total value of the grant fund is set at £25,000 and each project can apply for up to £1000.

We encourage you to think 'outside the box' on how you can achieve your project outcomes by considering other sources of funding, in-kind contributions and partnership working. This will help us to fund more projects and bring better value and impact to Newham.

You may only submit one application form and must decide if the funding suits your organisation. We will assess your application using the information you provide on the application form and any supporting documents.

The preferred method to complete your application is to make a submission online
[Please apply here.](#)

For queries or to request a Microsoft Word version of the form please email
smallgrants@newham.gov.uk.

We will contact you if we are not clear about anything. We may also ask for further information, clarity or evidence if your submission is successful. It is important that you answer all the questions fully and send us the information we have requested. The programme will not fund street parties.

The Council does not take any direct or indirect liability for accidents, mishaps, losses, close-calls etc. You must have a valid Public and/or Employers Liability Insurance (as appropriate) as well as an appropriate DBS check for staff/volunteers supporting the project.

3. Deadline

The grant programme opens on Monday 31 March 2025 at 11.00 AM and closes on Sunday 13 April 2025 at 11.00 PM.

We endeavour to inform you of an outcome within 2 weeks of the deadline. Unfortunately, late applications or those sent to the incorrect address will not be considered.

4. Eligibility Criteria

Organisations that have received a grant in the previous 2 years (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025) from Newham Council including Tate & Lyles Local Fund, Aspers Good Causes Fund and the People Powered Places grant programme will be eligible for funding. However, priority will be given to those organisations who have not been funded from these programmes in the previous year, and are small, new or emerging community groups.

Organisations that can benefit must be an individual charity, local association, voluntary, community or faith group. Other bodies established for charitable/community benefit can also apply but must primarily benefit the residents of Newham. Council departments including Schools, Youth Empowerment Service, Housing Service etc. are eligible to apply to this grant programme but the submission must clearly be user-led.

Projects should be inclusive for residents as far as practicable, open to all and promote community relations through providing opportunities for people from different backgrounds to get involved in local activities. Projects must support the VE Day aspirations and commemorations.

All project proposals must clearly support one or more of these priorities:

1. Heritage, history and culture

This category focuses on projects that celebrate and preserve the rich heritage, history, and culture associated with VE Day. Examples of projects include historical visits, heritage walks, and exhibitions showcasing artefacts and stories from the Second World War

2. Education and awareness raising

Projects under this header aim to educate the community and raise awareness about the significance of VE Day and the events leading up to it. Examples include educational workshops, school programs, and public lectures that provide historical context and promote understanding.

3. Intergeneration

Intergenerational projects bring together different age groups to share experiences and learn from each other. Examples include storytelling sessions where older residents share their memories of VE Day with younger generations, and collaborative art projects that reflect on the impact of the war.

4. Get-together

This category supports community gatherings that foster social connections and commemorate VE Day. Examples include community picnics, neighbourhood gatherings, and themed events that encourage residents to come together and celebrate

5. Art and exhibition

Projects in this category use art and exhibitions to commemorate VE Day and engage the community. Examples include art installations, photography exhibitions, and creative workshops that explore the themes of war, peace, and remembrance.

6. Special talk

Special talks involve inviting speakers to share their knowledge and experiences related to VE Day. Examples include guest lectures by historians, veterans sharing their personal stories, and panel discussions on the impact of the war on the community.

5. Application and assessment process

An assessment process will follow using a grant scoring criteria with a panel consisting of Newham Council Officers making decisions within 2 weeks of the deadline. The maximum score will be 24 points and a minimum threshold of 15 points must be met to be considered for funding. We will provide feedback for unsuccessful applications upon written request. Ward Councillors will be advised of the grant outcome but will not be involved in the scoring exercise.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Successful projects will need to keep records of the delivery of the funded activities against the agreed outcomes. The Council may make monitoring visits to ensure that projects are running in-line with the grant expectation. The Council will require an evaluation form to be completed at the end of the project and this must be received no later than 8 weeks after the project completion.

Projects are often unique and have their own challenges; sometimes it is necessary to make changes to the original plan which is understandable. However, any such deviation must be communicated to the Council as soon as possible to discuss how best to ensure the project remains viable.