

Neighbourhood Small Grants Programme 2025



1. Background

The Neighbourhood Small Grants programme is open to any not-for-profit organisation including voluntary, community and faith organisations working in Newham that support local projects and activities addressing community needs. The programme is designed to empower and make positive changes in local neighbourhoods with a key focus on supporting small, emerging and local community groups who have not been successful with larger grant programmes. It is part of our on-going work to support local groups in a way which is equitable and have the desired impact they want to see.

Established organisations with experience of grant making, may want to consider applying for the council's flagship programme of participatory budgeting 'People Powered Places'. Grants of up to £20,000 are available to deliver community projects which deliver longer term impact. Please only apply for one grant programme. More information can be found by visiting [People Powered Places](#).



The Neighbourhood Small Grants Programme supports the Council's 'Building a Fairer Newham' Corporate Plan and we have highlighted 6 key priorities below. All project proposals must clearly support one or more of these priorities.

1. A Healthier Newham and Ageing Well



You may want to have a look at **50 steps to a healthier Newham 2024-2027**

- Projects that promote physical and mental well-being.
- Initiatives addressing health disparities among different age groups.
- Activities encouraging active lifestyles and healthy habits.

4. Safer Newham



- Projects focused on crime prevention and safety.
- Initiatives that promote accountability and build trust.
- Programmes addressing safety for women and girls.

2. Newham's Inclusive Economy to Support You in These Hard Times



- Proposals fostering economic resilience and recovery.
- Support for local entrepreneurs and job seekers.
- Programmes promoting financial literacy and stability.

5. Supporting Our Young People



- Youth-focused activities, skill-building, and mentorship.
- Educational programmes, after-school clubs, and career guidance.
- Opportunities for youth leadership and civic engagement.

3. Your Neighbourhood



- Community-led projects enhancing local spaces.
- Initiatives improving social cohesion and local connections.
- Environmental sustainability efforts within neighbourhoods.

6. People Powered Newham and Widening Participation



- Projects encouraging civic participation and community involvement.
- Efforts to engage marginalised groups and amplify their voices.
- Inclusive events, workshops, and forums for dialogue.

2. Key notes

The total value of this year's fund is set at £80,000. £10,000 will be allocated per neighbourhood and each grant will be for a maximum of £1000. Please read the Eligibility Criteria to make sure the grant is suitable for your organisation.

The grant will support a minimum of 10 projects per neighbourhood and 80 across the borough. The grant programme will be managed centrally by the Council's Resident Engagement and Participation team and coordinated locally by Community Neighbourhood teams.

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 1 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 using the dedicated form [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 and unlikely to support celebrations and get-togethers.

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 an Enhanced DBS check for all staff/volunteers supporting the project.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Organisations that have received a grant in the previous year (1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025) from Newham Council including the Neighbourhood Small Grants programme, Tate & Lyle's Local Fund, Aspers Good Causes Fund, People Powered Places or Public Health 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, are small, new or emerging community groups.

Organisations that can benefit must be an individual charity, local association (voluntary, community, informal group) or other body established for charitable/community benefit purposes and must primarily benefit the residents of Newham. Other 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 and demonstrate that it makes a positive impact to local challenges.

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 Councils 'Building a Fairer Newham' Corporate Plan under the following priorities:



1. A Healthier Newham and Ageing Well



2. Newham's Inclusive Economy to Support You in These Hard Times



3. Your Neighbourhood



4. Safer Newham



5. Supporting Our Young People



6. People Powered Newham and Widening Participation



4. Deadline

The grant programme opens on **Monday 12 May 2025 at 11.00 AM** and closes on **Sunday 8 June 2025 at 11.00 PM**.

We endeavour to inform you of an outcome within 4 weeks of the deadline. Unfortunately, late, or incomplete applications will not be considered.

5. Support

The Council will be hosting a grant information session where you can learn more about the grant and ask questions. This will be an on-line session via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 20 May from 6.00 PM to 7.30 PM.

Please register your interest by emailing smallgrants@newham.gov.uk and an invitation will be sent.

6. Application and assessment process

Grant applications will be assessed using a grant scoring matrix with a panel consisting of Newham Council officers making decisions within 4 weeks of the deadline. The maximum score available is 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.

7. 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 programmes 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 3 months 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.

8. Change of plan and issues arising

We know that despite best efforts sometimes plans must change and unforeseen challenges mean thinking differently to continue delivering your project. However, it's important that we are made aware of any problems or changes as they arise. We are always happy to discuss any such issues with you and what they could mean for your grant.

Please be aware that if you are considering a different use for the grant than it was awarded for, you must contact the Council before you go ahead. Any unspent grant must be returned to the Council unless other terms have been agreed.

Funding for Voluntary, Community and Faith organisations

There are a range of grants and funding opportunities Newham residents can apply for to get community projects and initiatives off the ground, or to help with their running. You can find out more about the grants available by visiting our dedicated webpage.

Visit the Funding for community projects [webpage](#)

Search for funding opportunities on Newham 4 Community

Newham 4 Community is a fantastic resource that lets you search for a range of grants for social and community projects. It's free to use and gives you: a 60-second search for funding with an easy-to-use drop down menu. categories to browse so that you can see what funding is out there. Information is updated every 24 hours, so you can be sure it is the latest information available. You can even set up a weekly email with all the latest and relevant funding opportunities.

Visit the Newham 4 Community [website](#)