

# Neighbourhood Small Grants 2024/25: Eligibility Criteria

## 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.

The Neighbourhood Small Grants Programme will support 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.

### 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.

### 3. Your Neighbourhood

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

#### 4. Safer Newham

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

#### 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.

#### 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 £108,000 and each neighbourhood will receive £13,500. Organisations can apply for between £500 and £1000 per application. The grant will support a minimum of 13 projects per neighbourhood and 108 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](mailto: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 as 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 2023 to 31 March 2024) 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, 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 Friday 14 June 2024 at 11.00 AM and closes on Sunday 28 July 2024 at 11.00 PM.

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

## 5. Support

The Council will be hosting 2 grant information sessions where you can learn more about the grant and ask questions. The first one will be an in-person session at Stratford Library on Wednesday 26 June from 1.00 PM to 2.30 PM and the second will be an on-line session via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 4 July from 6.00 PM to 7.30 PM.

Please register your interest by emailing [smallgrants@newham.gov.uk](mailto:smallgrants@newham.gov.uk) and an invitation will be sent.

The Council can also help connect you and your organisation to other groups undertaking similar work.

You may also receive free support from Aston-Mansfield's Fitter Finance Programme if your project has a clear health and well-being focus. Please email [CIU@aston-mansfield.org.uk](mailto:CIU@aston-mansfield.org.uk) for more information.

## 6. 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 4 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.

## 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.