

Waterford City & County Council

Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015

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Introduction

Waterford City & County Council is committed to encouraging communities and empowering residents to make a difference to their areas. To support this, the Council is inviting applications to its newly created Supporting Communities Fund for the 2015 financial year.

The Supporting Communities Fund provides grant aid assistance to Residents Associations, Community Groups, Sports Clubs and other groups/committees who are engaged in community activity, providing community services or carrying out improvement works at local or county level.

The emphasis of the scheme is on providing a diverse range of funding to enable Waterford's proud tradition of Community to strengthen further encouraging as broad a range of community activity and local services as possible.

The Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 will therefore have 3 distinct strands where the fund will endeavour to provide financial resources across a broad spectrum of Waterford's Communities:

1. Residents Association Fund
2. Community Activity Fund
3. Sport & Recreation Fund

Residents Association Fund

This fund provides assistance to residents associations to contribute towards the improvement of Housing Estates and streets/villages with special emphasis on the following:

- Provision and maintenance of green areas
- Contribution towards insurance costs, room hire and ongoing operational costs of residents association activity
- Provision of flower beds, shrubs, trees etc.
- Organised Community Clean-ups or Fun days/Sports Days etc.
- Improvement projects to areas of historical/cultural nature

The above list is not exhaustive and works other than those specified may qualify for grant assistance.

Community Activity Fund

There are 3 different funding-lines within the Community Activity Fund:

1. Community Planning Fund
2. Small Equipment Grant
3. Community & Voluntary Operational Funding

Community Planning Fund

Waterford City & County Council are developing a Local Economic & Community Plan for the County in 2015. In this regard, a fund to enable communities to shape their future is proposed. The Community Planning Fund Strand is specifically established to assist communities or preferably a combination of communities to work together towards developing a local plan for their own area(s). The fund will enable communities to organise themselves and establish sustainable structures that will enable communities to identify and meet their own needs – “helping them to help themselves”. Funds are made available for:

- Activities and/or events which promote innovative communication to improve community engagement and encourage participation towards establishing a localised development plan for the area.
- Activities and/or services that promote community action and contribute to building more resilient communities.
- Activities and/or events that bring different areas or communities together to help plan the future of such communities.
- Activities that build community capacity and leadership by encouraging community groups and individuals to take an active role within their local community plan.

Small Equipment Grant

Applications are welcome from voluntary and community groups within Waterford who wish to upgrade or acquire small-scale capital equipment. Grants will be available for the up-grade or replacement of equipment, for example:

- ICT/Office equipment
- Landscaping/Gardening equipment
- Furnishing upgrades
- Tools/utensils
- Repairs etc.

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. It has been prepared to give a flavour of the kind of things that the fund will support.

Community & Voluntary Operational Funding

The activities eligible within this Fund include contributions towards ongoing operational costs of Community and Voluntary activity across Waterford.

Community & Voluntary Operational Funding can support costs of, for example:

- Projects costs
- Room hire
- Transport costs
- Insurance
- Tutor fees
- Community events/productions

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. It has been prepared to give a flavour of the kind of things that the fund will support.

Sport & Recreation Fund

The Sport & Recreation Fund has been created to assist Sports Clubs to provide or improve on the range of Sport and Leisure opportunities to Waterford's Communities. Waterford Sports Partnership, funded by the Irish Sports Council, is also contributing to this fund in partnership with Waterford City & County Council.



The Sport & Recreation Fund has 3 different funding lines to ensure as wide a range of activity can be supported:

1. Coach Education Fund
2. Small Equipment Grant
3. Sport in the Community Fund

Coach Education Fund

This small scale fund aims to encourage and assist existing clubs in their club development through the upskilling of its Coaches, developing quality coaching resources in Waterford and encouraging all coaches/volunteers to undertake appropriate education and training.

Funding is available towards course fees only for attending:

- Sports Specific Coach Education
- Accredited courses run by the Irish Sports Council (ISC), Coaching Ireland or National Governing Body of Sport
- Referee, umpire or official accreditation

Small Equipment Grant

The Small Equipment Grant aims to support sports clubs to purchase sports equipment that will have a positive impact on the level or quality of sports participation within the club. This grant will also help to provide equipment to support fitness or skills training for club coaches. Examples of equipment that will qualify are bibs, balls, cones, fitness equipment, etc. Clubs can also utilise this

small scale grant towards the purchase of larger scale sports equipment as long as the club can meet the balance of the cost of the equipment e.g. rowing machine, timing clock etc. Due to limited resources the fund will not be used for costs such as team kit, capital items, repairs etc.

Sport in the Community Fund

The Sport in the Community Fund is created to help to stimulate local sports delivery, the fund attempts to maximise local opportunities to increase participation in Sport and therefore collaboration between communities/community groups and sports clubs is necessary in this Funding Strand. The Fund is designed to unlock local potential and resources to get more people playing sport and some of the activities that it could support include:

- Activities that encompass a wide definition of sport
- Informal, “come and try it” opportunities which will build regular sustained, once a week, participation
- Multi-sport activities that provide people with a range of choices and opportunities
- Family orientated opportunities, where funding forges linkages between community projects and sports clubs

Grants applications should show how the project will keep and, ideally, attract more people to sport and that your project is needed and wanted by the local community.

Application Guidelines

Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015

General Information

- Projects are encouraged to access other sources of match funding as part of the project total budget
- **Applicants can only apply/qualify for funding under one Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 Strand**
- Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 allocations will be distributed as equitably as possible across the Metropolitan, Comeragh and Dungarvan/Lismore Areas of Waterford.
- Preference will be given to those organisations that have not received any support from Waterford City Council or Waterford County Council grant schemes previously
- Groups/Organisations/Clubs affiliated to the Waterford Public Participation Network (PPN) will be afforded weighted scoring in the application evaluation process.
- All Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 allocations will be paid in arrears on receipt of a satisfactorily completed claim form with supporting evidence of expenditure *i.e. on completion of the project – copies of invoices and receipts must be submitted.*

Who can apply

The Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 is open to all community groups, voluntary groups, sports clubs and recreation based groups that meet the following criteria:

Criteria and Eligibility

- Applying Groups/committees/organisations/clubs must be formally constituted i.e. hold an A.G.M. and have regular meetings - Copy of minutes of recent committee meeting to be submitted with application.
- Applicant must provide evidence of relevant policies/safeguards if the funding will be used in relation to children, young people or vulnerable adults
- Applicants of the Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 should be based in Waterford and beneficiaries of the Fund should be living within Waterford.
- Where required, an up to date quotation for goods/services will need to be submitted with the application.
- Applications from 'not for profit' clubs or organisations that are open to public membership are eligible for the Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015
- For profit groups, commercial organisations and private facility owners are **ineligible** to the Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015
- Applying Sports Clubs must provide evidence of their affiliation to an ISC recognised National Governing Body of Sport
- Group/organisations receiving an allocation must have a bank/credit union account in the same name as the group/organisation

How to apply

All applicants must complete a Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015 application form which can be downloaded from the Waterford Council's website

www.waterfordcouncil.ie

Alternatively you can collect an application pack at Waterford City & County Council Customer Service points at City Hall, the Mall or at the Civic offices, Davitts Quay, Dungarvan or alternatively you can email waterfordcommunitiesfund@waterfordcouncil.ie to have an application pack sent out to you.

Once completed please submit your application by email to waterfordcommunitiesfund@waterfordcouncil.ie or in hard copy to:

**Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2015,
Waterford City & County Council,
Civic Offices,
Dungarvan,
Co. Waterford**

Closing date for applications is Friday 1st May 2015

No applications will be accepted after this date