

Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	28/03/24
Originator	Paolo Vestri
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Funding for Communities 2024-2025

Please indicate if access to the document is to be “unrestricted” or “restricted”, with regard to the terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------	-------------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

If the document is “restricted”, please state on what grounds (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

For Publication

Additional information:

Authorised By	Sharon Saunders
Designation	Head of Communities
Date	28/03/24

For Office Use Only:	
Library Reference	33/24
Date Received	28/03/24
Bulletin	Apr 24

REPORT TO: Members' Library Service

MEETING DATE:

BY: Head of Communities

SUBJECT: Funding for Communities 2024/25

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 In terms of para 10.2 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, the Head of Communities has authority to approve the award of grants to individuals and organisations within the community, in line with the approved budget allocation. This report continues the One Council approach to partnership funding bringing together funding to Community Councils and Area Partnerships, advising on grant awards to community and partner organisations from partnership funds budgeted for by East Lothian Council in the financial year 2024/25.
- 1.2 The total of allocated funding by East Lothian Council to support community organisations in 2024/25 financial year is £1,770,048, plus £300,000 from Roads capital budget and £600,000 from Amenities Service revenue budget that Area Partnerships are able to influence, arising from the cross-service officer recommendations contained within Appendix 1, 2 and 3 of this report.
- 1.3 Note that the funding allocation to community organisations from Children's and Adult Services and from the Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board are presented in separate reports to Members' Library Services, to complete confirmation of all partnership funding allocated by East Lothian Council in 2024/25.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Head of Communities, having reviewed all the applications and funding proposals from partners and services, has determined the funding awards as appended to the report as part of her delegated authority through deciding the level of grants to individuals and organisations (Section 10.2 of the Scheme of Delegation).
- 2.2 The funding recommendations for 2023/24 are as follows:

- i) Allocation of Community Council Administration Grants, Insurance and Local Priority Scheme budget, totalling £132,270 (Appendix 1). This includes a £500 administration and secretariat award for the Association of East Lothian Community Councils.
 - ii) An allocation of One Council Partnership Funding to community groups and organisations totalling £1,322,778, (Appendix 2). This sum includes £333,925 for the contracted welfare advice service delivered by the East Lothian Advice Consortium.
 - iii) Note that the allocated budgets devolved to the six Area Partnerships is £1,215,000 (Appendix 3).
- 2.3 Note that in line with the 2024/25 budget approved by Council no contribution is being made to Police Scotland towards the cost of 2.8 FTE Community Police Officers in East Lothian and that in accordance with the Service Level Agreement (SLA) terms overseeing this arrangement between Police Scotland and the Council, the SLA ends naturally on 31 March 2024.
- 2.4 Note that £15,000 from the Communities budget is directed to fund sports grants administered by the Council's Active Business Unit within the Sports, Countryside and Leisure Service.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The range of activities supported by the voluntary/3rd sector and other community organisations throughout East Lothian make a significant contribution to the vibrancy, health and well-being of East Lothian communities.
- 3.2 The awards as outlined in this report will enable organisations to maintain their commitment to partnership working with the Council to support communities to build resilience and capacity, contributing to the Council vision, objectives and priorities, including Reducing Poverty and Inequality.
- 3.3 Applications for One Council Partnership Funding grants are evaluated to ensure strategic fit; that grant funding is streamlined, co-ordinated and targeted to support delivery of the East Lothian Council Plan, East Lothian Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan strategic priorities, in conjunction with supporting delivery of the East Lothian Integration Joint Board's Health & Social Care Strategic Plan, and the East Lothian Partnership's Children and Young People's Services Plan.
- 3.4 The overarching intention of partnership funding is to support reducing inequalities across East Lothian's communities and population. In addition, the pandemic and the cost of living challenges have impacted on many peoples' wellbeing and exacerbated hardship with community groups and organisations providing vital supports in response.

- 3.5 The One Council Partnership Fund is managed by the Council's Place Directorate and specifically, by the Connected Communities Service. The Connected Communities Managers provide a direct link for the Area Partnerships, Community Councils and funded organisations in their locality, supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of local projects and Service Level Agreements.
- 3.6 To assist and encourage all partners in their efforts to secure additional funding support from the 'external' funding market, information has been made available on the Council's website at: <https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210623/funding>. This advice is intended to enable partner community organisations to become more financially resilient and sustainable, and to reduce dependency on Council funding over time, given the known financial pressures facing the Council in the years ahead.
- 3.7 Applicants to the One Council Partnership Fund are also advised to refer to Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL), East Lothian's third sector interface partner, for advice on funding opportunities and governance arrangements in support of the voluntary and third sector: <https://www.volunteereastlothian.org.uk/>. Some applicants have been declined One Council Partnership funding as they have received funding from alternative sources, such as the new third sector Health and Wellbeing fund, administered by VCEL.
- 3.8 The 2024/25 budget approved by Council included several reductions in funding from the Communities services budget, including the One Council Partnership Fund:
- £35,000 reduction in core funding for Area Partnerships
 - £135,000 reduction in Grant funding, inclusive of removal of £35,000 funding for Fisherrow Trust
 - £91,000 transfer of funding to Youth Work
 - £125,000 removal of funding for Police Scotland.
- 3.9 Community Councils funding remains as in 2023/24, at a total of £132,270. This includes £15,770 Admin Grant (which includes a fixed amount of £350 per Community Council and £86 per Community Council towards insurance premium which each Community Council will agree with their insurer); £116,000 Local Priorities funding (based on a semi fixed amount {ranging from £750 for the smallest to £2,250 for the largest Community Council} and a variable amount based on population/ electoral roll); and £500 for administration and secretariat support for the Association of Community Councils. Any difference in payment between 2023/24 and 2024/25 is due to changes in the population/ electoral roll across Community Councils. (See Appendix 1)
- 3.10 Given the high demand for funding from applicants that received funding in 2023/24, which could not all be met from the funding available, there

was a presumption that new applications would not receive funding. Also, a further level of prioritisation than is normally given to applications was used when evaluating this year's applications.

- High Priority: projects with closest link to OCPF objectives including reducing poverty – maintain at last year's funding level
- Medium Priority: projects with a close link to OCPF objectives – 10%-20% reduction in funding from 2023/24
- Low Priority: relatively low level of linkage to OCPF objectives and/ or applicant holds a relatively high level of reserves and/ or potential to attract other income or funding – 20% or higher reduction in funding from 2023/24.

3.11 A full list of awards based on this prioritisation is shown in Appendix 2.

3.12 Area Partnerships will receive £315,000 in general services funding compared to £350,000 in 2023/24. This equates to a 10% cut in general service funding. Additionally, Area Partnerships are able to influence £600,000 Amenity Services Budget through influence over priority project requests in the deployment of Landscape and Countryside workforce and machinery, and £300,000 Roads Capital Programme spend through the setting of the Roads priority works programme. (See Appendix 3)

3.13 The Roads Service produces a works programme which sets out the planned capital works for both its internal and external workforce. This is based on schemes which have been identified through the needs assessment process and those projects ranked highest are included within the operational programme. The Roads Service will share the works programme with the Connected Communities Managers and Area Partnerships. This will identify the priority projects included in the operational programme as well as those schemes that are not on the priority list but are projects that the service would be looking to undertake in the future. It is these projects, alongside other local priority projects determined by Area Partnerships, that Area Partnerships can influence the Roads Service for inclusion in future works programme where possible and or when funding becomes available.

3.14 Work will be undertaken with the Council's Communications team to showcase some of the projects supported by One Council Partnership Fund grants.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The allocation of partnership funding as outlined in this report will assist the Council to achieve the aims of the East Lothian Plan (and associated plans), the Integration Joint Board's Health & Social Care Strategic Plan and the Council Plan and further demonstrate the successful partnership working arrangements across the county, to help reduce inequalities and meet Partnership and Council strategic priorities.

4.2 The Council’s financial challenges over the coming years have necessitated a clear focus on increasing the resilience of community organisations, to help them develop sustainable business models and reduce reliance on annual Council funding. Applicants have been encouraged to explore alternative funding streams and to approach VCEL, the Third Sector Interface for East Lothian, which is funded by Scottish Government to provide advice to third sector organisations on governance issues and support to secure external funding.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and no negative impacts have been identified.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial - The detailed financial implications have been assessed in conjunction with Corporate Finance and the recommendations contained within this report will be accommodated within the approved Communities 2024/25 service budget.

6.2 Personnel - None

6.3 Other - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Appendix 1: Support to Community Councils 2024/25

7.2 Appendix 2: One Council Partnership Funding 2024/25

7.3 Appendix 3: Area Partnerships Devolved Budgets 2024/25

7.4 Appendix 4: Integrated Impact Assessment

AUTHOR’S NAME	Sharon Saunders Paolo Vestri
DESIGNATION	Head of Communities Service Manager Policy, Performance and Organisational Development
CONTACT INFO	ssaunders1@eastlothian.gov.uk pvestri@eastlothian.gov.uk
DATE	28 th March 2024

Appendix 1 - Support to East Lothian Community Councils 2024/25				
Name of Organisation	2024/25 Admin Grant*	2025/25 Local Priorities	2024/25 Grant Awarded	Purpose of Grant
Cockenzie & Port Seton	£785	£5,938	£6,723	Empowering communities
Dunbar	£1,105	£10,270	£11,375	Empowering communities
Dunpender	£648	£3,949	£4,597	Empowering communities
East Lammermuir	£523	£2,102	£2,625	Empowering communities
Garvald & Morham	£467	£897	£1,364	Empowering communities
Gifford	£506	£1,645	£2,151	Empowering communities
Gullane	£842	£6,672	£7,514	Empowering communities
Haddington	£1,241	£12,249	£13,490	Empowering communities
Humbie, E & W Saltoun & Bolton	£515	£1,759	£2,274	Empowering communities
Longniddry	£655	£3,787	£4,442	Empowering communities
Macmerry & Gladsmuir	£544	£2,377	£2,921	Empowering communities
Musselburgh & Inveresk	£1,750	£19,223	£20,973	Empowering communities
North Berwick	£972	£8,573	£9,545	Empowering communities
Ormiston	£600	£3,090	£3,690	Empowering communities
Pencaitland	£582	£2,855	£3,437	Empowering communities
Prestonpans	£1,079	£10,190	£11,269	Empowering communities
Tranent & Elphinstone	£1,235	£12,425	£13,660	Empowering communities
Wallyford	£716	£4,560	£5,276	Empowering communities
West Barns	£480	£1,310	£1,790	Empowering communities
Whitecraig	£525	£2,129	£2,654	Empowering communities
	£15,770	£116,000	£131,770	

* Insurance premium of £86 per
Community Council included in the
Admin grant (Column B)

Administration and secretariat support for the AoELCCs **£500**
TOTAL **£132,270**

Appendix 2 - One Council Partnership Funding 2024/25					
Name of Organisation	2023/24	2024/25	Area	2024/25	Strategic Priority
	Awarded	Applied		Awarded	
Amisfield Preservation Trust	£10,000	£14,580	All of East Lothian	0	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Athelstaneford Community Group	£0	£1,782	Haddington & Lammermuir	0	Growing Communities
Battle of Prestonpans [1745] Heritage Trust	£27,500	£84,000	Preston Seton Gosford	£20,000	Growing Communities & Capacity
Borders Scrapstore	£3,000	£8,500	All of East Lothian	£2,400	Growing Communities & Capacity
Bridge Centre Motorcycle project	£22,000	£29,000	All of East Lothian	£22,000	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Bridges Project	£69,000	£76,124	All of East Lothian	£47,262	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Can Do	£26,557	£25,406	All of East Lothian	£26,406	Growing People & Communities
CAPS Independent Advocacy	£0	£60,000	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People
Care & Repair East Lothian	£0	£10,800	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People & Communities
Carefree Kids East Lothian	£17,000	£17,000	All of East Lothian	£13,600	Growing Economy, People, Communities & Capacity
CHANGES East Lothian	£0	£18,929	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People & Communities
Coastal Communities Museum Trust	£7,500	£7,500	North Berwick Coastal	£5,625	Growing Economy, Communities & Capacity
Cockenzie Out of School Care	£0	£10,319	Preston Seton Gosford	0	Growing People
Destiny Project	£0	£73,000	Preston Seton Gosford	0	Growing People
Dunbar Area Christian Youth Project	£0	£20,000	Dunbar & East Linton	0	Growing People
Dunbar Harbour Trust	£20,000	£20,000	Dunbar & East Linton	£17,500	Growing Communities & Capacity
East Lothian Foodbank	£15,000	£94,500	All of East Lothian	£22,500	Growing Economy, Communities & Capacity
East Lothian Friendly Food Network	£39,971	£30,971	All of East Lothian	£30,971	Growing Economy, Communities & Capacity
East Lothian Indoor Bowling Club	£5,000	£9,000	All of East Lothian	£3,500	Growing Communities & Capacity
East Lothian Play Association	£8,700	£24,857	All of East Lothian	£7,830	Growing People
East Lothian Roots & Fruits	£35,000	£35,000	All of East Lothian	£31,500	Growing Communities & Capacity
East Lothian Swim Team	£12,000	£12,000	All of East Lothian	£9,600	Growing People & Communities
East Lothian U3A	£1,000	£15,000	All of East Lothian	£750	Growing People & Communities
East Lothian Walking Festival	£0	£3,000	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People & Communities
Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity	£0	£125,007	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People
Edinburgh Rape Crisis Centre	£20,000	£38,743	All of East Lothian	£16,000	Growing People
Family Journeys	£0	£11,500	Musselburgh	0	Growing People
Fashion School	£12,000	£53,482	All of East Lothian	£12,000	Growing Economy & People
First Step Community Project	£208,000	£208,000	Musselburgh	£135,000	Growing People & Capacity
Fraser Centre Community Trust	£5,000	£15,000	Fa'side/Tranent	£5,000	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Friday Friends	£9,500	£9,500	All of East Lothian	£7,125	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Groundswell Community Project Scotland	£0	£5,000	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People
Haddington Bridge Centre	£15,000	£15,000	Haddington & Lammermuir	£12,000	Growing People, Capacity & Communities
Haddington Garden Trust	£4,000	£12,000	Haddington & Lammermuir	£3,200	Growing People, Capacity & Communities
Haddstock	£0	£12,600	Haddington & Lammermuir	0	Growing Economy, People & Communities
HALLHILL Sports Centre	£77,560	£76,760	Dunbar & East Linton	£72,560	Growing People, Capacity & Communities
HerbSpace	£5,000	£15,154	North Berwick & Coastal	£3,500	Growing People, Capacity & Communities
Insulate Innerwick	£0	£3,750	Dunbar & East Linton	0	Growing People & Communities
Into Work	£32,324	£48,437	All of East Lothian	£32,324	Growing Economy & People
Lammermuir Larder Group	£0	£10,300	Haddington & Lammermuir	0	Growing People & Communities
Lamp of Lothian Trust	£20,000	£24,000	Haddington & Lammermuir	£16,000	Growing Economy & People
Lothian Centre for Inclusive Living	£0	£18,980	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People & Communities
Lothian Mineworkers Convelescent Home	£0	£15,000	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People
Lower Impact Living (Lil)	£5,000	£5,000	All of East Lothian	£3,750	Growing Economy
MYPAS	£10,000	£13,505	All of East Lothian	£10,000	Growing People & Capacity
Natural Connections (Heugh Community Garden)	£0	£12,000	Fa'side/Tranent	0	Growing People and Capacity
New Beginnings Club East Lothian	£7,500	£9,360	All of East Lothian	£6,000	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
Our Community Kitchen	£8,000	£11,000	Haddington & Lammermuir	£7,200	Growing Economy, People, Communities & Capacity
Patchwork EH32	£0	£2,750	Preston Seton Gosford	£2,750	Growing People
Pennypit Management Committee	£0	£17,987	Preston Seton Gosford	£2,500	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
Pennypit Special Needs Youth Club	£9,500	£13,400	All of East Lothian	£9,500	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
People Know How	£10,000	£7,052	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People, Capacity
Preston Athletic Football Club	£10,500	£8,500	Preston Seton Gosford	£5,000	Growing People, Capacity & Communities
RIDGE (The) SCIO	£30,000	£30,000	Dunbar & East Linton	£30,000	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Sporting Memories	£0	£9,987	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People
thespace Scotland	£0	£18,350	Dunbar & East Linton	£4,000	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
Thrive East Lothian	£0	£129,587	All of East Lothian	0	Growing People
Venturing Out	£20,000	£34,720	All of East Lothian	£18,000	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
West Barns Play Group	£0	£630	Dunbar & East Linton	0	Growing People
Whitecraig Village Hub	£2,000	£3,000	Musselburgh	£3,000	Growing People & Communities
Winterfield Golf Club	£17,500	£17,500	Dunbar & East Linton	£14,000	Growing Economy, People & Communities
			Grants TOTAL	£691,853	
Service Level Agreements and Contract					
Dadswork (SLA)	£50,000	£50,000	All of East Lothian	£50,000	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
East Lothian Advice Consortium (Contract)	£333,925	£333,925	All East Lothian	£333,925	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
Heavy Sounds (SLA)	£40,000	£40,000	West of the county	£40,000	Growing People, Capacity & Communities
North Berwick Youth Project (SLA)	£30,000	£30,000	North Berwick & Coastal	£30,000	Growing Economy, People & Communities
Pennypit Community Development Trust (SLA)	£99,000	£99,000	Preston Seton Gosford	£99,000	Growing People, Communities & Capacity
RECHARGE (SLA)	£28,000	£28,000	Fa'side	£28,000	Growing People & Communities
Volunteer Centre East Lothian (SLA)	£50,000	£50,000	All of East Lothian	£50,000	Growing Communities and Capacity
			SLAs & Contract TOTAL	£630,925	

£2,394,734 **Approved 2024/25 TOTAL** **£1,322,778**

Appendix 3 - Area Partnerships Devolved Budgets 2024/25				
Area	General	Roads *	Amenities**	Total
Musselburgh	£90,000	£50,000	£100,000	£240,000
Preston Seton Gosford	£45,000	£50,000	£100,000	£195,000
Haddington & Lammermuir	£45,000	£50,000	£100,000	£195,000
Fa'side	£45,000	£50,000	£100,000	£195,000
Dunbar & East Linton	£45,000	£50,000	£100,000	£195,000
North Berwick Coastal	£45,000	£50,000	£100,000	£195,000
TOTALS	£315,000	£300,000	£600,000	£1,215,000

* Roads Capital Budget enabling Area Partnerships to influence capital works programme

** Influential spend, agreeing priorities for the deployment of Landscape & Countryside workforce and machinery

Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability



Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability

Title of Policy/ Proposal	One Council Partnership Funding 2024/25
Completion Date	28/03/24
Completed by	Head of Communities Service Manager – Policy, Performance and Organisational Development
Lead officer	Sharon Saunders Paolo Vestri

Type of Initiative:

- Policy/Strategy
- Programme/Plan _____ New or Proposed
- Project _____ Changing/Updated x
- Service Review or existing
- Function
- Other

1. Briefly describe the policy/proposal you are assessing.

Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the policy being developed or reviewed (e.g. objectives, aims) including the context within which it will operate.

This Integrated Impact Assessment relates to the Members Library Service report entitled 'One Council Partnership Funding 2024/25, submitted April 2024.

The report provides details of East Lothian Council funding awarded for 2024/25 to community organisations including Community Councils, Area Partnerships and grants to community groups.

2. What will change as a result of this policy?

This funding will support a wide range of community organisations to help reduce inequalities and build resilience across East Lothian; within this broad objective, priority has been given to awarding grants to organisations with objectives and outcomes which support the East Lothian Partnership and East Lothian Council strategic priorities, in particular, the objective: Reduce Poverty and Inequality.

The amount allocated to grants in the 2024/25 budget fell from £1,543,515 in 2023/24 to £1,317,515 (a 14.6% reduction).

Given the high demand for funding from applicants that received funding in 2023/24 which could not all be met from the 2024/25 funding available, there was a presumption that new applications would not receive funding. Also, a further level of prioritisation than is normally given to applications was used when evaluating this year's applications.

High Priority – most closely linked to OCPF objectives including reducing poverty – maintain at last year's level

Medium Priority – close link to OCPF objectives - 10% - 20% reduction in funding from 2023/24

Low Priority – relatively low level of linkage to OCPF objectives and/ or relatively high level of reserves and/ or potential to attract other income or funding – 20% or higher reduction in funding from 2023/24

3. Do I need to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment?

High Relevance	Yes/no
1. The policy/ proposal has consequences for or affects people	Yes
2. The policy/proposal has potential to make a significant impact on equality	Yes
3. The policy/ proposal has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes	Yes

4. The policy/proposal is likely to have a significant environmental impact	Yes
Low Relevance	
5. The policy/proposal has little relevance to equality	
6. The policy/proposal has negligible impact on the economy	
7. The policy/proposal has no/ minimal impact on the environment	
If you have identified low relevance please give a brief description of your reasoning here and send it to your Head of Service to record.	

If you have answered yes to 1, 2, or 3 above, please proceed to complete the Integrated Impact Assessment.

If you have identified that your project will have a significant environmental impact (4), you will need to consider whether you need to complete a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

4. What information/data/ consultation have you used to inform the policy to date?

Evidence	Comments: what does the evidence tell you?
Data on populations in need	Ward profiles, SIMD statistics highlight areas with greatest levels of social deprivation. Area Plans developed by each of the six Area Partnerships, supported by the Connected Communities Service, draw on evidence to identify local needs and inform setting of priorities. Service and outcomes data relating to children and families and to health and social care, informs targeted need.
Data on service uptake/access	Evaluation reports submitted by partner organisations indicate levels of uptake to services supported by the OCPF.

Data on quality/outcomes	Organisations which are in receipt of a One Council Partnership Grant or are supported by the Area Partnerships are required to submit an end of project report to evidence the outcomes which have been achieved as a result of this funding.
Research/literature evidence	Ward profiles, Area Plans (via the Area Partnerships), the East Lothian Council Plan, East Lothian Partnership's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and other associated strategic documents and performance reporting data sets.
Service user experience information	Evaluation information to measure impact is required including request for feedback from the funded organisations, including service user feedback.
Consultation and involvement findings	Applications to the Fund are open to any community group or organisation, presenting the opportunity for them to comment on community benefits, including presentation of any community consultation and involvement in development of their application. The award of One Council Partnership Grants is a delegated matter to the
	Head of Communities with decisions taken in consultation with a cross Council Officer Evaluation Panel taking account of key strategic priorities set within the Council Plan and Local Outcome Improvement Plan (and supporting plans e.g. Children's Services Plan, Poverty Plan, Area Partnership Locality Plans etc.) all of which are subject to community consultation and engagement in their development.
Good practice guidelines	The approach complies with best practice as being transparent and accessible and in accordance with broad community planning and community empowerment principles.
Other (please specify)	A participatory budgeting (PB) approach has been successfully adopted in some Area Partnerships (Musselburgh and Preston Seton Gosford).

Is any further information required? How will you gather this?	
----------------------------------------------------------------	--

5. How does the policy meet the different needs of groups in the community?

	Issues identified and how the strategy addresses these
<p>Equality Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people, people in the middle years, • Young people and children • Women, men and transgender people (includes issues relating to pregnancy and maternity) • Disabled people (includes physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, long-term medical conditions, mental health problems) • Minority ethnic people (includes • Gypsy/Travellers, migrant workers, non-English speakers) • Refugees and asylum seekers • People with different religions or beliefs (includes people with no religion or belief) • Lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual people • People who are unmarried, married or in a civil partnership 	<p>The One Council Partnership Funding grant scheme supports community groups and organisations to provide local services to improve the well-being of people living within communities in East Lothian. The application process places a clear focus on tackling inequalities and promoting social inclusion.</p> <p>Applicants are required to demonstrate how their proposal will contribute to achieving the East Lothian Partnership and Council’s strategic priorities, thus ensuring greater accountability, transparency and equity.</p> <p>Each of the equalities groups will potentially benefit from this funding process.</p>

<p>Those vulnerable to falling into poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployed • People on benefits • Single Parents and vulnerable families • Pensioners • Looked after children • Those leaving care settings (including children and young people and those with illness) • Homeless people • Carers (including young carers) • Those involved in the community justice system • Those living in the most deprived communities (bottom 20% SIMD areas) • People misusing services • People with low literacy/numeracy • Others e.g. veterans, students 	<p>A key aim of the One Council Partnership Funding process is to target the funding awarded to reduce inequalities, to help vulnerable groups and those affected by poverty. The Area Partnerships also prioritise addressing inequalities in their geographic area in their use of funding allocated to them.</p>
<p>Geographical communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural/semi rural communities • Urban Communities • Coastal communities 	<p>There has been improved community promotion and targeting of this funding to ensure it benefits where most required. Funding is provided to all 20 Community Councils and 6 Area Partnerships which ensures that all areas in East Lothian receive funding support.</p>

6. Are there any other factors which will affect the way this policy impacts on the community or staff groups?

An assessment panel has been established involving representatives from relevant Council services, to enable a One Council approach to be applied on decisions about awarding this funding.

The delegated budgets to Area Partnerships and grants to Community Councils support community empowerment and local decision-making to meet local priorities.

Closer collaborative working with East Lothian's Third Sector Interface (TSI) Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL) has helped to ensure alignment with strategic priorities and avoid potential duplication of funding.

7. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

If yes, how have you included equality and human rights considerations into the contract?

There are conditions attached to any grant funding approved which includes a requirement to comply with equalities legislation.

8. Have you considered how you will communicate information about this policy or policy change to those affected e.g. to those with hearing loss, speech impairment or English as a second language?

Accessible communications advice has been provided by the Council's Communications team. This will be publicised on the Council's website and through social media.

9. Please consider how your policy will impact on each of the following?

Objectives	Comments
Equality and Human rights	

Promotes / advances equality of opportunity e.g. improves access to and quality of services, status	The revised funding application process actively promotes equalities as it is targeted at tackling inequalities.
Promotes good relations within and between people with protected characteristics and tackles harassment	Yes, as above.
Promotes participation, inclusion, dignity and self control over decisions	Yes, as above.
Builds family support networks, resilience and community capacity	Yes, community capacity building is integral to this funding stream to support community organisations to be sustainable and resilient.
Reduces crime and fear of crime	Yes, by taking account of Community Justice Partnership priorities.
Promotes healthier lifestyles including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diet and nutrition, • sexual health, • substance misuse • Exercise and physical activity. • Lifeskills 	Funding awarded to the Area Partnerships and sports organisations assists in promoting healthy living and active travel.
Environmental	
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in East Lothian	This funding will also have some environmental benefits, including community gardening and conservation projects and active travel initiatives.
(including carbon management)	A new condition has been added to this grant award requiring recipients to operate in line with the aims of East Lothian Council's Climate Change Strategy.
Plan for future climate change	
Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise	
Protect coastal and inland waters	
Enhance biodiversity	

Encourage resource efficiency (energy, water, materials and minerals)	
Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk	
Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms or transport	
Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space	
Economic	
Maximises income and /or reduces income inequality	Employability, training and life skills initiatives are all supported though this funding, assisting people to move out of poverty.
Helps young people into positive destinations	
Supports local business	
Helps people to access jobs (both paid and unpaid)	
Improving literacy and numeracy	
Improves working conditions, including equal pay	
Improves local employment opportunities	As above.

10. Action Plan

Identified negative impact	Mitigating circumstances	Mitigating actions	Timeline	Responsible person
n/a				

--	--	--	--	--

11. Sign off by Head of Service

Name Sharon Saunders

Date 28 March 2024