

Frequently Asked Questions – Community Facilities Programme

Q. How is the Community Facilities Programme different from the Community Facilities and Activities Programme?

A. The new Community Facilities Programme is much more focussed on the Tackling Poverty agenda. Projects applying for funding from the programme will have to demonstrate how they are tackling poverty in their communities. They could be running activities for Communities First or Families First; operating a food bank or food co-operative; hosting advice services or a credit union collection point; safeguarding or saving a service which would otherwise be lost to the community e.g. post office; providing skills based training or tackling digital exclusion. All these help provide opportunities to prevent or mitigate the effects of poverty.

Q. What type of grants will the Community Facilities Programme offer?

A. The Community Facilities Programme will offer capital grants for up to £500,000. The grants can be used to provide or improve community facilities which in turn provide vital community services to prevent or tackle poverty and its effects.

Q. Who can apply to the Community Facilities Programme?

A. We are seeking applications from community led projects that have been developed in partnership with strategic partners such as the local authority, county voluntary council, or local health board. Projects can have other partners from the public, private or third sectors, such as the post office, a credit union or accredited training provider. Finally and most importantly, projects must be developed with, for and by the communities they serve.

Q. When will the Community Facilities Programme open?

A. The Community Facilities Programme will open for business on Monday 3 February 2014.

Q. Can I apply for funding from the Community Facilities Programme if my project has already benefited from the Community Facilities and Activities Programme (CFAP)?

A. All applications will be assessed individually and evidence of need will be one of the prime criteria. Previous applications to CFAP will not prevent an application to the Community Facilities Programme. However, we will not expect successful applicants to the programme to reapply within three years of the completion of the work funded.

Q. How will the Community Facilities Programme operate?

A. The Community Facilities Programme will have a two stage application process. The first stage will check eligibility, outcomes and fit with the scheme criteria and the tackling poverty agenda. The second stage application will need to be accompanied by a business plan including cash flow projections for at least three financial years. The programme will not operate in bidding rounds; instead applications can be submitted at any time after 3 February 2014.

Q. Will my application require match funding?

A. There is a limited amount of Welsh Government funding available and we want this to be directed where it is most needed. We ask that all applicants apply for funding from other sources, seek contributions from key partners and/or include a contribution from their own funds if possible. This will make our funding go further.

The Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) and/or the local County Voluntary Councils offer a grant finder service which can help to identify other funding sources. Match funding can be in cash or in kind.

If you have applied unsuccessfully for match funding, please include this information with your application.

Q. How long will applications to the Community Facilities Programme take to process?

A. We expect that stage one applications will take around 20 working days to process. Stage two applications will take longer; although all applications will move through the same appraisal process; those which are better developed and may be processed more quickly. More information on typical timescales will be available once the scheme is up and running.

Q. Where can I get, information, an application form, or make further enquiries about applying to the Community Facilities Programme?

A. You can get information and register for an application pack by contacting the Community Grants team as follows:

South East Wales: Mike O'Shea on 0300 062 8612

North and Mid Wales: Nesta Doughty on 0300 062 5627

West Wales: Helen Brown on 0300 062 8265

If above are unavailable: Lisa Clarridge on 0300 062 8307