**Community Investment Fund Guidance for Applicants**

The New Cross Gate Trust offers a small number of grants each year to local partners via a Community Investment Fund. The fund aims to support the sustainability of local partners, maximise the value of different organisations’ skills and expertise, and avoid the duplication of services.

**Criteria for grants**

Applications for the community investment fund should:

* Meet at least one of Trust’s objectives
* Be for projects operating in Lewisham (with a preference for those in, or close to, New Cross Gate)
* Address a local need or local gap in services

The Trust’s objectives can be found here: <https://www.nxgtrust.org.uk/about/objectives-and-impact/>

**Notes for applicants**

* Applications for the community investment fund open on 1st April each year
* The total amount available for grants changes annually but is typically around £25,000
* There is no minimum or maximum limit for grants, however we aim to support as many small organisations as possible; most grants given will be below £3,000
* You may submit applications for more than one project during the year
* Applications are assessed as they come in, earlier applications have a higher chance of success
* Occasionally, we may decide to support the same project each year for up to three years. If you would like to be considered for this, please make it clear on your application

**The process**

* Complete the application form and email it to info@nxgtrust.org.uk
* We will confirm receipt of your application
* Our grants committee made up of staff and trustees will meet to discuss your application
* You should receive a decision from us within two months

**Monitoring and reporting**

* We will agree a process, timeline and format for monitoring and reporting with you when we approve your grant
* The level of reporting required will be proportionate to the value of the grant (for example, small grant recipients will only need to provide short reports)

If you would like any information or advice about applying for the fund, contact Amy Glover at info@nxgtrust.org.uk or 020 7639 7605. If you are struggling to meet any of the fund criteria, please contact us as we may be able to provide support.