

North London Community Fund 2026-27 – Clarification requests and responses

Issue Date: 09/12/2025

Ref	Clarification requests			Clarification responses		
	Date	Text	Attachments	Date	Text	Attachments
1	08/12/2025	We are not for profit with a governing document and policies in place Are we eligible?	None	09/12/2025	Yes, not for profit community groups are eligible and welcomed to apply for the fund. For a full run down of what kinds of groups are eligible, please see our webpage .	see our webpage .
2	09/12/2025	Are things like staff time, materials, prep time for workshops, admin costs etc. included in the fund?	None	10/12/2025	Staff time spent on the project can be charged to the fund. This is inclusive of prep, delivery, purchasing, admin etc. You can also use the fund to pay for materials required for the project. We ask that you try to keep materials and staff time covered by the fund separate from the rest of your projects as much as is practicable. We also require you to detail how you intend to spend the funding in your application using the project resources template , and track exactly what money you have spent during your project using the monitoring spreadsheet we will provide.	project resources template
3	12/01/2026	Is the fund limited to residential waste reduction , or could it also support commercial waste reduction activities ?	none	21/01/2026	Projects focused primarily on commercial waste reduction will not be eligible, as the fund is designed to support community initiatives reducing household waste. If a project redirects some commercial waste materials to	

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					deliver community-based activities whose mission is to reduce household waste , this is acceptable.	
	12/01/2026	Would Repair Cafés be eligible as part of the funded activities?	none	21/01/2026	Yes, repair cafes are eligible.	
	12/01/2026	Would activities that build on and expand existing services be acceptable?		21/01/2026	Yes, you can apply for funding to expand, adapt, or scale up existing projects, providing you are not already receiving full funding for the project from elsewhere.	
4	12/01/2025	Please could you clarify if schools can apply for funding.	none	12/01/2025	<p>Unfortunately, we cannot fund projects run by schools.</p> <p>We do have a range of campaigns aimed at supporting schools with waste prevention, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The In The Know campaign, aimed at tackling waste and promoting a circular economy in schools. • Free educational visits for schools to our new education centre EcoPark House. • Our online Education Hub, a bank of resources, lesson plans and assemblies for schools to teach about waste prevention, the circular economy and sustainable consumerism. 	<p>In The Know campaign</p> <p>our new education centre EcoPark House.</p> <p>Our online Education Hub</p>

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					If you'd like to know any more about our education offer, please feel free to drop the education team an email at education@nlwa.gov.uk .	
5	27/01/2026	Would you expect an organisation applying for a medium grant to keep within the 150-word count, and hence a micro fund applicant utilise less than that, or rather the micro fund applicant ideally keep within the 150 word count and the medium fund applicant going above?	none	28/01/2026	The word count is a guide, but ideally, proposals for all grant sizes would not exceed this guide. However, we understand that sometimes more detail or context is required.	none
6	27/01/2026	Is covering staffing costs a valid allocation of the budget according to your funding criteria?	none	28/01/2026	The funding can be put towards project goods, staff time or other costs required to run an activity, and there is no cap on the total proportion of the grant you put towards staff time.	none
7	14/01/2026	What is the larger grant later in the year?	none	20/01/2026	The larger grant is offered every 2 years for larger projects with 2-year delivery timeframes. We haven't released a lot of information about the 27/26 award yet as there are still details being finalised. There will be more information available later in the year.	none
	14/01/2026	Could payments cover pay for workshop leaders, volunteer costs,	none	20/01/2026	Yes, the funding can be used to cover all of the items listed above.	none

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		reasonable travel costs, a contribution to core costs, food and refreshment costs?				
	14/01/2026	One of our projects works with young people excluded from school - so this would normally be within the school day but they are not at school . Would this be eligible?	none	20/01/2026	If the project you have in mind is linked to a service that you provide for the Pupil Referral Unit and you are already receiving funding to deliver that, then it would need to be clearly set out in the application how this funding would be spent in addition to that. We prohibit any funding from an award being used to pay for a service/cost that is already being funded from elsewhere or is the duty of another organisation/person to deliver.	none
9	13/01/2026	Can I still apply as a Sole Trader running the project for a charity?	none	14/01/2026	Unfortunately, you can't apply to the fund as a sole trader. The grant is awarded to not-for-profit organisations only. An alternative might be if the charity applies for the fund to pay you for your services.	none
10	15/01/2026	Alongside the funding, I would like to explore the possibility of sourcing waste materials from your Reuse and Recovery Facilities to upcycle in the project. Is this possible?	none	28/01/2026	Yes, this is possible. It should be noted that this process can take some time to arrange, and as far as the Community Fund is concerned, we would not recommend relying solely on this arrangement to source materials for your proposed project.	none

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	15/01/2026	If NLWA were to collaborate separately with my organisation, would that create any issues or conflicts with the funding application?	none	28/01/2026	Past or ongoing collaboration with NLWA will not influence the result of your application one way or the other. Funding is awarded on the grounds of eligibility and how well your project meets the criteria.	none
11	22/01/2026	For the 'medium' grants, the project timeline states 'up to two years'. Does the project have to run for two years, or could it be less?	none	22/01/2026	The medium grants do not have to last two years, so yes, it could be less. We allow that timeframe for delivery in response to feedback from previous years where recipients of that scale of award often required longer than one year to deliver.	none
	22/01/2026	We solicit donations at our activities, and some of our activities also generate income (for example, we sell repaired items and charge the public to 'drop off' items for fixing later). All income is reinvested back into the project, and we do not make a profit. Is it acceptable to apply for activities that do generate some income in this way?	none	22/01/2026	Yes, that is acceptable in terms of income generation in the not-for-profit model you describe.	none