



UKSPF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CAPITAL GRANT

2024 Guidance

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE FUND:

The purpose of this grant is to offer capital support to social economy sector organisations. This grant will enable organisations/businesses to purchase capital equipment or undertake capital works.

Funded by the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), this grant programme aims to contribute to delivering on the UK Government's levelling up objectives:

- Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities.
- Promoting networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost
- Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency

Should your application be successful, we will monitor your project against the relevant outputs and outcomes related to the specific UK Government interventions. This detail will be included in the grant offer letter. For further information please see the [UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus](#)

2.0 WHAT CAN IT FUND:

The UKSPF Social Enterprise Capital Grant will fund:

- Internal building works that enhance or safeguard the business / organisation / building,
- External works which positively impact upon the services of the organisation / business,
- Equipment purchases
- VAT costs if the organisation is not VAT registered.

Ineligible Expenditure:

- Any form of revenue costs,

- Costs to purchase buildings, land or vehicles
- Hire Purchase/Lease Purchases
- Costs such as rent, rates, admin, vehicles; cost of works being carried out as a legal statutory requirement
- Costs that relate to normal running expenses,
- Contingency costs & Utilities
- Statutory procedures such as planning permission or building regulations,
- Equipment / items that have a one-off annual use or are deemed to be seasonal,
- Retrospective costs i.e. costs for works or equipment that has already been undertaken,
- VAT costs for organisations who are VAT registered
- Staff costs/Marketing

3.0 WHO CAN APPLY:

You can apply for the UK Social Enterprise Capital Grant if your organisation:

- Is any form of social business i.e. social enterprise, constituted (preferably incorporated) community group, charity, CIC, sports club, youth organisation, worship group, resident association etc.,
- Is registered in Merthyr Tydfil.

You are not eligible for the UKSPF Social Enterprise Capital Grant if:

- You are a private business (please see UKSPF Private Sector Grant for Business)
- You are an un-constituted social business / group,
- You are a social business / group without an organisational bank account,
- The organisation/applicant has any financial arrears with the Council.

4.0 HOW MUCH CAN I APPLY FOR:

The grant will fund up to 90% of eligible total project costs up to a maximum of £30,000.

5.0 FUNDING TIMESCALES:

| Activity | Timeframe/Deadline |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Grant Schemes Open | 8th March 2024 |
| Application Deadline | 5pm 3rd May 2024 |
| Decision to applicants | 31st May 2024 |
| Monitoring & Engagement | June – December 2024 |
| Final Monitoring & Grant closure | 18th December 2024 |

6.0 FURTHER INFORMATION:

Prior to the deadline you will need to submit a fully completed application form with all the required supporting information specified in the applications checklist.

Please note: partially completed applications will not be assessed, therefore, please ensure that you complete all sections of the application form and submit all necessary documents.

For capital works worth over £5,000, a minimum of three quotes will be required which should be submitted along with the application and other supporting documentation. The quotes must be based on the same specification. We will also ask for evidence of match funding. If the application is worth less than £5,000 in total, then one written quote is sufficient.

It is advised that Building Control and/or Planning permissions and any relevant licences are applied for in advance of submitting this application. Should you need financial assistance to support this requirement, please see the “UKSPF Professional Fees Grant”.

Grants will not be offered or paid if the business or applicant is in arrears with any payment to the Local Authority. Checks will be made as required.

Grant money will be paid by BACS into the business bank account after receipt of original paid invoices and corresponding bank statements or, in circumstances based on a business case assessment, on receipt of invoice or valid quotation.

All projects will need to be complete by the 18th December 2024 with all evidence of spend submitted.

We will accept all applications and documentation via email. Please submit your application to economic.development@merthyr.gov.uk.

Please also note that the submission of an application does not guarantee funding.

Should you have any queries please contact economic.development@merthyr.gov.uk in the first instance.

7.0 SHORTLISTING & ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:

Your application will be subject to an initial validation check to ensure you have submitted all the correct information. In addition, each organisation / business will go through a due diligence check as part of our grant condition processes.

The second phase of assessment will see each application being assessed by a chosen specialist panel set against the following criteria:

- Value for Money
- Job Creation/Safeguarding
- Socio-economic Impact
- Project Outcomes
- Need
- Sustainability / Longevity of the Project / Works
- Project Timeframe

Should you have any queries, please contact the Enterprise Team via economic.development@merthyr.gov.uk

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