



Funding, Grants & Precept Setting

At a glance

Community and Town Councils are often closest to the people most affected and can respond quickly to community needs. Councils' support during a cost of living crisis directly benefits local residents and creates a stronger, more cohesive community.

Consultation & Communication is essential when considering raising precepts.

Engaging with the community fosters transparency, allowing residents to understand the reasons for any increase and how it will benefit them through improved services and projects.

Effective consultation gives residents a voice in decision making while open communication can reduce potential resistance, create a sense of shared responsibility, and ensure the council's decisions align with the community's best interests.

The Annual Report is a perfect opportunity for councils to inform their communities on the work that they do.

Participatory budgeting is a community engagement method for councils looking to make their communities more inclusive. This can help align the allocation of public funds with real-life community needs.

Local County Voluntary Councils can assist in making funding applications

Applying for a Grant

Different grants have distinct eligibility criteria and guidelines. Various funding opportunities have unique requirements, priorities, and guidelines that must be thoroughly reviewed. Ensuring that your councils' objectives align with the funders goals is essential.

Top Tips

- 1 Allow plenty of time to apply**
Everything takes longer than you think.
- 2 Choose your funder carefully**
Read the guidance and eligibility criteria and make sure the grant is suitable. Speak to funders, they are there to help and will answer any questions you may have.
- 3 Get advice**
Get advice from a number of sources. Create a network. and speak to other councils, grant officers at your CVC, and the community.
- 4 Plan**
Identify the need. Look for inspiration to pull together an idea worthy of being funded; be innovative. Tell a compelling story: you are selling an idea; make it an exciting one taking on a serious challenge
- 5 Goals and Objectives**
Have well defined objectives; make them SMART
What do you want to achieve?
Who will benefit?
Where will it take place?
When will it be achieved, or by what specific date or cycle?
How will you measure its progress or success?
Why do you need it?
- 6 Budget**
Funders expect you to be transparent and communicate openly about how funds will be spent; include all costs associated with the project and double check that the budget adds up.
- 7 Partnerships and Collaborations**
Get the right partners and demonstrate how you can deliver your project together
- 8 Supporting Documents**
These will vary depending on the requirements of the grant; make sure they are specific to your council and governance



[The National Lottery Community Fund Wales](#)
[People in the Lead](#)

Useful Information

LOCAL BUSINESSES in your area may be providing community funding opportunities. Many high street banks & supermarkets offer grants; are able to support and donate products; staff give time to volunteer or nominate support for local projects.

Legislation & Powers

Local Government Finance Act 1992 s 50 calculation of budget requirement requires a precepting authority (in Wales) to make calculations in relation to each financial year

Section 102 (3) of the 1972 Act provides that a local council can appoint persons who are not its members to committees and sub-committees,

Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 s 52(1) as soon as reasonably practical after the end of each financial year a community council must prepare and publish a report (an "annual report") about the councils priorities, activities and achievements during that year.

Powers & justifications can differ, councils should consider their specific circumstances.

For advice & guidance, councils may wish to contact their One Voice Wales Development Officer.

admin@onevoicewales.wales

Are there [s106 & CIL](#) funding opportunities in your local authority area?

Member Councils can access [One Voice Wales Finance & Governance Toolkit](#) and the [Financial Planner](#)

Developing Partnerships

- Collaborate with local community groups to enhance and provide essential services. Councils can provide grant support to retain or enhance existing provision.
- Identify opportunities for joint funding bids and create partnerships to access grant funding where councils can't apply.
- Develop volunteering opportunities to deliver council projects.
- Invite members of the public to join council committees and support your work
- Establish a community consultation group and work together to identify need and joint solutions

Examples of Good Practice

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council raised its precept to fund growing responsibilities and community needs.	Chepstow Town Council create public information showing a breakdown on what a <u>£1 will fund</u> .
Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council held a <u>community meeting</u> to inform and communicate precept increase	Llanddulas & Rhyd-y-Foel Community Council developed a <u>community plan</u> to support funding and resource



Watch our [One Voice Wales Councils Connect session: Funding, Grants & Precepts](#)

Funding Information & Potential Opportunities

[National Lottery Awards for All](#)

[Community Foundation Wales](#)

[Funding Wales](#)

One Voice Wales offer a training module on Making effective Grant Applications

Want to Find Out More?

For more information on the One Voice Wales Cost-of-Living Crisis project contact the team at:



CoLC@onevoicewales.wales



<https://bit.ly/3KYHftK>