

# Elevate – Community Renewal and Resilience Fund (2026–2028)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## 1. What is the Elevate – Community Renewal and Resilience Fund?

This grant program provides financial support to community-based projects in areas identified as most deprived in the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough. It aims to improve social cohesion, reduce inequality, and build community capacity.

## 2. Who is eligible to apply?

Constituted community, voluntary & charitable groups, faith-based groups or Schools must be:

1. Based within the top 10-30% of the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures (NINIS), identified Areas of Risk within the Borough and,
2. Delivering projects within the top 10-30% of the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures (NINIS), identified Areas of Risk within the Borough, these are:

- Monkstown 1
- Whitehouse
- Mossley 2
- Carnmoney 1
- Glengormley 2
- Farranshane
- Springfarm 2
- Ballycraigy
- Steeple
- Stiles

Neighbourhood Renewal Areas already funded under the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme are not eligible.

## 3. What types of grants are available?

- **Small Grant:** Between £5,000 and £10,000 (100% funding)

- **Large Grant:** Up to £25,000 (100% funding)

Both grants must align with the Department for Communities' (DfC) Areas at Risk objectives.

#### **4. What can be funded?**

Eligible costs include: - Programme materials (up to £1,500) - Facilitation costs - Small capital items (up to £1,000) - Management costs (up to 10% of budget) – Project related running costs (for project delivery, up to 10%)

#### **5. What cannot be funded?**

The programme does not cover: - Salaries - Clothing, alcohol - Duplicate or retrospective projects - Sports activity unless meeting community development aims

#### **6. How do I apply?**

Applications are submitted digitally via the Council platform. Guidance, forms, and support are available at Council's Grants and Funding webpage.

#### **7. What supporting documents are required?**

- Constitution
- Community Development Plan
- Safeguarding Policy (if applicable)
- Public and Employers' Liability Insurance

#### **8. How will my application be assessed?**

Scored on: - Evidence of need (30 points) - Alignment with Antipoverty objectives (40 points) - Strategic fit (20 points) - Climate impact (5 points) - Match funding (5 points)

Minimum score: 60%.

#### **9. Application Timeline**

- **Opens:** 1 December 2025
- **Closes:** 23 January 2026
- **Assessment:** February 2026
- **Outcome Notices:** March 2026

#### **10. What happens if successful?**

A Letter of Offer will be issued and must be returned within 10 days. Funding is paid 50% up front, and 50% on submission of approved project claims.

## **11. Can I appeal a decision?**

Yes. Contact the Community Development Grants team for the appeals process.

## **12. Need help?**

Contact: - **Community Planning Business Support:**

cpbs@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk - **Funding Unit:**

fundingunit@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk - **Phone:** 0300 123 4568

*This FAQ is intended to support applicants to the Elevate – Community Renewal and Resilience Fund and should be read in conjunction with the full grant guidance document.*