

**The Meridian Water Community Chest – large grants fund background, guidance and application form:**

**Background:**

The Meridian Water Community Chest Fund is a new fund that has been set up to help improve neighbourhoods closest to Meridian Water in the wards of Upper Edmonton, Edmonton Green and Lower Edmonton.

These three Edmonton Wards in Enfield are amongst the most deprived in the UK and to help bridge the gap towards other parts of the Borough, the Council wishes to ensure that residents local to the Meridian Water development are the primary beneficiaries of the benefits brought about by the investment into the area.

As the Meridian Water development moves forward in delivering new homes, new infrastructure, new public realm and community facilities, partners (developers and contractors) to the project are currently contributing into this new Community Chest fund that you can now apply for. Further contributions are expected through the lifetime of the scheme from future partners

We are now inviting bids for a share of this new grant fund to help fund Edmonton focussed community projects. The fund will provide grants to organisations to support community-led projects in the three Edmonton Wards.

The Meridian Water Community Chest Fund can be used to help deliver a wide range of projects (both capital and revenue) and we want to fund projects that will make a real difference to the lives of local people and communities.

**Fund allocation & evaluation protocol:**

The fund is open to bids from not-for-profit external stakeholders to the Council (such as faith groups, schools, community groups and charitable organisations).

The fund will be split as follows:

1. Around 90% of the fund will be allocated to 'large' grants from £10,000 to £60,000 (with larger grants made in exceptional circumstances – further details below).
2. The remaining percentage of the fund will be allocated to 'small' grants for more informal local based groups. These grants will be up to £2500 and information, guidance and criteria specifically for these smaller local grants on these can be accessed here: [www.meridianwater.co.uk/community](http://www.meridianwater.co.uk/community)

*\* This exact % split will depend on numbers of applications received.*

Final decisions on funding allocations will be made by the Executive Director of Place upon recommendation of the Meridian Water Community Chest Community Panel, with representation from Senior officers of the Council alongside representation from community groups based in each of the three Edmonton Wards. All applications will be assessed to ensure they meet the key eligibility criteria as set out below, then scored against the other criteria as set out.

The decision of the Executive Director of Place and this panel is final. There is no appeals process. Unsuccessful candidates will be given feedback and amended applications can be submitted to another round. Details of the projects to receive funding will be published on our website.

**Support with project planning can be accessed through Enfield Voluntary Action** <https://enfieldva.org.uk/> **with advice from a dedicated Community Accountant and Development & Funding Adviser**: **Please email** **f.adams@enfieldva.org.uk**

Grant payments will be made to successful applicant organisations as follows: two thirds on signing of the legal binding grant contract agreement; and the final third on receipt of evidence of expenditure, project delivery and monitoring visit. (This will be fully defined with each individual project and set out in the signed agreed grant agreement).

NB - all successful applicants will be required to promote the project and acknowledge the Councils funding. This must be included in the promotion of their project and their work including photos or physical outputs. The source of the funding will be set out in promotion, linking projects to donor organisations wherever possible.

**Core Eligibility Criteria:**

**To be eligible, your proposed project must meet the following criteria:**

* **Bids must exceed the minimum funding threshold of £10,000**
* **There is no upper limit for how much applicants can bid for but any application for over £60k should ideally showcase both match funding for the purposes of delivering this project and demonstrate a sustainable legacy for the project, either by something in a built form, a physical project, or setting out how the project delivery will continue once the grant expires.**
* **The delivery of this project is contingent on funding from Enfield’s Meridian Water Community Chest Fund.**
* **No Council departments can apply. Projects must not directly benefit individual councillors.**
* **An individual or for-profit businesses will not be considered (A group of individuals can come together under the banner of a terms of reference under the small grant pot:** [**www.meridianwater.co.uk/community**](http://www.meridianwater.co.uk/community) **)**
* **Organisations or groups submitting bids must be constituted and registered with a regulatory body (e.g. Charities Commission or Companies House).**
* **Organisations or groups submitting bids must be able to demonstrate sound financial performance and management. This will be reviewed if your application is successful.**
* **MW Community Chest cannot be used to fund the same project twice.**
* **You must have public liability insurance (though can be purchased through your application if successful).**
* **Whilst the fund can cover project related overheads, salaries or rent, the proposed project should not have significant ongoing financial/revenue implications, such as long-term maintenance or ongoing retained staff costs (except where it can demonstrate how on-going running costs can be funded from other sources). General running support costs, to enable the project to function, must be limited to 25% of your overall budget**
* **Must propose a project that delivers a clear community benefit within one, two, or all three of the Edmonton Wards of Lower Edmonton, Edmonton Green or Upper Edmonton.** (The focus on Edmonton is derived from the clear need expressed by the national Indices of Multiple Deprivation and the 2020 Enfield Poverty Commission Report. Meridian Water sits within these communities and the stated aim for Meridian Water that *‘local people are the primary beneficiaries of the benefits from the development’*).

If you are not an organisation who is based within one of these three Edmonton Wards but wish to deliver a project for the benefit of the residents of Edmonton, you will need to evidence that you have previously undertaken work in the area to benefit the residents of Edmonton and a thus have a track record of local delivery OR you should evidence your own research and feasibility into a brand new project (if based outside the three Edmonton Wards). Your project should thus be physically based in at least one of the Wards or be delivering a clear defined outcome there.

* **Must address at least one of the following themes from the 2020 Enfield Poverty Commission Report “All things being Equal”:**

**a) Improving a physical area within a community**

**b) Improving opportunity for local people, particularly around employment & skills**

**c) Improving life chances for young people**

**d) Addressing health inequalities**

Some example projects in these categories could be:

1. *Addressing security and crime, improving the look and feel of local streets & the public realm or adapting an area to make it more climate change adaptable;*
2. *Addressing equality, diversity and inclusion including employment and skills issues, language barriers, upskilling and retraining programmes, linking to Meridian Water opportunities – particularly cultural and creative activity;*
3. *After school and homework clubs, work experience and placements, paid internships, enhanced and diversified education provision;*
4. *Extended health and wellbeing provision, healthy eating classes, exercise classes, activities for elderly residents, young mothers etc*
* **Any application proposing work with young people will have to prove safeguarding is in place.**
* **Must be a not for profit organisation and must be formally constituted with a business (or equivalent i.e not a personal bank account).** You could be a faith group, a school, a charity, a social enterprise – as long as clearly defined as not-for-profit. Enfield Council department or services cannot apply.  (***NB - Informal groups without a formal constitution, like a Tenants and Residents Association or neighbourhood group, can alternatively apply to the MW Community Chest small grants fund for grants up to £2500 if a Terms of Reference for the purpose of delivering a project are drafted - details here*** [***www.meridianwater.co.uk***](http://www.meridianwater.co.uk)***)***

**MW COMMUNITY CHEST APPLICATION FORM:**

To help us evaluate the suitability of individual projects, applicants will need to provide relevant information (including evidence of anticipated costs, timescales and implementation risks) within the form below to demonstrate how the project will be delivered and implemented, as well as a brief rationale describing the goals and outputs of the project.

Applicants are also encouraged to submit visual evidence (e.g. photographs and illustrations) as part of your bid, alongside this completed form.

All funding bids must be made using the application form below. Please complete all sections of the form and submit it along with any other relevant information to support your bid (e.g. supporting documents) to ***meridianwater@enfield.gov.uk*** **before 5pm on Thursday 23rd December 2021.** Unfortunately, late applications will not be accepted.

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| **Project description (100 words max)** |
| **Title:** |
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| **Name of Organisation:** |
| **Type of Organisation:** |

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| **Project lead and contact details** |
| **Name:** |
| **Address:** |
| **Daytime Telephone Number:** |
| **Email address:** |

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| **Company registration / Registered charity reference / OFSTED reference (if applicable):** |  |
| **Bank Account Details:** |  |
| **Other relevant information:** | YOU ***MUST*** PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION ALONGSIDE YOUR APPLICATION |
|  | Constitution or memorandum & article of association or trust deed |
| Annual Report or recent project report |
| Safeguarding policy (You must include this if your organisation works with children and young people under 16 years of age or with vulnerable adults) |

**Description: Vision & goals of your project**

Applicants will need to provide a broad description of the project and explain how it fits with the wider objectives of the organisation or the group to which they represent.

The statement below should also provide a summary of what the project is aiming to achieve and what success will look like.

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| **Please describe your project IN NO MORE THAN 500 WORDS, how it will meet an identified need and what will your successful project look like? :** |

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| **Under which Poverty Commission Report recommendation theme does this project fall: (Please mark down all those that apply)** |
| **Physical improvements** |  |
| **Local opportunity** |  |
| **Employment and Skills** |  |
| **Young people** |  |
| **Health and wellbeing** |  |

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| **How many local residents will benefit from your project (roughly) ?** |
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**BUDGET PLANNING:**

Funding bids will need to include a full estimate of the project’s cost (including how much Community Chest funding is sought and the extent of match/grant funding available). Funding bids will be expected to investigate the potential opportunities to secure funding from alternative sources.

(Those locally led, small projects seeking smaller grant funding should apply to the MW Community Chest small grants fund here: [www.meridianwater.co.uk/community](http://www.meridianwater.co.uk/community))

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| **Total estimated cost of the project:** |  |
| **Total Funding sought from the MW Community Chest fund:** |  |
| **Is this Capital and/or revenue funding?** |  |
| **Details of other funding sources (where relevant):** |  |

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| **Please break down these overall figures into a rough budget *(NB – note only up to 25% can support general running costs, to enable the delivery of the wider project)*** |
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**PART B: SELECTION CRITERIA**

The degree of priority afforded to projects in the Meridian Water Community Chest fund will depend on the extent to which they meet the criteria set out below.

**IMPACT:**

**QUESTION 1: How will your project contribute to the needs of deprived communities in the Edmonton Wards and help tackle inequalities in this part of the Borough?**

Applicants will need to provide evidence of how the project will improve the places that matter to local communities, such as residents, businesses, community organisations and other stakeholders and/or how their lives will be improved and uplifted. Projects should be accessible to all sections of the community and be well-related to the local neighbourhood. It is anticipated projects will be delivered within one, two or three of the Edmonton Wards.

[Projects must meet at least one of the recommendations set out below. These priorities are based on the recommendations of the Enfield Poverty and Inequality Commission Report (January 2020): https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/your-council/enfield-poverty-and-inequality-commission/](file://C:\Users\ifreshwater\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\4XL2TREI\Projects%20must%20meet%20at%20least%20one%20of%20the%20recommendations%20set%20out%20below.%20These%20priorities%20are%20based%20on%20the%20recommendations%20of%20the%20Enfield%20Poverty%20and%20Inequality%20Commission%20Report%20(January%202020):%20https:\new.enfield.gov.uk\services\your-council\enfield-poverty-and-inequality-commission\)

The table below provides an overview of the recommendations of the Enfield Poverty and Inequality Commission report. Some potential example projects are listed on Page 4 above:

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| **RECOMMENDATION** | **LINKED QUESTION** |
| Fund a new integrated health and wellbeing centre… to meet the needs of people out of hours and those not registered with a GP and provide out of hours access for mental health services. | Will your project contribute to mental health and physical well-being (in particular hard-to-reach groups and out-of-hours patients)? |
| Enable increased use of social prescribing to improve public health for residents in the east of the borough.  | Will your project contribute to meeting the health care needs of individuals living in the east of the borough? |
| Create a Food Action Plan for Enfield, to ensure all families have access to healthy food.  | Will your project promote access to healthy food? |
| Prioritise the east of the borough for future play streets and school streets so children can play out safely and air quality is improved around schools in hot spots of poor air quality.  | Will your project contribute towards improved public safety and air quality around schools and play streets in areas of poor quality air in the east of the borough? |
| A whole-community approach should be taken to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in hotspots, with the council and the police working together to make public spaces safe to use for people of all ages. | Will your project help make public spaces safer, across all age groups, as part of a wider strategy of reducing crime and anti-social behaviour with partners? |
| Revamp the ‘safer schools’ programme for the borough’s schools.  | Will your project support the safety and security of children and young people, schools, parents and carers? |
| Revitalise youth services in the borough.  | Will your project help support and revitalise youth services in the borough?  |
| Work together to ensure that all Enfield’s children are ‘school-ready’. | Will your project help to make sure that children are emotionally and physically ready to attend school?  |
| Work together to make sure all of Enfield’s schools are ‘poverty proofed’.  | Will your project remove barriers to learning and social isolation, particularly children living in poverty?  |
| Increase access to ESOL lessons for both the children and parents of families for whom English is an additional language. | Does your project involve working with the voluntary and community sector to train and educate children and parents of families whose first language is not English?  |
| Ensure a line of sight to a decent job for all pupils by offering a work experience programme, volunteering opportunities and CV writing, matching local young people to the jobs of the future | Does your project offer work experience programme, volunteering and training opportunities and programmes in association with schools, businesses and other organisations? |
| Poverty reduction should be at the heart of the council’s new economic development strategy, which should set a target to reduce low pay within the Borough. | Does your project offer an opportunity to alleviate poverty and social exclusion, especially those on low wages and the unemployed? |
| Make it far easier for residents to set up their own businesses and thereby increase their income. | Does your project involve creating a new business or enterprise opportunity and will it increase the income of an existing or new business? |
| Increase volunteering opportunities for unemployed adults to boost skills and develop CVs. | Will your project increase volunteering opportunities to boost skills and employment opportunities among unemployed adults? |
| Ensure that residents from diverse backgrounds are supported into high quality jobs and do not face discrimination. | Will your project facilitate access to skills and high quality employment opportunities, especially people from diverse backgrounds? |
| Hold an annual two-day skills and employment fair, giving local people the chance to meet a range of potential employers and educational institutions.  | Will your project deliver local employment, business and skill outcomes (e.g. apprenticeships, training and supply chain opportunities)? |
| Make the Meridian Water development a ‘Living Wage Zone’ and use its wider procurement strategy to actively support decent work and fair pay in Enfield, drawing on existing good practice | Does your project contribute to fairer pay and help reduce the gap between income and living costs? |
| Free the poorest residents from the burden of problem debts by extending access to benefits advice, support around debt and good credit. | Will your project support the welfare and financial security of Enfield’s poorest residents (e.g. debt management, financial aid, signposting to advice etc)? |
| Promote the take up of local people’s full benefits entitlements so that households receive appropriate benefits and don’t get into debt either through under claiming or by receiving overpayments | Will your project help people to avoid debt and financial crisis? |
| The voluntary and community sector should have access to buildings at a low cost in a system that is accessible, transparent and easy to navigate. | Will your project facilitate access to community uses and buildings (including council-owned properties and civic spaces)? |
| Set up a new initiative to promote local fundraising for the benefit of local people. | Does your project have match funding in place or access to other sources of finance? |

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| **Please explain how your project will help put the identified recommendations of the Enfield Poverty and Inequality Commission Report into practice (as set out above).** You should include details of the outcomes you aim to achieve i.e. what difference will the project make: |
| Which recommendation(s) are you addressing with your project? | What outcomes will be realised? What difference would your project make? |
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| Any other support or interventions to address the recommendations of the Enfield Poverty and Inequality Commission Report: |

**TOTAL POINTS (SCORE): 50%**

**Question 2: How will your project contribute to the priorities of the borough set out in the Council Plan?**

Applicants are advised to look at the bigger picture in terms of the opportunities to create more inclusive and attractive places and transform the lives of our communities. The Council Plan: A Lifetime of Opportunities (2020-2022) has undergone extensive consultation with stakeholders, community groups and the public and will provide some useful pointers on how to develop a project or idea.

Projects will need to demonstrate how they meet at least one of the priority criteria outlined below.

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| Please explain how your project will help achieve the priorities set out in the Council Plan as follows: |
| **1.** **Good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods** |
| * Deliver housebuilding and regeneration programmes with our residents
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| * Drive investment to deliver good growth for London
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| **2.** **Safe, healthy and confident communities** |
| * Keep communities free from crime
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| * Inspire and empower young Enfield to reach their full potential
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| * Deliver essential services to protect and support vulnerable residents
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| * Create healthy streets, parks and community spaces
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| **3. An economy that works for everyone** |
| * Create more high quality employment
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| * Enhance skills and connect local people to opportunities
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| * Develop town centres that are vibrant, safe and inclusive
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| * Craft a cultural offer for Enfield to support London’s status as a world class city
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| **4. Climate Action** |
| * Create a carbon neutral borough (by 2040)
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**TOTAL POINTS (SCORE): 20%**

**Question 3: How will your project offer good value for money?**

This fund seeks to support projects that will have a long-lasting positive impact and will continue to deliver benefits to Edmonton communities, especially those on low incomes.

Projects should be self-sufficient/sustaining and should not impose additional costs on the council and other relevant partners. Bidders must also demonstrate how any revenue costs associated with each project will be funded and maintained over its lifetime.

In certain circumstances, we may consider paying a grant above £60,000 to facilitate the delivery of a project where it offers exceptional value for money, significant community benefits, match funding and a sustainable legacy.

If your project has secured funding from other sources, this will strengthen your bid. However, match funding or funding from alternative sources (e.g. grants or monies from a larger project) is not a requirement of the bidding process. Where funding has already been received towards a project or programme, this must be detailed in your application.

Projects must also comply with relevant policy and legal requirements (for example, on road safety, planning policy and environmental health).

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| Please explain how your project will offer value for money below: |
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**TOTAL POINTS (SCORE): 20%**

**Question 4: How will this project address the benefits of the development of Meridian Water and help support the on-going growth and prosperity of Edmonton?**

The onus will be on the bidder to demonstrate how the project will support the development and planned growth of Meridian Water and Edmonton. Projects will need to show how they would respond positively to the demands arising from new development in the area (for instance, deliver environmental improvements; better access to community facilities; secure long term maintenance of infrastructure or open space; encourage wider participation of local people to new or existing community activities etc).

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| **Please describe how your project will support the development and growth of the Meridian Water and Edmonton here:** |
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**TOTAL POINTS (SCORE): 10%**

**Delivery & implementation:**

**Question 5: Who will deliver and manage this project?**

Funding bids must provide details of how the project will be delivered and managed over its lifetime. This includes:

* the name of the lead partner or organisation (who will manage the day-to-day running of the project); and
* any other relevant delivery partners.

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| Please explain how the project will be delivered and managed here: |
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**Question 6: Can your project be delivered on time and budget?**

In this section, applicants will need to provide a brief timescale of the overall project (including indicative start and end dates and any key milestones).

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| **Please provide a timeline of your project and a breakdown of key milestones here:** |
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| **Will your project benefit from match funding or alternative and how much funding is in place from alternative sources? If so, please indicate below:** |
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Some projects will require further feasibility work to address technical issues and establish costs. In such instances, it may be appropriate to seek funds through a two-stage bid with funds allocated over more than one year:

Stage 1: feasibility/evaluation

Stage 2: implementation

All applicants must be able to demonstrate that the project can be delivered within the next two financial years: 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

**Question 7: Are there any risks to delivery of the project and how will you manage them?**

In this section, applicants will need to provide a description of the risks and issues associated with the delivery of the project, and how these risks can be mitigated.

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| **Please explain the risks and issues associated with your project and how you plan to address them here:**  |
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**Part C: Next steps**

Once applications have been submitted, projects that are eligible to receive funding will be assessed and evaluated against the criteria set out in part B above.

Please note that this funding is limited so not all eligible bids will be accepted. Every application will be considered on its individual merits.

As outlined, a panel of advisors comprised of the Executive Management Team from the Council (including representatives from People, Place, Resources and Chief Executive's department) and three community groups, representing each ward will receive and recommend bids suitable to be progressed. The final award decision will be made by the Executive Director of Place having received recommendations from the panel and successful projects will be notified. Details of the projects to receive funding will also be published on our website.

Where bids are successful, applicants will need to keep us informed about the progress of their project once the funding has been made available. This will include providing information on progress against the outcomes, defined by the bidder in answer to question 1. Successful bids will be published by the Council with projects tracked through their lifespan and further promotion and Public Relations undertaken. A monitoring and reporting schedule will be set out in full in the grant agreement for successful applicants.

All unsuccessful bids will receive feedback on why their bid was not selected. Unsuccessful applicants will be able to apply again in a later round of the bidding process to request funding for an updated project.