

Midlothian Council Large Grants Scoring Criteria 2027/30

The following questions are scored out of 5 using the following criteria.

Question	0/1 – weak application	2/3/4 – average application	5 – strong application
6. How well does the application evidence the unmet need?	Make no reference to research and data sources Not demonstrate direct community engagement Not demonstrate that there is a gap in services Not demonstrate how the activity will lead to better outcomes	Will make reference to relevant data sources but not detailed how it informs their project	Identify a target group and rationale for this Provide evidence of need from direct community engagement or research and/or use data from existing sources. Confirm that the project will fill a gap in services and be confident that it will not duplicate work Demonstrate clearly how the activity will lead to better outcomes for local people.
7. How clearly has the applicant detailed what activities or services they will deliver to reduce inequalities for Midlothian residents	No mention of mode/type of delivery. No details on activities/services that will be delivered	Makes reference to mode of delivery but insufficient detail about how this will work.	Clearly details what will be delivered, where and method of delivery. Clearly details scale of delivery.
8. Has the applicant clearly linked the outputs and outcomes to what they propose to deliver?	Outputs and outcomes are not clearly linked to Q7. Less than 1 and more than 6 outputs and outcomes are selected.	Only 1 of these has been completed fully: At least 2 and max 6 appropriate outputs and outcomes have been selected OR Outputs and outcomes have not been clearly linked to delivery detailed in Q7.	At least 2 and max 6 appropriate outputs and outcomes have been selected. Outputs and outcomes have been clearly linked to delivery detailed in Q7.

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9. How well does the application demonstrate how they intend to monitor and evaluate the project?	Make no mention of evaluation No baseline information provided	Only makes reference to limited evaluation methods No or limited relevant baseline information provided	Clear evaluation methods that will show how you will know you have made a difference. A variety of methods used. A baseline knowledge, i.e. what you know at the START of the project so that you can measure the changes.
10. How well does the application demonstrate partnership working?	Has no established partners in Midlothian and no track record of delivering in Midlothian.	Makes reference to other partners working in the area but not to how you are working together.	Strong Midlothian partnerships in place. Established track record of delivery in Midlothian. Contributes to community planning in Midlothian. Examples of collaborating on delivery, signposting, referring people to you/your project or taking referrals from them.
11. How well does the application demonstrate that the project will be accessible and promotes equality?	Makes no reference to policies and procedures promoting accessibility Staff and volunteers are not trained on equality and diversity	Makes satisfactory reference to Policies and Procedures that promote accessibility and can demonstrate how they use these Training provided to staff and volunteers on equality and diversity which is up to date	Policies and Procedures that promote accessibility in place and regularly reviewed Training provided to staff and volunteers on equality and diversity and updated regularly Makes reference to protected characteristics groups and how they engage including: Accessibility of premises -e.g. ramps, opening hours, outreach Marketing to under-represented groups, Plain English, Other languages, Large print Support offered to vulnerable service users to enable them to participate Active work with service users on equalities Partnership activities with specialist organisations

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12. How well does the organisation demonstrate they have the experience/expertise to deliver the project?	Makes no reference to established links with the community No track record of delivery in Midlothian Very limited detail on assets and resources available	Limited detail on track record of delivery in Midlothian and difference made Limited detail on assets and resources available Limited detail on established links with the local community	Knowledge of, and established links, with the local community A track record of delivery in Midlothian Identifies assets and resources available including space, equipment etc.
13. Do the project costings appear to be realistic, offer value for money and are they appropriate to the outputs and outcomes of the project (see question 7 and 8)?	Unrealistic costings Numbers rounded up with no detail Totals do not add up No breakdown of core costs No breakdown of staff costs (hourly rates, hours of delivery etc) Core costs are more than 25%	Provided overall costings with limited breakdown of core and staff costs Totals add up Core costs are max 25% and detailed	Provided detailed costings, including breakdown of core and staff costs, not in rounded up numbers Core costs are max 25% and detailed Totals add up