**Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership, Community Resilience Fund 2023/24**

**The scheme:**

The Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Rail Partnership (Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast railway line) has set up a one-off grant fund to support communities along the railway line in the counties of: Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire. The scheme is offering funding to allow communities along the line to build resilience or sustainability for their project / activities or new initiative. Community organisations, charities, and CIC’s (please see eligibility) with the local community (5 miles of the stations) can apply for funding to assist with projects targeting social inclusion, encouraging behaviour change, that link to healthy wellbeing activities and where possible encourage the use of public transport.

**Funding available:**

Grants of up to £1000 are available, and the total grant pot is £25,000.

**Eligibility**:

Any community organisation, charity, CIC or group that has a bank account in their name with at least two unrelated signatories and is based within 8km/5miles of the Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership Railway Line (Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast railway line) can apply.

If the organisation is not based within the given radius but can show how the grant funding will support a community that is, then this is acceptable. Individuals, businesses and statutory bodies cannot apply, and neither can national charities unless it is a local branch. Religious organisations can apply if the funding is not used to promote a particular faith or belief system.

Applicants do not have to be registered charities, but they must be a group with a bank account. In exceptional circumstances, groups can apply through a sponsoring organisation if they do not have a bank account, but they must be able to demonstrate that they have the ability to deliver in their own right.

**How can the grant be used?**

The grant can be used for projects that look to support grassroots projects that look to reduce social isolation and improve health and wellbeing within the local community. The grant will fund new or existing activities that meet the objectives of the scheme. The grant does not have to be solely for project costs, it can be used for running costs including staff, bills, rent or maintenance as long as it can be demonstrated that these costs cannot be met by other means and that it will help the organisation remain active and sustainable.

**How will the grant be assessed?**

Since there is a finite amount of money, applications will be assessed by a panel using a scoring system after the deadline, and if there are more suitable applications than funding available then applications with the higher scores will be prioritised. There is also an aspiration to spread the fund fairly along the line so this will be part of the consideration. Unsuccessful applicants will be given feedback and may be supported in other ways if appropriate. If applications do not exceed the fund, there will be a second bidding opportunity. Organisations should not apply for more than is needed so that the funds can be made available for as many groups as possible. A properly costed application will increase the likelihood of success.

The panel will be made up of some Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership board members as well as voluntary sector representatives and representatives from Transport for Wales and Avanti; the process will be administered by Groundwork North Wales.

For the best possible chance of success, make sure you cover the following:

* Within 8 km /5 miles of the Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership railway line or proof of benefitting a community that is
* Have a bank account or similar.
* Have demonstrated positive impact on the community.
* Have demonstrated how the grant will help sustain the organisation or an activity.
* Have shown that costs cannot be met by other means.
* The bid is well- costed.
* Have shown a track record of delivery
* Have enclosed all the documents requested
* Have answered all the questions as required
* Have signed correctly and agree with all the declarations

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| **Date** | **Activity Deadline** |
| 29th February 2024 | Deadline for submission of applications |
| 7th March 2024 | Decisions will be made by the panel |
| 30th June 2024 | Project completion end date |
| 31st July 2024 | Final date for end of project report and evidence to be submitted |

* **Match funding** is not a requirement of the grant and organisations will be able to combine the grant with other funding in order to deliver a project or achieve an outcome. If this is the case, then monitoring and impact needs to show this and only a proportion can be claimed (no double counting).
* **What sort of monitoring is needed?** If you are successful in getting a grant a few monitoring requirements will be requested. For example, you will need to provide evidence of spend and be able to describe the impact of the grant including numbers of people impacted and any feedback you’ve received. Photos will be welcomed as long as you have gained permission from any individuals in them.
* **Publicity** The Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership will want to publicise the positive impact of the fund so grant recipients will be asked for consent for the information provided to be utilised for local publicity, on the website and on social media. The partners listed at the bottom of the form may wish to do the same. If there are legitimate reason not to publicise the use of the grant, it will be considered.
* **Is there any help available to make the application?** All groups can go to their local CVC in order to get support with filling in applications. Questions about the fund itself can be asked by contacting [info@groundworknorthwales.org.uk](mailto:info@groundworknorthwales.org.uk)

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| **SECTION 1 QUESTIONS – YOUR INFO** | **YOUR ANSWER** | | **GUIDANCE NOTE** |
| Organisation name |  | | Your organisation must be based within 8km/5miles of the Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership railway line |
| Address including postcode |  | | This should be the official address of your organisation. We will check it against the other documents you provide |
| Organisation contact details | Phone: | | Please give your organisation’s phone no, email, & website. If you don’t have any of these, please put  N/A. |
| Email: | |
| Website: | |
| Legal structure | Constituted Group |  | Please tick any that apply, and enter the registration number, if applicable. We will check these details, so please check that the information is accurate. |
| Registered Charity |  |
| CIC |  |
| Faith Based Group |  |
| Other (please specify) |  |
| Signatories – names of 2 unrelated signatories on the group’s bank account | 1. | | To apply you must have a bank account which does not belong to an individual. The account should be in the name of group or organisation and have two unrelated signatories. |
| 2. | |
| Contact details of application signatory | Name: | | Please tell us about the person who has signed this application on behalf of your organisation. They should be authorised by your board / management committee to do so. This is the contact we will use to let you know the outcome of your application. |
| Role: | |
| Organisation address & postcode: | |
| Phone: | |
| Email: | |
| **SECTION 2 QUESTIONS –**  **PROJECT** | **YOUR ANSWER** | | **GUIDANCE NOTE** |
| Activities of your organisation |  | | Please describe the main activities of your organisation, who you help and approx. how many people per annum? (200 words max) |
| County of operation |  | | Which county do you operate in? |
| Nearest railway station |  | | What is your nearest Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership railway station and how far away are you? |
| Project title |  | | Please provide a project name that will clearly identify your project. |

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| Project start date |  | All projects must be completed by 30th June 2024 |
| Project description |  | Please provide an overview of the proposed activity including:  • a clear description of project activities  • who the funding will benefit  • how project beneficiaries will benefit  • what impact the project will have  500 words max |
| Evidence of need |  | How do you know your project is needed? e.g. survey results, identified gap etc. |
| **SECTION 3 QUESTIONS –**  **FINANCE / DOCUMENTS** | **YOUR ANSWER** | **GUIDANCE NOTE** |
| Grant requested | £ | How much are you requesting? (max £1000) |
| Items to be funded by the grant: | £ | Please detail what the grant will pay for |
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| **Bank account details** |  | **GUIDANCE NOTE** |
| Account name |  | Please provide details of the organisation account that the grant will be paid into (should you be successful) |
| Sort code |  |
| Account number |  |

**Declaration -** Please read this section carefully.

We are unable to accept an application if this section has not been completed. It will give details of how we will use the information you have provided in this form, and how we will store it.

1. By signing you agree that you are making an application for funding and that the information that you have provided is correct to the best of your knowledge.
2. You accept that if any information changes prior to an award being made you will need to notify the Conwy Valley and North Wales Community Rail Partnership at the earliest opportunity.
3. You understand that any grant awarded will only be made payable to the organisation which will benefit from the grant unless there are exceptional circumstances.
4. You understand that the grant funders will record the information contained on this application form so that we can make an informed decision of whether we can offer you support
5. You understand that if you are successful in receiving an award, Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership will retain the information on this application form for 3 years. If you are not successful, the information will be retained for 1 year.
6. You understand that if more information is needed, Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership or the grant administrators will contact you using the details you provided on the application and you consent to this contact.
7. You understand to ensure that the grant is used only for the purposes stated in the application and to return any surplus grant funding which is not used for the project applied for.
8. You understand that the Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership and partners listed below may use information and images from the application form and follow up impact report for publicity purposes.
9. You understand that any publicity or events generated by you in relation to this grant must include acknowledgement of the Conwy Valley and North Wales Coast Community Rail Partnership, including invitations to events and to provide quotations, website links and connections on social media.
10. You understand that the decision of the grant making panel is final.

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| **SIGNATORIES** | |  | |
| Chair / Secretary | | Trustee / Committee Member | |
| Name |  | Name |  |
| Role |  | Role |  |
| Signature |  | Signature |  |
| Date |  | Date |  |

Please send your application and accompanying documents to: [info@groundworknorthwales.org.uk](mailto:info@groundworknorthwales.org.uk)

by END OF DAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2024