



WORTHING BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Worthing Borough Council

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
Neighbourhood Fund

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What money is available in the 2024 funding round?

- Coastal East: Heene, Central and Selden: Pot total £11K
- Coastal West: Marine and Goring: Pot total £86K
- North West: Northbrook, Castle and Durrington: Pot total £108K
- North: Tarring, Gaisford and Salvington: Pot total £0K
- North East: Broadwater and Offington: Pot total £0K

The North and North East [CIL Areas](#) do not have money available for the 2024 funding round as less than £10,000 is available in the pot. This may either be due to the lack of development in the areas contributing CIL funds and/or the previous awarding of CIL funds from the pot.

Why do some CIL areas have a bigger pot of money than others?

The amount of money raised depends on the amount of development starting construction following the grant of planning consent within Worthing, which is liable for CIL. CIL is collected on liable developments (such as new houses) and the larger the amount of development in an area, generally speaking, the higher the level of CIL receipts. It should be noted that CIL is paid in instalments upon commencement of development so it may be some time following the granting of planning permission that CIL funds are made available.

15% of all the CIL receipts Worthing Borough Council receives in a CIL area must be allocated to the CIL Neighbourhood Fund.

It is worth noting that some funds have been allocated and spent during the funding rounds in 2021 & 2023. Details of these can be found on our [website](#).

Information on the amount of CIL funds collected each year is reported in our annual [Infrastructure Funding Statement \(IFS\)](#).

What types of projects can be funded?

In accordance with the Government's CIL Regulations the CIL Neighbourhood Fund should be used to support local projects which entail:

- the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area

The opportunity with this fund is the "*demand that the development places on an area*". This gives communities freedom and power to spend the money on a wide range of things, in consultation with the local residents. Local project proposals seeking support from the CIL neighbourhood fund, can therefore cover a broad range of project types, by using the opportunities that local development brings to an area.

The following is the definition of 'infrastructure', according to the Town and Country Planning Act 2008. Typically, there are three broad categories of infrastructure:

- Social infrastructure: e.g. art and culture, sports halls, education, health, social care, emergency services, community centres, village halls
- Physical infrastructure: e.g. pavements, cycleways, flood defences, highways, transport links
- Green infrastructure: e.g. public open space, woodlands

This might include projects that:

- tackle social isolation
- encourage community cohesion
- improvements to open space, play and leisure facilities
- projects that enhance your local environment, or tackles the impact on the climate
- activity that promotes outdoor spaces
- activity that enhance people's health and wellbeing
- public art projects
- encourage residents to use local activities they might not normally be able to access

Are there specific types of projects which the Council are looking to fund in 2024?

Yes, last year's CIL Neighbourhood Fund programme helped Worthing Borough Council better appreciate and celebrate the generosity, creativity, and ambition of our voluntary and community sector. We learned a huge amount about the amazing work our community organisations do across Worthing to help our residents, communities and green spaces thrive. We also paid close attention to the things we were hearing from our voluntary and community sector about their priorities and what support they needed from the council. We are making some changes to the information and

guidance for applicants in response to what we've learned from last year and because our funding pot is smaller this year.

The expectation is that projects which receive CIL funding in 2024 will be delivering projects in the 3 CIL Areas which have funding available (Coastal East, Coastal West and North West).

In particular in 2024, we are interested in projects which meet the following funding outcomes and themes:

Table 1: outcomes and themes which are priority areas for CIL Neighbourhood Fund applications in 2024

Outcomes	Themes
<p>Supporting Worthing's residents and communities to become more connected within and across neighbourhoods - we are looking to fund projects which involve a high level of collaboration between groups. This could be collaboration between groups that work in different neighbourhoods: bringing together different residents to grow relationships; learn from one another and connect to community spaces and places in their neighbourhoods.</p> <p>We are interested in funding groups who want to develop new ideas and/or adapt their ways of working to deliver projects focused on bridging gaps between communities and reaching out to those residents who might not otherwise get the support they need</p>	<p>Improving health and wellbeing - projects which involve different groups of residents and communities (including young people) coming together in the neighbourhood to take part in community activities and/or action that reduces social isolation, promotes feelings of belonging and increases health and wellbeing. This could also be about connecting residents at risk of social isolation to parks, open spaces and the seafront</p>
<p>Supporting Worthing's residents and communities to become more involved in designing projects - we are keen to fund groups which can demonstrate how they are involving residents and communities in the design of projects. For example, if a project's beneficiaries are young people, we would be looking for evidence that young people have been directly involved in shaping the project proposal and will be involved in delivery. This type of approach is sometimes called 'co-design' or 'co-production'</p>	<p>Caring for our neighbourhoods and communities - projects which involve residents and communities in caring for our streets, our open public spaces (i.e. parks, seafront, community gardens etc...) and our community buildings</p>
	<p>Community cooperation - projects which seek to test and develop new approaches to addressing the cost of living and financial inequalities through schemes such as bulk-buying,</p>

	community food growing and dining schemes, food co-ops, and shared resources (i.e. community transport)
	Tackling environmental issues - projects which involve residents and communities taking action on nature recovery and climate change mitigation (i.e. water and flood management, community composting, waste reduction, food growing etc...)

The Council will accept a wide range of projects, as stated in the ‘What types of projects can be funded?’ section above. However, if there are a number of projects which meet the criteria but not enough CIL funds to be allocated to them all in a CIL area, then the projects will be scored by the assessment panels based on a range of criteria, including whether or not they meet the above outcomes and themes. Those which do will score higher.

What about projects that impact the whole town? Which CIL area should we apply to?

If your project has a base location (for example, where people meet for your project), then you should apply for the CIL area which the location is in. The expectation is that projects which receive CIL funding in 2024 will be delivering projects in the 3 CIL Areas which have funding available (Coastal East, Coastal West and North West).

However, if your project has no specific location, or has multiple locations across different CIL areas, then you should think about which CIL area will have the biggest positive impact from your project. Is there one CIL Area where your group works more intensely? Can you provide evidence that your project will have a positive impact on the residents in that CIL Area?

Alternatively, is there one area of development which has a link to your project?

Can I apply for a CIL Area even if our group doesn’t currently operate in those wards?

Yes, the Council would encourage groups to consider if there is the potential for them to begin operating in other parts of the borough, particularly if it could involve partnering with another organisation to run a project.

The assessment panel will be looking for groups to demonstrate in their application form that they can show where in the borough their project will be having a positive impact. How will it impact the residents/users of that CIL Area?

For example, if your group usually operates in the North CIL Area but you are looking to expand the project to a new part of the borough, can you partner with another organisation in Coastal West CIL Area to run the project in those wards?

Can I reapply for the CIL Neighbourhood Fund the next time if I have previously applied?

Yes, you may apply in the future for a different project (or future phase of the same project).

However, you cannot reapply in the future for more CIL money if the previous amount allocated has not been sufficient to run your project.

Can we put in more than one bid at a time?

We recommend that you prioritise one project which you need funded.

This allows fairer access to the funds for other groups and smaller projects. This will also avoid different bids which are dependent on each other.

Can the Council help with bid writing?

No, we don't currently have an in-house resource to support community groups with bid-writing but our partner [Community Works](#) can offer a range of support.

Community Works can provide some support with applying to the fund. Throughout the year there are free courses on bid writing, fundraising and chance to meet other funders in the area. They don't write funding bids but do provide training to skill your organisation up to be able to apply to a number of funds.

Can groups collaborate to bid for a project?

Yes, it is encouraged that groups work together to deliver a project.

The application form can only be completed by the 'lead' organisation, but it should be made clear in the form that the project is being delivered in collaboration with another group. By partnering with another organisation it may allow groups who are not eligible to apply on their own to help deliver a project using the CIL funds.

Can an umbrella group apply for multiple groups or can the groups apply individually?

The groups can apply individually, provided they meet the criteria. It is likely that the umbrella organisation will cover the criteria such as bank account, constitution etc.

An umbrella group could also apply on behalf of the smaller groups, if needed.

Is there anything we can do to help our bid look ‘stronger’?

The Council are keen to see groups who are running projects that they have developed with the beneficiaries of the project. For example, if your project is to work with young people, have you spoken to those young people about how you might design your project so that it will have the biggest impact?

Can churches or religious organisations apply for this fund?

CIL cannot be used to fund projects which relate solely to religious purposes.

However, if the project has a wider community benefit, then the group could apply.

Can groups who are based outside of Worthing apply?

Yes, however your group will have to demonstrate that there will be a tangible benefit to the communities in Worthing. Your project **MUST** be being delivered within one of the Worthing CIL areas with money available this funding round.

What will happen to any unspent funds from this funding round?

Any funds which aren't allocated this year, will roll forward to the next year. There is no requirement for all the funds to be allocated from a CIL area pot.

There is a requirement for 15% of all CIL funds to be spent in the neighbourhood where the development took place. Therefore, the money is ring-fenced for the CIL Neighbourhood Fund and can't be spent on other projects.

How will funds be allocated across different types of projects?

Funds will be allocated according to the evaluations which are undertaken by the assessment panel for each application. A copy of the evaluation form will be available on the website along with the application form.

**Could the assessment panel approve funding for a lower amount than was asked for?
Particularly in areas where there is less funding available?**

Yes, however it is likely that the assessment panel will have to consider how it will affect the delivery of your project.

Can 'match funding' include "in kind" contributions i.e. volunteering hours?

Yes, this should be included on the application form.

Volunteering time is valued between £10 and £20 per hour based on whether the role is non professional or professional, and a detailed report on this can be found here;

https://www.powertochange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Value_of_Volunteering_Working_Paper_Final.pdf

You can find more salary information here for costing up roles;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scale-up-going-rates-for-eligible-occupations/scale-up-going-rates-for-eligible-occupations>

If two groups submit applications for different projects, but they work together on certain projects, would that count against them when their applications are evaluated?

As long as the projects are different, then it would not count negatively. We encourage groups to collaborate on projects.

What happens if two groups want to run a joint project but are from different CIL areas?

We recommend that you name one organisation/group as the lead organisation, who will complete the application form. They will then apply for their CIL area and the application will be evaluated against other applications in that area.

Can the maintenance costs be incorporated into the project costs when submitting an application?

No, as CIL is a one-off project cost and there is no commitment to ongoing maintenance costs.

Where capital assets are purchased such as buildings, computers etc., the asset should remain a benefit to the community for its useful economic life.

Who can I speak to at the Council if I have questions?

More information will be available on the Council's [CIL Neighbourhood Fund webpage](#).

Regarding expressions of interest or questions with regard to the CIL Neighbourhood Fund, please contact:

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