

The aim of our Festival and Event Fund is to support the establishment and development of projects benefiting arts and cultural in Cumberland which look to achieve the wider objectives set out below. This can be long term initiatives or one-off events that seek to grow arts and culture in the Cumberland area.

You can apply for funding by filling in an application form which can be found on our website.

Please read the below before filling in the application form to ensure you meet the criteria.

Objectives

To support projects that:

- Are completely new.
- Are a project that is under 3 years old but are looking to include additional activity to improve event sustainability.
- Will develop the cultural offer within its locality or appeal more widely across Cumberland.
- Engage people from the local community.
- Develop the skills of volunteers.
- Maximise non-public sources of income, with a view to being sustainable and not dependent on funding.

Criteria

Applicants should:

- Demonstrate that the project will meet the objectives set out above.
- Demonstrate that the project requires funding to:
 - Develop and deliver an offering, person or event.
 - Start a new venture to grow a new audience to make it sustainable.
- Show that the funding will support an inclusive, community event, enabling something new to take place in the community that is 'needed' (i.e. it will not duplicate another similar event).
- Have a detailed budget breakdown in place and include with application, which includes a schedule of income/expenditure with evidence of match funding and any contingencies.
- Be a community group, charity or not-for-profit organisation, which does not give potential sources of income to charity and has appropriate governance in place (constitution etc.)
- Show that the responsible organisation understand the requirements of organising a successful event and have the capacity to deliver what they plan to do.

- Have appropriate insurance, licenses and permissions in place.
- Correct management of risk – we will need to see full risk assessments ahead of the event.

Grants are between £100 - £2000

Please note:

- Initiatives or events that have had three previous successful grants applications will not be eligible for further grants.
- This fund will not cover costs for Christmas Lights switch on events, carnivals or bonfires.

Application process:

1. Fill in your application form. It is important to apply well in advance of your festival or event as we do not fund retrospectively. Panel meetings take place monthly so we welcome applications at any time. Following the meeting, you will be informed in writing if your application is successful or not.
2. A completed Evaluation Report should be received by Cumberland Council no more than four weeks after the project is completed.
3. Successful applicants will be awarded 90% of their grant in advance and the final 10% upon receipt of a completed Evaluation Report, unless agreed by prior arrangement.