

## **Newark and Sherwood Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund & Environmental Improvement Grant Scheme**

### **Guidance for Applicants**

#### **Overview Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund**

The Newark and Sherwood Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund Scheme supports town and parish councils/meetings to deliver new or improved play areas. It is aimed at sites not owned by the District Council and helps local partners invest in safe, accessible and high-quality play opportunities for their communities.

Grants of up to £10,000 are available but must be matched funded to an equivalent amount. Match funding should be at a minimum amount of 50% of the total project costs.

*Example 1:* if you want to deliver a £20,000 project Newark and Sherwood District Council will contribute £10,000 provided there is match funding of £10,000 from the town or parish.

*Example 2:* If you want to deliver a £35,000 project Newark and Sherwood District Council will contribute £10,000 providing there is match funding of £25,000 from the town or parish.

*Example 3:* If you want to deliver a £5,000 project Newark and Sherwood District Council will contribute £2,500 providing there is match funding of £2,500 from the town or parish.

#### **Overview of Environmental Improvement Grant**

Alongside our play area improvements, we have additional funding available to support environmental improvements in Newark and Sherwood District Council area.

This grant is limited to those organisations who are also bidding for the Town and Parks Legacy Fund.

This grant is to support a wide variety of schemes that improve areas for either people or nature and include items such as benches, hanging baskets, signage etc.

Grants are available for up to £5,000 with no need to match fund, however towns and parishes should be aware that Newark and Sherwood District Council accepts no ongoing liability so thought should be given locally to the maintenance of the intervention.

### **Who Can Apply**

Eligible applicants:

- Town Councils,
- Parish Councils
- Parish Meetings.

Applications must be endorsed by the relevant District Ward Councillor(s). You can check the relevant ward member(s) [here](#)

Only one bid can be submitted by each organisation (This single bid can incorporate both Town and Parish Legacy Fund and the Environmental Improvement Grant).

### **What the Grants Can Fund**

**The Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund** can support:

- New play areas,
- Improvements to existing play areas,
- Accessibility enhancements,
- Projects that improve safety and usability for women and girls,
- Improvements in areas identified as having play provision shortfalls.

Where possible, applicants should consider catering for a range of age groups.

**The Environmental Improvement Grant** can support

- Habitat creation and improvements e.g. planting and habitat boxes
- Street scene improvements e.g. hanging baskets, benches, signage

### **What the Grants Cannot Fund**

1. Projects outside the district,
2. Applications from private or profit-making organisations,
3. Projects on sites with restricted access such as schools,
4. Retrospective applications,
5. Ongoing revenue or maintenance costs.

### **Match Funding Requirements**

#### **Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund**

The grant can fund up to 50% of total project costs, to a maximum of £10,000.

Applicants must clearly set out their financial contribution and any additional match funding secured when third part funding is to contribute.

#### **Environmental Improvement Grant**

The grant can fund 100% of total project costs, to a maximum of £5,000. However, as set out above, Newark and Sherwood District Council accepts no ongoing liability so thought should be given locally to the sustainability of the intervention.

### **How Applications Will Be Assessed**

To be successful, applicants must demonstrate;

- Local need,
- Ward Member endorsement,
- Match funding,
- Clear proposals.

For the [Play Area Improvement Scheme](#), priority is given to applications that;

- Improve accessibility,
- Support safer use by women and girls,
- Address play provision shortfalls,
- Benefit multiple age groups.

For the [Play Area Improvement Fund](#), applicants should also refer to the following supporting documents:

- [Designing Play Areas that Feel Safe for Women & Girls Summary](#)
- [Open Space Strategy Summary](#)

### **Application Process**

Download the application form and related documents:

[Parks and open spaces development plan | Newark & Sherwood District Council.](#)

Submit completed applications to:

[Parks.Development@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](mailto:Parks.Development@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk)

Environmental Services will confirm receipt and request any missing information.

### **Application Deadline**

Applications must be submitted by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026. A final decision on applications will be made in November 2026.

### **Conditions of Grant**

Recipients must;

- Notify the Council of project changes,
- Provide progress updates and evaluations,
- Comply with legal obligations,
- Spend within 12 months,
- Agree that funds will only be made available upon receipt of invoicing and proof of delivery.
- Allow project publicity via the District Council's communications channels
- Provide before and after photographs
- Funds will be made available upon receipt of invoicing and proof of delivery

### **Equal Opportunities**

Newark and Sherwood District Council welcomes applications from all Town and Parish Councils and is committed to fair and inclusive access.

### **Contact Information**

Environmental Services Team - [Parks.Development@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](mailto:Parks.Development@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk)