

**Wesleyan Large Grants – Top Tips for Groups**

This document is to be used in conjunction with the [Fund Factsheet](https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Wes-Large.pdf).

**Financial Guidance**

* Any projects must place a focus on sustainability, and detail plans in place to ensure the project will continue after the grant has been spent.
* Where match funding is required to deliver the full project costs, groups are required to detail where this match is coming from, whether it has been secured and to detail contingency plans should the funding not be secured.
* Budgets must be clear and precise, itemising the areas that the fund will be providing support. We expect to see accurate costings and be clear where any grant money will be spent.
* It is the preference of Wesleyan to be the majority funder and to support flagship projects. Grant applications that fulfil this will be prioritised.

**Projects and Priorities**

The Fund Factsheet refers to the Aims of the Wesleyan Large Fund and the three key priorities of the fund. Wesleyan look for projects that resonate with their values. This section will help you to understand types of projects Wesleyan has a focus on funding, as well as the outcomes they wish to achieve:

* Education – projects that address positive social mobility, disadvantage and raising aspirations. Initiatives that develop individuals’ skills and employability are also of high importance.
* Health – projects that address mental and physical wellbeing and create opportunities for inclusion.
* Social – Wesleyan Foundation aims to support projects that develop conscious inclusion, so will prioritise projects that bring the community together.
* Other priorities – Projects that can demonstrate an ongoing sustainability, both from a financial and an environment perspective. In addition, projects which build in an element to help reduce an organisation’s carbon footprint.

**General Hints and Tips**

* The Wesleyan Foundation wants to support projects where they can have the most impact. Ensure your application details the breadth of the positive changes your project will make. This also means that Wesleyan prefers to be the majority funder.
* Faith-based organisations – **The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland** manages the delivery of The Wesleyan Foundation Large and Small Grants in Northern Ireland. They are unable to accept applications from Faith Based organisations or projects that promote religion. For more information visit the Funding/Eligibility section on the website **www.communityfoundationni.org**
* Common reasons for rejection:
	+ Application ineligibility – please read the guidance fact sheet carefully, as we often must turn down applications due to them not meeting the requirements of the fund. These reasons include applying for over 20% of the organisation’s income, insufficient policies, or length of time an organisation has been set up, unclear links to Wesleyan’s priorities.
	+ Low evidence of need
	+ Unclear outcomes or impact of the project
	+ Concerns around the long-term sustainability of the project.

**Please note that if funded by Wesleyan Large Grants, you will not be able to reapply for funding for 3 years after the award of the initial grant.**