

## **Eildon Neighbourhood Support Fund 2024/25 – Criteria**

The panel discussed the criteria that was in place for the 2023/24 and were mostly content with the current wording and the maximum grant award set at £10,000.

For 2024/25, the panel would like to add in some additional wording, as follows:

*“Applications from organisations that have previously received funding from the Eildon Neighbourhood Support Fund will be considered on their own merits. However, preference will be given to those organisations that can demonstrate their project is financially viable and justifiable and that steps to explore other avenues of funding have already been taken.”*

There have been many discussions throughout the 2023/24 financial year regarding applications for projects that require recurring funding year-on-year and whilst the panel is keen not to outright exclude organisations from applying if their annual project/event requires support, they do want to ensure applications for a wide variety of projects are given the opportunity of financial support from the Eildon Neighbourhood Support Fund.

---

## **Eildon Assessment Panel Membership**

Three of the current panel members have reached the end of their three-year appointment. This was discussed at the most recent panel meeting and there was a real sense of disappointment that the three-year period had come to an end as all members have enjoyed the challenging and rewarding nature of the assessment process.

The question was raised whether the current members could stay on the panel in their current position, and from an officer perspective, we are happy to support that. However, we felt it was important to raise this at the Area Partnership to ensure that members and attendees were comfortable with this. As officers, we also recommend that there is another recruitment drive to encourage more members of the Eildon community to join the assessment panel to introduce new perspectives to the assessment process and to continue to provide an opportunity for volunteers to have a say on where their locality’s community funding is spent.

---