



Belfast
Harbour

COMMUNITY AWARDS



BELFAST-HARBOUR.CO.UK/COMMUNITYAWARDS

BELFAST HARBOUR COMMUNITY AWARDS

TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF GRASS-ROOTS COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND CHARITIES.

BELFAST HARBOUR IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING PROJECTS THAT HELP TO TRANSFORM OUR COMMUNITY AND HELP LOCAL PEOPLE THRIVE.



WHO CAN APPLY?

Any group or not-for-profit organisation may apply. Individuals and businesses are not eligible and we do not support projects with religious or political objectives. The applications are evaluated by the Belfast Harbour Community Awards Management Team twice yearly to determine funding allocation.

The Belfast Harbour Community Awards is open to projects targeting the following areas and which, ideally, are based within the Greater Belfast area.

Awards categories

- Supporting Employability and Skills
- Supporting our Environment
- Supporting Communities

WHAT DO THESE CATEGORIES COVER?

Supporting Employability and Skills – creating a healthy sustainable workforce, both for now and the future

- Supporting initiatives tackling underemployment in NI.
- Giving a chance to those who face significant barriers to work.
- Digital Skills.

Supporting our Environment – supporting a sustainable environment for current and future generations

- Working with partners to deliver environmental education.
- Using Belfast Harbour's position to heighten the level and amount of biodiversity activity occurring across NI.

Supporting Communities – identifying and tackling social issues key to the sustainability of local communities

- Supporting the empowerment of people to achieve their potential.
- Sustaining our rich and varied maritime heritage.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPLICATION?

The project must positively impact the local community. The activity relevant to the application must not have begun yet, the project must be generally accessible – that is, it must benefit a diverse local community base.

Organisations must submit a detailed proposal about the project, including costs, and fill in the Belfast Harbour application form for the request to be considered. They should also include a list of their Board members and audited accounts.

WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

The Belfast Harbour Community Awards Fund provides grants of up to £5,000.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

All proposals received will be assessed using the following criteria:

- How does the proposal align with Belfast Harbour's Responsible Business priorities as outlined by the Themes?
- What positive change will the activity deliver for individuals and/or communities?
- What benefits will the project provide to Belfast and/or Northern Ireland?
- Delivery of value in relation to outcomes vs. costs will be assessed.

- Is the proposal innovative and original?
- Is it possible to evaluate impacts?
- Detailed costs and details of funding from other sources must be provided with every community fund application.

Applications will be scored against the above criteria, with available funding allocated in order of merit, as appropriate, and until the point when available funding is over-subscribed.

Grassroots to Belfast Harbour means you are a small, indigenous, not for profit organisation (charity, Community Interest Company, sports club or community group) which works in partnership with the local community/communities to achieve positive impacts and outcomes to support those in need, create connections, develop skills or improve our environment for the greater good.



SHORTLISTING PROCESS

All applications will be shortlisted, on the basis of the criteria, and Belfast Harbour will aim to communicate a decision within four weeks of each funding deadline.

PUBLICITY

Applicants should be prepared to participate in media and PR activity surrounding successful projects, in both the local press and in Fund communications.

HOW ORGANISATIONS CAN APPLY?

Applications can be made through the Belfast Harbour website.

In addition, applicants may be required to complete a second stage process. This may include a visit to the project, meeting with a Belfast Harbour representative or a request for further information.

Applications for this year's Awards are accepted from 13th September to 4th October 2024.

Applications made outside of these periods will not be accepted. In year one, allocated funding from the Community Awards will total approximately £100K.

FUTURE APPLICATIONS

1. If your organisation is unsuccessful in obtaining money from Belfast Harbour Community Awards you must leave a period of 12 months from the date of your application before applying again.
2. If your organisation is successful in obtaining funding from Belfast Harbour Community Awards you must leave a period of 1 year from the date of your application before applying again.



APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

1. Preference will be given to organisations that have charitable status.
2. Applicants must have been established for a minimum of 24 months and be able to demonstrate financial records for a minimum of 12 months.
3. Preference will be given to applications and projects that benefit all sections of the community, regardless of age, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation or religion.
4. Belfast Harbour Community Awards will not be awarded to organisations which have statutory responsibilities such as local authorities, hospitals, surgeries, clinics or schools, unless it is for a project which is over and above the core activities and statutory obligations.
5. Applicants must provide details of programme feasibility, e.g. level of interest, expected number of participants and intended outcomes/monitoring.
6. Applicants cannot be individuals.
7. General funding for medical purposes will not be supported.
8. Belfast Harbour Community Awards funds will not be awarded retrospectively to projects that have already been carried out or have already commenced.
9. Belfast Harbour Community Awards funds will not be awarded for the purchase of land and buildings.
10. Belfast Harbour Community Awards funds will not be made available for salaries (including salaries and overheads).
11. Belfast Harbour Community Awards funds will not normally be awarded for general repair and maintenance of buildings although a specific item of community benefit may be allowed, such as security or adaptations for disabled use.
12. Belfast Harbour Community Awards funds will not be made to political parties, commercial organisations or those which are working for profit.
13. Belfast Harbour Community Awards funds will not be made available for recurrent expenditure or running costs.
14. A maintenance plan may be required for projects which involve the creation of a physical asset e.g. a garden requiring ongoing maintenance.
15. All successful organisations who receive funding from Belfast Harbour Community Awards are required to complete an evaluation report which provided following the completion of your project. The final 20% of funding will be paid upon receipt of the evaluation report.
16. The following types of events/projects are considered to be ineligible:
 - Programmes with political or religious objectives
 - Programmes that denigrate, exclude or offend minority community groups
 - Programmes that may present a hazard to the community
 - Programmes that create environmental hazards
 - Programmes that may be perceived to be controversial
 - Programmes offered by advocacy, lobby or special interest groups whose mandate is to influence government policy.



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