



Frequently Asked Questions

Will guidance be provided to complete the DFCIF application form?

Yes, A DFCIF Guidance document is available online and there will be six pre application workshops for you to attend to provide support on how to complete the DFCIF application form. Further one to one support is also available from the Wigan Borough Community Partnership. Full details are available at: <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Deal-Communities/Communities-Investment-Fund.aspx>

We've already received The Deal for Communities Small Investment fund before, can we re-apply?

Yes you can apply for repeat funding but organisations that haven't received funding previously may get priority.

Can we go over the specified word limit on the application form?

No, please do not go over the word limit, keep your application concise and to the point, we will ask you if we require more information.

Can we attach extra documents to our application?

We would not recommend this at Stage One, unless the attached documents are deemed essential to your application e.g. Letter of Support.

Do I need to keep receipts for any purchases I make with the DFCIF monies?

Receipts should be obtained for all cash purchases. All invoices and receipts should be kept for 7 years after the project has ended. We may ask you to provide us with information at any time during the investment or up to 7 years after the investment has ended. Please note random spot checks will be carried out from time to time and you may be required to produce evidence of where you have spent the money at short notice.

What exactly defines a partnership and a joint application?

A partnership is defined as a group of like-minded individuals working together to achieve the same

aim. A joint application is two or more organisations applying together with one organisation determined as lead/contact.

If we are a new project applying for a Big Idea Investment how can we provide case studies and evidence that our idea will work?

If you are a new project you need to articulate only the demand for the project at Stage One. If you are successful to Stage Two, we would require you to provide evidence of consultation to support the need for your project.

Can groups / organisations replicate a project that has worked in other areas, if the service is not currently available in our borough?

Yes, as long as it is sustainable and there are no groups providing this project in the Wigan borough.

If you're project covers more than one priority is that better or confusing to the application?

We will consider all priorities; however you must choose one primary objective that your project addresses.

If I am successful in achieving Big Idea Investment what monitoring / evaluation will be required?

If you receive funding for a Big Idea, you will receive a dedicated evaluation officer who will meet with you to agree an evaluation plan to confirm how you will be monitored. You will then have monthly catch ups to capture regular data. You will also be partnered with a service mentor who will have the appropriate skills set to tackle the issues arising. Once a year, you will be required to complete a detailed monitoring return that will bring together all the major successes, challenges in the last 12 months and identifies any opportunities or threats for the next year. You are also asked to complete a cash flow. An impact statement is also produced to cover your successes, challenges, impacts and next steps.