

Community Investment Grant Survey Results from the Know Your Patch Network (Stroud District Voluntary & Community Sector)

1. Have you ever applied to Stroud District Council Community grant? (This is a different fund to the Covid-19 resilience fund)

								Response Percent	Response Total	
1	Yes							58.33%	7	
2	No							41.67%	5	
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	1.42	Std. Deviation	0.49	Satisfaction Rate	41.67	answered	12
	Maximum	2	Variance	0.24	Std. Error	0.14			skipped	0

If 'No' why haven't you? (4)

1	16/09/2020 13:17 PM ID: 148326882	We had no need to
2	16/09/2020 17:51 PM ID: 148348876	Our group is just over 3 years old. We have had some funding through other agencies and covid funding because of our community response. We have found other avenues that are user friendly too. However we are growing quickly, especially because of covid and the many projects we have started so are looking for grants going forward to continue growing our projects.
3	16/09/2020 18:58 PM ID: 148351696	Previously didnt need it. Now do need oit
4	16/09/2020 22:10 PM ID: 148358386	I was not aware about it. I am not sure what is this grant is for



2. What kind of funding would be most helpful to your organisation?






							Response Percent	Response Total
1	Core staff costs						91.67%	11
2	Building costs						25.00%	3
3	Digital improvements						25.00%	3
4	Project funding						66.67%	8
5	Training						25.00%	3
6	Volunteer expenses						16.67%	2
7	Other (please specify):						16.67%	2
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	3.09	Std. Deviation	1.91	answered	12
	Maximum	7	Variance	3.65	Std. Error	0.34		

Other (please specify): (2)

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2. What kind of funding would be most helpful to your organisation?			Response Percent	Response Total
1	16/09/2020 18:58 PM ID: 148351696	Ingredients		
2	17/09/2020 10:11 AM ID: 148371814	We lost unrestricted income during the periods March to September and potentially may lose more moving forward.		

3. What is your preferred method of grant application?								Response Percent	Response Total	
1	Online form							66.67%	8	
2	Emailed application document							33.33%	4	
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	1.33	Std. Deviation	0.47	Satisfaction Rate	33.33	answered	12
	Maximum	2	Variance	0.22	Std. Error	0.14			skipped	0








4. What is your preferred method of monitoring?								Response Percent	Response Total
1	Numerical targets							33.33%	4
2	Case studies							83.33%	10
3	Narrative on progress							75.00%	9
4	User surveys							25.00%	3
5	Other (please specify):							25.00%	3
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	2.69	Std. Deviation	1.15		answered	12
	Maximum	5	Variance	1.32	Std. Error	0.21		skipped	0
Other (please specify): (3)									
1	16/09/2020 15:04 PM ID: 148336682	A combination, depending on the project							
2	16/09/2020 17:51 PM ID: 148348876	Case studies or personal stories of how the community group made a difference.							
3	21/09/2020 09:56 AM ID: 148549914	Depends on question 2 and what the funding is for							
Comments: (3)									
1	16/09/2020 15:49 PM ID: 148340588	Depends on the grant: for softer outcomes, user surveys and case studies work. For harder outcomes numerical targets work. For building works, evidence of spend and impact thru narrative.							
2	16/09/2020 17:51 PM ID: 148348876	As you see we don't really have a preferred method as we are all currently volunteers. Some people are more computer orientated and some prefer face to							



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4. What is your preferred method of monitoring?			Response Percent	Response Total
		<p>face communication. Both is relevant and is dependent on the time we have to give.</p> <p>Groups like ours are potentially as large as our area. This is a large area with high unemployment and few community assets. Our small Director group works hard to make a difference here and are succeeding. We need help to access appropriate funding and to have forms that are not complex or rely on a particular jargon to complete.</p> <p>Because we are all volunteers, we rely on the skill of our community members and the time they have to give to their community. How else does a community project grow. I would like to see more in place to aid this growth process and feel it will be particularly important in todays climate.</p>		
3	21/09/2020 15:36 PM ID: 148581277	The Community Grant has been useful in supporting various Fair Shares projects and work. Including a Cross Generation project where old and young shares skills and experiences, a Life Histories project that celebrated ordinary people's lives and support for those affected by dementia including family carers by organising gentle walks around the Stroud area and developing Chance to Chat postcards that spark life history stories so that people can build more supportive relationships.		

5. Have you had any good experiences of funding applications and monitoring?			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question		100.00%	6
1	16/09/2020 13:17 PM ID: 148326882	We have just started the search/identify and application process. We are awaiting the outcome from our first application.		
2	16/09/2020 15:49 PM ID: 148340588	<p>Many!</p> <p>The best applications are those that have clear project costs and outcomes so they can provide a project plan for implementation, showing what data needs to be collected for monitoring purposes.</p>		
3	16/09/2020 16:44 PM ID: 148345200	Less is more. Funding needs to be based on trust not outcomes management. Question is to find ways of finding organisations that you can trust. Not easy but needs to done through relationships not forms.		
4	16/09/2020 17:51 PM ID: 148348876	We work with the Barnwood trust who have made their grant system user friendly. We work with a community Builder who walks with us on our journey. We also work with the Town council Community worker and find this helpful. There is still more work and always more to know than I could have expected. I remember thinking at one point, I know I need more help but where do I find the time to begin that process, the application process, the grant process etc. its by dropping most everything else I am doing. As covid is in a kind of lull as we gear up again it feels timely and a little frightening.		
5	21/09/2020 09:56 AM ID: 148549914	<p>Yes! Many funders are now reducing the information they require so reporting is easier.</p> <p>We have recieved funding through SDC Community Grant scheme and found the application and moitoring process to be straightforward and easy to manage.</p>		
6	21/09/2020 15:36 PM ID: 148581277	The Community Grant is not to complicated to complete and is not too top heavy with targets but focuses on how the grant has affected peoples's lives in a real way.		
			answered	6
			skipped	6

Community Investment Grant Survey Results From the Current CIG Recipients

1. What kind of funding would be most helpful to your organisation?								Response Percent	Response Total
1	Core staff costs							90.00%	18
2	Building costs							15.00%	3
3	Digital improvements							10.00%	2
4	Project funding							40.00%	8
5	Training							10.00%	2
6	Volunteer expenses							10.00%	2
7	Other (please specify):							5.00%	1
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	2.53	Std. Deviation	1.8	answered	20	
	Maximum	7	Variance	3.25	Std. Error	0.3			skipped
Other (please specify): (1)									
1	17/09/2020 13:47 PM ID: 148393302	It is very helpful to have a grant that is not for a specific purpose so can be used for general running costs. If one of the options had to be chosen then core staff costs.							

2. What is your preferred method of grant application?								Response Percent	Response Total
1	Online form							55.00%	11
2	Emailed application document							45.00%	9
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	1.45	Std. Deviation	0.5	answered	20	
	Maximum	2	Variance	0.25	Std. Error	0.11			Satisfaction Rate
							skipped	0	

3. What is your preferred method of monitoring?								Response Percent	Response Total
1	Numerical targets							10.00%	2
2	Case studies							40.00%	8
3	Narrative on progress							85.00%	17
4	User surveys							5.00%	1
5	Other (please specify):							10.00%	2

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3. What is your preferred method of monitoring?								
							Response Percent	Response Total
Statistics	Minimum	1	Mean	2.77	Std. Deviation	0.88	answered	20
	Maximum	5	Variance	0.78	Std. Error	0.16	skipped	0
Other (please specify): (2)								
1	17/09/2020 10:22 AM ID: 148372883	We find that a written report on the progress and how the funding supported our work is the best way.						
2	21/09/2020 10:11 AM ID: 148551193	statistics reflecting what we have achieved (e.g. meals given, numbers attended)						
Comments: (10)								
1	17/09/2020 10:09 AM ID: 148371551	we would generally include numerical information in any narrative.						
2	17/09/2020 10:22 AM ID: 148372883	We at Select Arts, are so grateful for the support. The money has been a real bonus to support our work and are truly appreciative. Thank you						
3	17/09/2020 11:51 AM ID: 148382550	Your current system has always worked well for us because of the diverse range of activities that we undertake for our community.						
4	17/09/2020 14:19 PM ID: 148396099	Different funders often wish different things so we plan to ensure that they have all that we might need.						
5	18/09/2020 08:16 AM ID: 148428738	It can be difficult to show evidence of qualitative outcomes as opposed to quantitative. Also, projects can take time to develop.						
6	18/09/2020 14:54 PM ID: 148460155	Whilst we do monitor and evaluate quantitative data, we do find its the case study stories which really capture the breadth and depth of the work we do. Often in the areas where we have most impact its because we are able to work intensely with small numbers of people rather than generically with larger numbers						
7	20/09/2020 13:52 PM ID: 148528521	The grants have helped us to pay for staffing which releases revenue for general maintenance and improvements, as well as energy costs.						
8	20/09/2020 21:24 PM ID: 148538633	Narrative report is flexible and enables the charity to include case studies; feedback from surveys and other matters of interest or concern. Flexibility in monitoring can be important.						
9	21/09/2020 10:11 AM ID: 148551193	The CIG Grant monitoring system at present has been good for a small charity like Marah - straightforward in its request for information.						
10	22/09/2020 13:49 PM ID: 148638052	Many of our activities are about information and behaviour change, and involve community resilience building. It is hard to have a quantitative monitoring method and a narrative works very well for describing the outreach and support we do.						

4. Have you had any good experiences of funding applications and monitoring?								
							Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question						100.00%	16
1	17/09/2020 09:56 AM ID: 148370365	Yes, This has been very straight forward to date without any issues.						
2	17/09/2020 10:09 AM ID: 148371551	A structured report which allows for some flexibility eg case studies and narrative can be helpful						
3	17/09/2020 10:22 AM ID: 148372883	We have funded over 20 years the work of our organisation with support from the Arts Council and Stroud Festivals. BUT it has got harder recently to source funding. Our work not only supports the arts in the area/region but supports the						

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4. Have you had any good experiences of funding applications and monitoring?			Response Percent	Response Total
		economy of Stroud and district by bringing visitors who stay over when the Festivals are on.		
4	17/09/2020 11:51 AM ID: 148382550	Our core funding is provided by Gloucestershire Gateway Trust and although a written report is required quarterly we also have face to face/Zoom meetings to give partner organisations feedback and updates. This is a good system because it allows you to support other partners.		
5	17/09/2020 13:47 PM ID: 148393302	Nothing that stands out as particularly good or bad. In recent years there has been a move towards spending grant money within a time limit. This is difficult with big, expensive projects when organisations need a large grant and several smaller grants for match funding - difficult to get all the money at the same time and use it within the time frame.		
6	17/09/2020 14:19 PM ID: 148396099	I think it is great when local funders can come along to an activity to see what their money is supporting- I know this is not so easy in lockdown though. I think the best funders allow the charity to use the fund as they need to, rather than be too specific. Responsible charities will always do this. The Community Interest grants have been helpful in this respect. I think the best funders also look for outcomes for beneficiaries rather than the numbers of people we support. Qualitative rather than quantitative!		
7	17/09/2020 15:17 PM ID: 148401054	The current CIGs is good, with its monitoring being open to delivery as we wish, rather than forced into a format which may not work for everyone.		
8	17/09/2020 16:02 PM ID: 148406099	For monitoring, a face-to-face meeting (potentially alongside other investors) so that we can undertake an annual review of how we are performing against targets and keep an open dialogue between this organisation, its investors and the needs of the community. It also allows for the funders to think about a joined-up approach to supporting us and a great way of you telling us about developments/plans/aspirations of the district council. There are so many ways that we might be able to help you achieve some of your core aims but as it is now overseen by a written report and a funding application there is no conversation and thus, you are remotely overseeing a number of applications and applicants who would improve the "offer" for the council rather than merely being a recipient of a comparatively small investment grant.		
9	18/09/2020 08:16 AM ID: 148428738	Just SDC CIG! Most applications are so time consuming that it becomes onerous.		
10	18/09/2020 10:10 AM ID: 148435379	The ability to apply on line, allowing you to complete and save as you go along, for some applications makes the process run smoothly.		
11	18/09/2020 14:54 PM ID: 148460155	Its totally mixed - some of the most complicated application and monitoring processes can be for the smallest amounts of money, whereas some of the more straight-forward processes can be for significant funds. To me, the best thing for you as a funder to focus on is the impact you want to see - eg "a reduction in anti-social behaviour from young people in the district" then let the applicants do the work in terms of how they think (or know) they can (or already do) achieve that impact, tell you what they're going to do and then report back on it with relevant data.		
12	20/09/2020 13:52 PM ID: 148528521	Yes, funding has enabled us to employ a cleaner instead of having to rely on volunteers. monitoring 6 monthly has been an easy experience.		
13	20/09/2020 21:24 PM ID: 148538633	Yes. On a general level, funders within Gloucestershire are aware of the issues facing the voluntary sector - particularly at the present time - and this is true of Stroud District Council. New and innovative ideas are recognised and supported and in many cases organisations are allowed to be flexible and adapt to unforeseen changes and challenges. Having an ongoing dialogue between the funder and the organisation is always to be encouraged.		

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14	21/09/2020 10:11 AM ID: 148551193	Yes: have experienced funding applications that are clear and not over-complicated Monitoring has been good when asked to report on what has been happening since grant received/how used. Am aware name funders can't do this but it's always good to be able to chat to someone from funding body over phone as part of feedback or see them in person to see what we do. Works well for a small charity like ours.		
15	21/09/2020 10:34 AM ID: 148553229	I am involved with the monitoring and reporting aspect of the Community Investment Grant and have found this easy to do. All staff I have been in contact with for support around information required from us have been excellent and very helpful.		
16	22/09/2020 13:49 PM ID: 148638052	Yes, we have received continued funding from SDC to support our activities and have produced a narrative report for this which seems to have been well received.		
			answered	16
			skipped	4