

Top 10 Tips for Distributing Community Investment Funds



Promotion & Application Phase

1. VCSE Endorsement

- Take the idea of the CIF to the community via trusted VCSE organisations or local Community Champions.

2. Flexibility of Application

- Conversations, videos or simple forms for the community to convey their ideas to you.

3. Relationship Building

- Build relationships, get out into communities and get to know the applicants and their beneficiary groups.



Awarding Process

4. Representative Panel

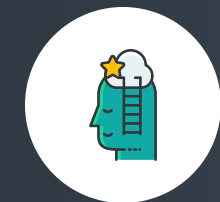
- Develop a local diverse panel who understand local needs. Share the power of decision making.

5. Rolling Funding

- Create a rolling programme for applications to avoid timetable barriers.

6. Quick Decision

- Regular panel communications results in quick turn around. Weeks not months!



Delivery & Insight Phase

7. Flexibility of Output

- Focus on quality of outcomes not KPIs.
- What will happen or change as a result of the funding?

8. Capacity Build

- Support the 'not ready' applicants to be grant ready.
- Finance 'plus' support offer.

9. Physical Activity as a Side Effect

- Ability to award projects with Physical Activity as secondary outcome. Physical Activity by stealth.

10. Create & Share Knowledge

- Create robust and simple evaluation process.
- Provide opportunities to promote learning opportunities to connect across the system and within communities.
- Show others what is possible.