

Proposed Policy for Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council: Allocation of CIL Funds to Community Groups

1. Objective

To provide a transparent framework for the allocation of CIL funds to community groups, ensuring that funded projects contribute to the development of local infrastructure and address the demands placed on Bexhill-on-Sea by new developments.

2. Eligibility Criteria

Community groups seeking CIL funding must:

- Be properly constituted not-for-profit organizations, charities, or community interest companies.
- Demonstrate that the proposed project aligns with the definition of infrastructure as per the CIL Regulations, which includes:
 - Roads and other transport facilities
 - Flood defences
 - Schools and other educational facilities
 - Medical facilities
 - Sporting and recreational facilities
 - Open spaces
- Show evidence of community support and engagement.
- Provide a clear plan detailing project objectives, timelines, and anticipated outcomes.
- Demonstrate financial sustainability, including efforts to secure match funding where possible.

3. Application Process

- **Submission:** Applications will be accepted during specified periods annually.
- **Documentation:** Applicants must submit:
 - A completed application form
 - Proof of organisational status
 - Detailed project proposal
 - Budget breakdown
 - Evidence of community support
 - Any additional funding sources

- **Assessment:** The Finance and Audit Committee shall review all applications less than £10,000. Applications in excess of £10,000 shall be reviewed by the Finance and Audit Committee, then decided upon by Full Council to ensure:-
 - Alignment with local infrastructure needs
 - Community benefit
 - Project feasibility and sustainability
 - Value for money
- **Decision:** Recommendations will be made to the full Town Council for final approval on all applications over £10,000. The Finance and Audit Committee shall agree funds below £10,000.

4. Funding Conditions

- Funds must be used solely for the approved project.
- Projects should commence within a specified timeframe post-approval.
- Regular progress reports must be submitted to the Town Council.
- Any unspent funds must be returned if not used within the agreed period.

5. Monitoring and Reporting

- The Town Council will monitor funded projects to ensure compliance with the terms.
- An annual report detailing CIL fund allocations and project outcomes will be published to maintain transparency.

By adopting this policy, Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council can ensure that CIL funds are allocated effectively to community groups, fostering infrastructure development that meets the evolving needs of the community.