



Copeland Borough Council - Arts Development

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Local Arts Initiative Grant Scheme - Information about applying for a grant

What is the Local Arts Initiative Scheme ?

The Local Arts Initiative Scheme (LAIS) was established to encourage the development of arts projects within Copeland's communities. The scheme offers small grants or guarantees against loss for a variety of arts projects including dance, drama, music, video, photography, literature, visual arts and crafts. The scheme supports popular as well as so called 'high' art. It embraces amateur and professional activity. Arts activity within informal settings such as fetes and carnivals are considered as well as more formal programmes and facilities.

Who can apply ?

1. Any committee running a village hall or community centre in Copeland Borough.
2. Groups or organisations that regularly meet in a village, church or school hall or community/youth centre.
3. Schools in Copeland Borough or organisations connected to Schools, ie: P.T.A.'s.
4. Artists and Art organisations that are undertaking a community project based in the Copeland Borough.

NB. Consideration will be given to those organisations and groups which fall outside the above categories, however, they must meet the aims and objectives of the council. If you would like advice before making an application please contact Arts Development 01946 852637.

Please read the following criteria carefully before making an application.

1. Your project must meet one or more of the council's aims:

Note: This is not a complete list, the aims and objectives stated below are those most relevant to the LAIS.

Aim 1 - To support and develop the infrastructure for local arts provision

This will be achieved by :

- Objective 1.3** Increasing the profile of the area by attracting more professional artists to work on good quality projects in the Borough.
- Objective 1.4** Working more closely with education providers at regional, sub-regional and local levels to increase training and employment opportunities in the arts.

Aim 2: To increase access to the arts, particularly for target groups

This will be achieved by :

- Objective 2.2:** Targeting young people through longer term partnerships, particularly with schools and other voluntary and statutory youth organisations.
- Objective 2.3:** To further develop work in rural locations by providing outreach programmes in rural village halls.
- Objective 2.4 :** Support and strengthen the voluntary sector and promote its importance in delivering accessible arts to the local community.

NB. A complete set of the council's aims and objectives is available on request.

2. Applications must be received **one** month before the event is due to take place.
3. For performances (theatre, dance , music etc) support will always be in the form of a **guarantee against loss**. Claims on guarantees will only be honoured on the production of a financial statement within 4 weeks of the performance. The statement should outline details of expenditure and income.
4. We will normally require evidence that the group applying for a grant is making a contribution to the event from their own fundraising efforts.
5. A grant for a wholly amateur production will not exceed **£100**.
6. A grant for an activity that includes the use of a professional artist will normally not exceed **£200**.
7. No organisation will normally receive more than two grants in a year.

8. No grant will be paid before the event. Grants must be claimed no later than **4 weeks** of the completion of the event or the funding will be allocated to another organisation.
9. Grants can only be claimed by completing the appropriate evaluation form.
10. Grants/guarantees will not be made for activities that have already taken place, or fund deficits except where a guarantee against loss agreement has been previously agreed.
11. Groups receiving a grant will be asked to credit the Council's support on publicity.
12. If requested a council officer or elected member must be given free access to an event, workshop or performance for monitoring purposes.

Applications we are unable to support:

1. Grants/ guarantees to individuals will not be considered.
2. Application which are for fund-raising events will not be considered.
3. Grants/ guarantees will not be made for activities that have already taken place, or to fund deficits except where a guarantee against loss agreement has been previously agreed.
4. We will not fund venue hire.
5. Applications which are incomplete.