Accessibility Fund: funding criteria and scoring

The criteria we will use to score your Accessibility Fund application are set out below, with the scores available for each.

All the criteria are linked to the questions on the application form. When we receive your application' we'll 'redact' it, taking out any information that identifies your organisation, before sharing it with the Awards Panel. The Panel members won't know, when they score the applications, who the applicants are – the scores they award will be based purely on the information you have provided on your application form.

The table below sets out the criteria for the Accessibility Fund; how each one is scored; why we use that criterion; and the kind of evidence the Panel will be looking for when they score it. The criteria are not all scored in the same way – some have a maximum score of 5; some 3; and some 2 – so you can see which of your answers will have the biggest impact on your overall score.

Criterion	Why we measure this	Evidence – 'what a good answer looks like'
The application shows clear evidence that the proposed work will enhance the accessibility of the space for disabled people and people with mental health conditions. Range of scores: • clear evidence: 5 • some evidence: 3 • limited evidence: 1 • no evidence: 0	The purpose of the fund is to make spaces more accessible for welcoming for disabled people. Your application is unlikely to be successful unless there is good evidence that your project will deliver this outcome.	You have provided evidence that disabled people, their needs and their views are at the heart of your project. Your project specifically considers the experience of disabled people using the space and how their experience will be improved by your project.

The application shows how the applicant has ensured that disabled people and people with mental health conditions will know what to expect when they visit the space. Scores: • clear evidence: 5 • some evidence: 3 • limited evidence: 1 • no evidence: 0	Disabled people need to know, before they visit, what facilities are available for them at the space. Is the space accessible for a powered scooter, or for a manual wheelchair? Are the floors level throughout the building? Are the toilets fully accessible? Does the provision of signage meet the needs of people with sensory conditions? Are there dedicated parking spaces? Is the route from the car park to the building easily accessible?	You have provided information, in an accessible format, which is available to people before they visit. For example, your website includes 'walk throughs' and clear illustrations which give an indication of how easy it is to move around, both inside and outside the space. Your website might also have FAQs or additional information on how people use the space.
There is evidence that people working at the space have the skills, knowledge and experience to meet the needs of disabled people and neurodivergent people and ensure they will feel welcome in the space. Scores: • clear evidence: 3 • some evidence: 2 • limited evidence: 1 • no evidence: 0	Our Experts with lived Experience have made clear that the physical access to the space is only part of the issue: they also need to know that if disabled people visit the space they will feel welcome and that the space is 'for them'.	There is evidence that you have considered how to build your team's skills and confidence, for example by providing training so they will be fully aware of disabled people's needs and confident in meeting those needs.

There is clear evidence that Experts with lived Experience have been involved in the design and planning of the work. Scores: • clear evidence: 5 • some evidence: 3 • limited evidence: 1 • no evidence: 0	Your project needs to be informed and driven by a thorough understanding of disabled people's needs. This is unlikely to be possible unless disabled people themselves have been involved in the planning of your project.	You can show that disabled people are at the heart of the project, for examples as members of the Project or Steering Group leading the project. There is evidence that in planning the project, you have met regularly with local disability groups and have ensured that their views have been central to the shaping of the project.
There is clear evidence that the application is based on a sound understanding of local needs. Scores: • clear evidence: 3 • some evidence: 2 • limited evidence: 1 • no evidence: 0	Everyone's needs are different. You need to consult with as wide a range of local disabled people, and the groups representing them, as possible and ensure that you have learned from them in the planning of your project.	There is clear evidence that you have consulted with a broad range of disabled people and groups within your community and that their views have shaped your project.
There is evidence that the project is well-planned and financially sustainable. Scores: • clear evidence: 2 • some evidence: 1 • limited or no evidence: 0	We are accountable to disabled people in Gloucestershire for how we use our funding. We need to be sure that the projects we support represent an appropriate use of Barnwood Trust's resources.	As part of our due diligence check we ask to see your accounts and check the level of your reserves. We'll also ask for quotes in support of your project costs, to ensure that those costs are reasonable.

The application sets out opportunities for learning for the applicant, for Barnwood Trust and for other funded partners. Scores: • clear evidence: 2 • some evidence: 1 • limited or no evidence: 0	We gather learning from all our funded partners and seek to share that learning with other organisations in Gloucestershire. This is an important part of how we evaluate the projects we fund.	We ask you to identify some learning outcomes when you make your application. We'll use these to work with you to measure the impact of your project. We'll also require all successful applicants to join a Learning Group, which will meet regularly to share learning and good practice.

The maximum score for any application is 23.

Any application scoring 15 or more in total can be considered for funding.

Any application scoring less than 15 in total, or any project scoring 0 on any criterion, will be declined.

If you'd like to see the actual criteria and scoring sheet that will be used to score your application, click here.