

The Communities Together Fund

(formerly the Town and Parish Fund)

Following the 2012/13 Budget Setting Process, a new grant pot was established (initially on a one year trial basis) which is jointly funded by Devon County Council and Torrige District Council. Devon County Council has approved £1 per elector, and TDC 10p per elector. For the amounts available in this financial year, see the table which is attached to the application form.

The aim of this fund is to develop collaborative working between towns and their surrounding parishes or between parishes, to tackle local community issues. Unlike other grant funds available to Town and Parish Councils, applications to the Fund must be made by two or more councils. Town Councils can apply alone, if the project will benefit residents of surrounding parishes.

The original principle governing the TAP Fund still applies:

The Fund is to be used by Town and Parish Councils working collectively to trial solutions to local issues, empower communities and enable community resilience. Projects that develop community self-help within an area will be particularly supported.

Type	One-off grant award. This Fund cannot be used to provide/imply ongoing financial support.
Deadline	Applications must be submitted by the end of February each year.
Grant availability	<p>A one-off capital or revenue grant with no maximum limit, within the allocations of the towns and parishes.</p> <p>The minimum grant that can be awarded is £200. Projects which meet the criteria of the scheme will be scrutinised by County and District Councillors and Torrige District Council officers.</p> <p>Devon County Council and Torrige District Council are under no obligation to grant the full amount requested, but will justify any amount awarded if less than requested.</p>

Payment	Payment is usually made in advance to the lead Town or Parish Council. Different conditions apply to applications for amounts over £5,000.
Match funding	Applicants need to demonstrate that they have explored opportunities to work with other voluntary and community groups to identify and/or carry out the proposed project. Projects supported by this Fund can attract match funding from other sources, including Devon County Council's Locality Budgets and Torridge District Council's Councillor Grant Fund.
Eligible organisations	<p>All applications must be submitted by a Town or Parish Council in partnership with at least one other Town or Parish Council. Town Councils can apply alone, if the project will benefit residents of surrounding parishes.</p> <p>Registered charities, constituted voluntary and community organisations, social enterprises and faith groups may apply via a Town or Parish Council.</p>
Location	The lead applicant must be a Town or Parish Council within the Torridge District.
Restrictions	<p>Grants are not available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals • Private/for-profit enterprises • Political or religious activities • Purchase of alcohol • VAT that is recoverable • Loans or interest payments • Day-to-day running costs • Any on-going staff costs • Donations to charities • Activities which are the responsibility of another agency • Repeat funding <p>Funds can not be granted retrospectively.</p> <p>As the Fund exists to help identify new ideas to benefit communities, regular activity such as grass cutting, ditch and drainage work and any similar "lengthsman" duties are no longer eligible for funding.</p> <p>Funded projects will acknowledge, in any related publicity, the Fund as a County and District Council scheme.</p>