



ALLOTMENT IMPROVEMENT GRANT SCHEME 2026/27

Grant Criteria – Assessment Scoring Matrix

Assessment approach

Applications will first be checked against the scheme eligibility requirements and mandatory documentation requirements; Compliance requirements, including permissions, safeguarding, insurance and health and safety arrangements, will be considered as part of the eligibility and due diligence checks rather than scored separately. Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria may not proceed to scoring.

Eligible applications will then be assessed against the grant criteria below.

Each criterion will be scored from 0 to 3 points, with a maximum possible score of 21 points.

CRITERIA	0	1	2	3
Alignment with Grant Objectives Supports one or more scheme objectives (health & wellbeing, climate change, biodiversity, local food resilience, infrastructure and accessibility, community participation and inclusion)	No alignment with scheme objectives	Limited alignment with scheme objectives	Clear alignment with at least one objective	Strong alignment with multiple objectives
Community Need & Benefits Evidence of local need, community benefit, inclusion and number of beneficiaries	No demonstrated benefit	Limited or unclear benefit	Clear benefit to a defined group	Strong benefit supported by clear evidence of need, community involvement and/or significant numbers of beneficiaries
Deliverability & Readiness Realistic project plan, permissions, quotations, risk management and ability to complete within 12 months.	Project not deliverable or significant information/permissions missing	Significant risks or missing information, outstanding approvals may affect delivery	Mostly ready with minor gaps	Project is well planned, risks have been considered, costs and permissions are

				evidenced, and delivery within 12 months is realistic.
Value for Money Costs are reasonable, justified and represent good value	Poor value or unclear costs	Some justification but weak evidence	Reasonable value with quotes and cost breakdown	Strong value and cost effectiveness
Outcomes & Impact Clear, realistic and measurable outcomes and benefits	No clear outcomes	Vague or limited outcomes	Clear and realistic outcomes	Strong, measurable and high-impact outcomes
Sustainability Long-term benefits, maintenance arrangements and lasting impact	No long-term benefit	Limited sustainability	Reasonable longevity and maintenance arrangements	Strong long-term and sustainable benefits
Inclusion & Accessibility Improves accessibility and participation for a wide range of users	No consideration of inclusion	Minimal consideration	Some accessibility or inclusion improvements	Strong inclusive design and accessibility improvements