



BENCHMARK

This Benchmark is part of the Funding Ready Toolkit compiled by Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service and Voluntary Centre Services funded and in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council.










FUNDING READY

Review your capabilities by using the funding **HEALTHCHECK**.

Use this **BENCHMARK** to identify areas for improvement and the workshops to attend.

Your Route to Funding Success

	Starting Out	Funding Aware	Funding Capable	Funding Ready	Funding Champion
 Grant Funding Position	No applications made.	Main procedures and policies in place. Project ideas addressing an identified need.	Full project plans in place and ready to begin writing funding application.	Aware of funder requirements and confident in ability to write a successful bid.	Experienced in writing applications and in receipt of funding.
 Teams & Resources	Not yet considered.	At least one team member with an understanding of funding process.	At least one team member able to collate plans using input from the rest of the team.	One team member funding ready with skills shared with the wider team.	Proactive approach to ensuring funding skills are maintained in the team.
 Evidence of Need	Knowledge of but not evidenced.	General evidence and statistics on beneficiaries gathered.	Beneficiaries involved in project design and need evidenced using a variety of sources and formats.	Written evidence suitable for needs of funders.	Ongoing gathering of evidence to inform strategic plan.
 Knowledge of Funding Sources	Not yet considered.	Basic knowledge of funding types and funder requirements.	Funding searches completed, potential sources identified and researched.	In direct communication with funders, receiving regular funding updates.	Funding experience and knowledge shared with other organisations.
 Funding Strategy & Processes	No written strategy or defined procedures.	Understanding of how grant funding fits into fundraising strategy.	Defined process for project planning and selecting funders.	Confident of ability to meet funding requirements for next 2-3 years.	Sustainable funding strategy in place for next 2-5 years.
Recommended Action	Attend Workshop 1 Getting your Organisation Ready for Grant Funding	Attend Workshop 2 Evidencing Need & Funding Sources	Attend Workshop 3 Proving Outcomes & Writing Applications	Apply for funding	Be a funding champion and help others get fit for funding.

This benchmark is part of the Funding Ready Toolkit compiled by Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service and Voluntary Centre Services, funded and in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council.

