



Learning Disabilities Innovation Fund

Guidance for Applicants

Guidance Notes

The Learning Disabilities Innovation Fund has been established with funding from the Integrated Care Fund (ICF), providing an opportunity for people with learning disabilities to come up with ideas for new activities and services and access funding to test out how well the ideas work in practice

The Learning Disabilities Innovation Fund offers an opportunity for third sector organisations and statutory bodies to apply for funding to run a project **truly** co-produced with people with learning disabilities across the west Wales counties of Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion. This fund is being administered by PAVS, in collaboration with CAVS and CAVO.

This funding is managed through the Regional Improving Lives Partnership (RILP) which is chaired by representatives of the Dream Team, supported by Pembrokeshire People First.

The Learning Disabilities Innovation Fund will provide **up to 100% of revenue costs up to £10,000 per project**. Up to 20% of the total funding request can be for capital items where applicants show a clear link to the revenue request.

All requests for support must be:

- Innovative to support the development and testing of new inventive models of support for learning disabilities,
- Genuinely co-produced and co-delivered with people with learning disabilities
- Demonstrate clear and direct benefits for people with learning disabilities
- Intended to share learning
- Offer value for money
- Not to supplement existing activity or alleviate budget pressures for core services.

All spend must be committed by 31st March 2022 and reporting requirements met by mid-April 2022.

Activity will be supported under one or more of the following themes from the West Wales Learning Disabilities Charter Which was developed by people living with learning disabilities from Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire & Ceredigion.

Click here to find out more about the Charter:

[Learning Disability Charter \(pembrokeshirepeople1st.org.uk\)](http://LearningDisabilityCharter(pembrokeshirepeople1st.org.uk))

West Wales Learning Disabilities Charter

People with learning disabilities want the same things as everyone else does.

- **My Life, My Rights**

More chances in life; more choice; to be listened to; to be treated as adults; to be given dignity and respect & for you to keep our information private.

- **My Community. My Relationships**

To be able to travel independently; help to understand money so we have more control; to train other people in what our lives are like – we're the experts; to get involved with our community; to have paid jobs; the right to enjoy friendships and sex, just like everyone else and the right to have a family.

- **My social life**

To go places everyone else goes and be welcome; to do stuff in the evenings and at weekends; to enjoy friendships, relationships and sex as we choose; for people to welcome us and understand what we need when we are out and to have more info about what's going on.

- **My Support**

Help to follow our dreams; to train staff who work with us; to get to know people who support us; to trust people to do what they say and to have access to advocacy.

- **My Health**

To have the healthcare we need from GPs and hospitals; have a health check every year; staff to have training by us; to have appointments that are easy to get , and on time and control over our health – they are our bodies !

- **My Independence**

To give us space – not too much at once; to feel safe – to help us find out about bullying and hate crime, and what to do about it; time to think for ourselves; support to live on our own if we want; support when we are parents and to stand up for our rights !

- **My Communication**

To make things easy to read; letters & leaflets we can understand – keep it simple! to find out what works for us – we are all different; to speak for ourselves and have time to think and answer – don't rush!

All applicants will be asked to explain the way in which their project takes current or potential future COVID restrictions into account.

Who can apply?

The fund is open to constituted voluntary and community groups and social enterprises with established governance structures who support people with learning disabilities.

Statutory bodies can apply for funding for projects which demonstrate that they have been co-produced in collaboration with people with learning disabilities and have strong links with the Charter.

What can the grant be spent on?

The funding is for **revenue costs**** associated with developing and delivering innovative activities and services which meet the themes of the Learning Disabilities Charter.

Eligible expenditure items include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Specialist expertise to create new on-line materials/activities
- Upskilling staff, carers, volunteers, beneficiaries, and members
- Marketing & promotion
- Peer support sessions
- Respite opportunities
- New leisure and social activities
- Services to enhance an individual's health and well-being

Ineligible costs include (but are not limited to):

- Ongoing running costs of existing activities or services
- Retrospective costs incurred and paid prior to the grant award
- Projects which cannot be delivered by 31st March 2022

These lists are intended for guidance only.

Grants will not be awarded as a general contribution to a larger project unless the funding can be directly linked to a discrete element of the overall service.

Please ensure that the costings you provide are as accurate as possible, and that you have obtained at least two quotes (for costs over £500), where you can and if relevant, to demonstrate how you have ensured good value for money.

**** Up to 20% of the total funding request can be for capital items where applicants show a clear link to the revenue request.**

Period of grant funding

All funding must be committed, and activity completed by **31st March 2022**.

The Application Process

Applicants will be asked:

- To complete an application form
- Produce a 3 - 5 minute video telling us about the proposed project.

The application pack is available by email from development@pavs.org.uk or telephone 01437 769422 to receive a hard copy.

Available in Easy Read Format and Welsh, and applications made in Welsh are welcome.

The completed application form, video and any supporting documentation must be submitted either by:

- e-mail to development@pavs.org.uk
- post to: PAVS, 36/38 High Street, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA61 2DA – clearly mark the envelope Learning Disabilities Innovation Fund .

Grant deadline:

All supporting documents must be received before applications can be processed.

All applications and videos will be assessed by members of the Dream Team.

Applicants will be notified of the panel decision by e-mail or phone within 3 weeks of the application deadline

Groups applying for a grant must:

- ✓ Clearly demonstrate how the project is co-produced and benefits people with learning disabilities in Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion or Carmarthenshire.
- ✓ Be a formally constituted voluntary or community group or social enterprise, which is self-governing, non-profit distributing and for public/community benefit. Or a statutory body.
- ✓ Send in their governing document (Constitution, Memorandum & Articles of Association or a Trust Deed) with the grant application
- ✓ Have a bank account set up in the organisation's name with at least two named signatories who are not related.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Successful applicants will be expected to complete end-of-project monitoring documentation within two weeks of the project end date.

Successful applicants will be required to acknowledge the source of funding in any publicity materials.

Further Support

If you have any queries about the fund or would like support with a potential application, then please contact your local CVC.

- **Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services (PAVS)**
E-mail: development@pavs.org.uk
- **Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services (CAVS)**
E-mail: Jackie.Dorrian@cavs.org.uk
- **Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO)**
E-mail: gen@cavo.org.uk