



GBL Covid Recovery Grant Information and Guidance

Who are Grange Big Local?

GBL is a resident-led, lottery funded community project, located between the North Circular, East End Road, Church Lane, and the High Road in the borough of Barnet. We have been awarded a lottery grant of £1 million to make a positive difference to our area to be spent over 10 years. We are currently half-way through the programme and it's us, the local residents and wider community, that decide where the money goes.

What is the GBL Covid Recovery Grant?

The GBL Covid Recovery Grant is a small grant scheme which provides funding to individuals to help them and their families to recover from the effects of the Covid-19 Crisis. For example, residents can use it to pay for training to get a new job or start a new career, or to purchase their children's school uniforms.

Who can apply?

- Individuals;
- Living or based within the Grange Big Local boundary (see [attached map](#) for guidance);
- Must be 16 or over to apply (applications from under 18s must have parental or guardian consent);
- Must apply prior or during the first month of employment; and
- Must be able to provide evidence of employment start date or training course requirements.

How much can each application apply for?

Applications are invited up to £500 maximum.

What we will fund

All grant applications will be considered, but the following list provides a general guide:

- Equipment to start an accredited training course;
- Travel to employment or accredited training course;
- Clothing to start work or training course;
- Childcare upfront payments for employment; accredited training course; interviews only;
- Job licence fees such as CSCS;
- Driving lessons;
- Tools or work boots; or
- Children school uniforms and shoes.

What we will not fund

- Political or religious activities;
- To meet personal debts or liabilities;



- Funding in retrospect, i.e. when the activity has already taken place, before funding has been awarded;
- Statutory Services, i.e. Local Authority, Schools, Police;
- Groups/ businesses with significant reserves.

How much detail is required?

The application form is designed to be simple to complete. However, the more information included, the better. A reasonably detailed budget breakdown will also be helpful in the assessment of ideas/projects.

Required evidence

There is a requirement for grant applicants to provide evidence that supports their application. Depending on what is being applied for, the following evidence may be needed:

- Formal letter/email of job offer;
- Proof of address; such as a utility bill or official letter with any financial information removed;
- Formal letter/email of course offer;
- Evidence of equipment requirement, such as course-joining instructions;
- Statement of benefit to the applicant if not a course from a formal institution;
- Invoice stating cost of childcare and requirement to pay upfront;
- Proof of first pay day.

Is there a time limit on when the money needs to be spent?

Yes, once a grant has been approved, it must be spent within 6 months.

Can I get any help filling out the form?

Yes, you can contact Linda Sou (Linda.Sou@grangebiglocal.org) to arrange a meeting to discuss.

Once the application has been submitted, what happens next?

The applications will be considered by a small panel of residents from the area who are members of the GBL Partnership Board. Applicants will be informed of the result as soon as the panel has made its decision. Individual feedback will be provided and amended applications invited. Each shortlisted applicant will be invited to meet the panel and discuss next steps, and what other support GBL could offer (ie. interview training; other funding revenue).

Monitoring and Evaluation

The grant scheme will require the successful recipients to fill in a questionnaire a month after they have received the grant to identify whether it helped the recipient return to work, training or allowed them to grow.

**Please access our application form [online here](#);
or request a hardcopy from Linda Sou.**