

Sustainability, Environment & Communities
Neighbourhood Grant 2025-26
Table of Applications Funded

No:	Name of Organisation:	Description of Project:	Type of Project Infrastructure over £5k Service/Activity under £5k	Ward where the Project will take place:	Amount of Neighbourhood Grant (NCIL) Requested:	Total Project Costs:	Neighbourhood Grant (NCIL) Agreed:
NG25-001	Mediation Herts	To provide mediation and/or conflict resolution services in Watford. The project will work with volunteer mediators who are accredited, trained and DBS checked to support individuals experiencing conflict, including disputes between neighbours, families as well as in the general community. Currently the organisation do not provide a mediation service in Watford, but they do receive requests for their service. Referrals usually come by way of a Police Officer or Community Safety Officer, and the individual parties are invited to a meeting with the mediator. Both parties are given the opportunity to talk about their issues and are encouraged to come to an agreement by themselves. The agreement is put in writing and a copy given to both parties as a reference document. The mediator will check in with both parties in 6 weeks time to see if the agreement is being adhered to and there are no further issues. Further meetings are available if required.	Service/Activity	All wards	£5,000	£6,000	£5,000
NG25-002	St Mary's Church Watford	St Mary's Church is one of only two Grade 1 Listed buildings in the Borough. In 2000, external uplighters were installed in the ground outside the south side of the church facing the churchyard. However, the elements within these have long since failed as have those in the two floodlights for the southwest corner of the tower which faces the churchyard and the new wildflower meadow. The organisation would like funding to be able to get these lights working again as they would enhance the feel of this newly refurbished external area outside the church in late afternoon/evening as well as contributing to public safety. After 25 years, direct replacements of the elements are no longer available but new more energy efficient fittings are. The scheme requires funding for a one-off installation of new fittings and LED elements.	Infrastructure	Central	£11,552	£11,552	£11,552
NG25-003	Kingsway Junior School PTA	Kingsway Junior PTA is requesting funding to install heat pumps that will sustainably heat the newly refurbished school swimming pool. This initiative supports their commitment to environmental responsibility, energy efficiency, and community wellbeing. Following a phase 1 major refurbishment (100K) of the school pool to improve longevity, safety and accessibility, the current heating system remains outdated and inefficient. Installing modern heat pump technology will reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions, while ensuring the pool remains usable year-round for both students and the wider community, in line with the school's continued vision to open the pool to other schools and expand youth swimming classes.	Infrastructure	Stanborough	£40,000	£43,200	£40,000

NG25-004	KEL Gospel Ministries	Funding to support the 'Nourish Together' project, a dynamic community-based initiative designed to promote nutrition education, culturally relevant cooking and inclusive health awareness for diverse populations across Watford. Through hands on workshops, interactive cooking sessions and tailored learning, the project aims to reduce diet-related health disparities, celebrate culinary diversity, and empower individuals to make sustainable lifestyle changes.	Service/Activity	All wards	£5,000	£5,000	£2,500
NG25-005	Random Café	Random Café is a community organisation fighting food waste in Watford collecting food from supermarkets and food producers that would otherwise go to landfill. Food is served in the café at affordable prices. Any excess food is offered on a pay as you feel basis in the shop. They also run a community garden growing produce for the café and for purchase by visitors. Currently the organisation are only able to use their existing building for community events up to two days a week, when the café is closed. This is limiting their ability to best serve local residents, who have come to see 'Random' as part of the community. The organisation want to complete the development of the site by installing a second building, next door to the café. This building will be a dedicated community space, open up to six days a week. This space can be used to accommodate workshops, courses, community events, coffee mornings, toddler groups and similar by both the organisation and for hire by other groups/individuals.	Infrastructure	Meriden	£50,000	£56,585	£40,000
NG25-006	Herts Bowling Club	Funding is requested to build a disability ramp to give improved access to the outdoor bowling green. This will allow improved access for elderly members with mobility issues who currently must carry heavy bowls in cases up concrete steps. This will allow them to wheel bowls onto the green and give them handrails. Improvements will also allow the club to invite/host more disabled bowlers onto the outdoor green. Current wheelchair access is limited. The club are in negotiations with both County and Watford and district disability groups who wish to use the green.	Infrastructure	Park	£19,020	£19,020	£19,020
NG25-007	Live and Learn Club	The Living It Up Project is an extension of the Live and Learn Club which was set up to help improve the lives of older people living with frailty, through raising awareness of healthy ageing, proactive care planning and reducing isolation. The Living It Up Project would like to provide its members with 4 social events held across the seasons, each with a different theme. These include a Winter Ball, a Spring Afternoon Tea, a Summer Canel Boat Trip and an Autumn Cultural Quiz and Curry Night.	Service/Activity	Nascot Vicarage	£4,388	£4,833.50	£2,500

NG25-008	Courtlands Residents Association	Funding to refurbish Goodwood Park. It has been 15 years since work was carried out on the playground and some items are now looking tired and need refurbishment. Talking with young people they would like a multi use climbing frame added in the play area along with an action ride. This has been identified as a ROTA BOUNCE and can be used for the 6 -14 age group. There is also the need for a disabled swing seat to be added to the four small swings. The mound artificial grass needs replacing as it is badly worn now and the playhouse needs replacing as it is looking very tatty with faded paint work and damage. This may involve adding to the outside fence on one side to make space for the climbing frame on a flat area. The upgrading of the playground would enhance the use of the area adding two new items to play on and refurbishing two others.	Infrastructure	Nascot	36,032	£36,032	£25,000
NG25-009	West Herts ABC & Educational Support	This project is for young people aged 16-24 who are NEET (not in Education Employment or Training). The organisation will target those living in flats in Central, Holywell, and Meriden wards. The project will commence in January 2026 and will run for 12 months until the end of the year. 2 new sessions/week – on Tuesdays during school hours, and on a Sunday. All sessions will be provided free of charge. Sessions will be provided in blocks of 10 weeks – 4 blocks over the course of the year. A cohort of 12 young people will attend up to 20 sessions during each 10-week block. A new cohort of 12 will join each block. A total of 48 young people over 80 sessions. Classes will combine fitness and boxing basics in a fun, interactive and controlled environment. Boxing basics include shadow boxing, bag work, circuit training, pad work, body weight exercises and running. In addition, participants can use the interactive running machines and games wall. Sessions will be provided by 2 experienced Coaches, and the programme will be overseen by Saud (Head Coach) who will step in to provide additional support if necessary. Participants will also have the opportunity to take part in structured activities and learning to attain a recognised coaching qualification from Sports Leaders UK.	Service/Activity	Central	5,000	£6,400	£5,000
NG25-010	Home-Start Watford & Three Rivers	Funding requested to pilot the nationally recognised Big Hopes, Big Futures (BHBf) school readiness programme in Watford, making it available to families supported by Home-Start Watford & Three Rivers. This early intervention project will help parents build the tools, routines, and confidence needed to support their child's smooth transition into school.	Service/Activity	Central, Holywell, Leggatts, Meriden, Oxhey, Tudor, Vicarage, Woodside	4,795	£7,795	£4,795

NG25-011	Watford Sheltered Workshop	<p>The organisation would like funding to refurbish their POD. The POD has 2 functions, to act as a classroom and as a dummy flat used to teach skills to service users enabling them to live as independently as possible.</p> <p>The POD is now showing its age both internally and externally and is in need of refurbishment. It needs to be painted both internally and externally and replacement of all the cupboard doors in the kitchen part of the building. The washing machine is used extensively and needs replacing and one of the external windows needs replacing with a door for better access. The organisation intend to do the work themselves in the main and this will save enormously on the costs. The door will need to be installed by a specialist.</p>	Infrastructure	Central	5,000	£5,800	£5,000
NG25-012	West Herts Sports Club	<p>This project aims to redevelop the area used by the Tennis Section to ensure more accessibility is provided for members and guests; in particular for the elderly, disabled and visually impaired. Currently, with the way the club is set up, the main rest and viewing areas are too far away from certain tennis courts. Therefore, the project will create accessible viewing and a rest area for ALL members of the club and its visitors.</p> <p>This project will address the issue of having safe access for wheelchair users and other people who have extra support needs to view, rest and watch this on all tennis courts at West Herts Tennis Club.</p>	Infrastructure	Central	8,150	£8,150	£8,150
NG25-013	Friends of Cassiobury Park	<p>The aim is to create a viewing area overlooking the Park's recently created wetlands, to enable access for all. This will involve building a viewing screen with an approach pathway, which will allow visitors to observe wildlife without disturbing it. Currently there is only a raised area of land which is inaccessible for much of the year due to flooding. Consequently, the creation of a screen with year-round access will greatly enhance park facilities. It will be available to all visitors and will significantly increase the educational and amenity value of the wetlands, whose development has already seen substantial financial investment by WBC. The project will see the creation of a 115m path, (raised as a causeway for 40m) with wooden edging and a stone surface, plus a 15m length of 2m tall hazel hurdle screening, with viewing "slots" for adults, children and wheelchair users.</p>	Infrastructure	Park	£41,000	£41,000	£30,000
NG25-015	Dolphina Gymnastic Centre	<p>Funding requested to replace and upgrade the outdated lighting system within the gymnasium hall, offices and entrance areas, as well as install motion-sensitive lighting in the car park. These improvements will enhance safety, deter anti social behaviour, and significantly reduce the environmental impact.</p>	Infrastructure	Woodside	£20,737	£20,737	£20,737

NG25-016	Rifco Theatre Company	<p>Fifteen Years of Rifco: Watford's Stories is a landmark creative audio documentary celebrating Rifco's 15-year history in Watford as part of their wider 25-year anniversary celebrations. The organisation have spent the majority of their history in Watford, more than 100,000 audience members have attended shows—making Rifco not just a theatre company, but a thread woven into the cultural fabric of this town. The project will amplify the voices of local residents, capturing their stories in the spaces where life happens, documenting the rituals and traditions surrounding a Rifco night out.</p> <p>Generations of families who have grown up with Rifco will share their memories, alongside reflections from the artists who create the work. Together, these perspectives will form a powerful, intimate portrait of how theatre strengthens community bonds, identity, and belonging.</p>	Service/Activity	All wards	5,000	£6,800	£2,500
NG25-017	Glen Rovers Hurling & Football Club	<p>The installation of floodlights to the playing pitch at Radlett Road Playing Fields in order to make the pitch an all year-round facility for our circa 250 playing members. Currently the club train and/or play fixtures most weekday evenings, however without floodlights this is limited to the BST months between April and September only and therefore the facility is not being fully utilised throughout the whole year. The club have currently submitted full planning for the scheme (planning ref 25/00775/FUL) and are planning to undertake the installation during Q1 and Q2 of 2026 with the aim of the floodlights being utilised from Autumn 2026 onwards.</p>	Infrastructure	Tudor	£50,000	£157,200	£46,961
NG25-018	Sustainable South West Herts	<p>The Watford Repair Café will provide a free to access community repair café, run by and for all Watford residents, to bring broken or damaged items for repair therefore helping to extend their lifespan, save money and share skills, and benefit the community and the planet. This is a community-driven initiative and a part of the global Repair Café network aimed at reducing waste and promoting sustainability.</p> <p>The Repair Café concept, which has gained popularity across the UK and globally, focuses on the idea that repairing, rather than discarding, items is an effective way to combat the growing issue of consumer waste.</p> <p>The organisation have reached out across Watford and not only have a venue, kindly provided for free by St. Mary's Church, they also have over 35 Watford residents signed up as volunteers from across the town.</p>	Service/Activity	Central	£1,000	£3,500	£1,000

NG25-019	Grand Union Community Energy	<p>Funding towards a designated Energy Champion for Watford to provide 1-on-1 home visits for people in vulnerable circumstances. The Energy Champion will be trained and required to pass the NEA City & Guilds Energy Awareness level 3 certificate. If they don't have this, GUCE will provide the training and access to the course.</p> <p>In conjunction with the Mayor's Fund grant that provided 200 energy saving kits for residents of Watford, this project will build on this, distributing the energy saving kits and providing one on one energy information and support, either in people's homes or at energy pop up sessions. GUCE has a good working relationship with community groups in Watford, as well as the Council and W3RT and has a track record of supporting them with events in the past. This project would enable GUCE to provide a new Energy Champion resource at new and existing events, reaching further into the community. The project will support the energy kits being used to their maximum via fitting of the parts e.g. radiator foils and draughtproof tape, as well as explaining other simple measures they can access to save money, and grants that might be available.</p>	Service/Activity	All wards	£5,000	£6,000	£3,000
NG25-020	Watford Borough Council - Transport & Infrastructure	<p>The existing heritage sign is tired and damaged and no longer fit for purpose. This proposal aims to restore the sign, enabling a sense of pride among local residents, encouraging wayfinding for visitors, and promoting travel by active methods by providing distances to nearby locations.</p> <p>There are defects on the two arms (rotten wood) and splits in the main post section. The 2 arms need replacing with new treated wood and repainting. The metal lettering/numbers can be transferred to the new arms; the post can remain on site while the directional arms are replaced. This can be delivered by the council's civils contractor, approximately one week's work.</p>	Infrastructure	Woodside	£7,285	£7,285	£7,285
NG25-022	Watford Rugby Club	<p>This project centres around redeveloping the outdoor patio area at Watford Rugby Club, transforming it into a modern, accessible, and multifunctional community space. This will support community health/wellbeing, inclusion and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>The organisation plan to replace the existing badly damaged patio whilst also extending it to the edge of the Watford Rugby Club boundary lines. New resin pathways will be installed to create step-free access and improve accessibility, whilst the new drainage will prevent future flooding and improve the general appearance. The organisation will also be installing a public drinking fountain, a public bike rack as well as a publicly accessible defibrillator.</p>	Infrastructure	Tudor	£49,010	£49,010	£20,000
					£372,969	£501,900	£300,000