



Appendix 2 - Template for Information to be Compiled

Information to be compiled by Public Authorities under Section 3(1)(a) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016.

(To be completed and included in public authorities' own annual reports and submitted to DAERA for inclusion in the Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report).

Name of Public Authority:

Reporting Period: April 20 to March 20

The following information should be compiled in respect of each policy, strategy and plan which has been developed, adopted, implemented or revised and each public service which has been designed or delivered by the public authority during the reporting period.

<i>Description of the activity undertaken by the public authority which is subject to section 1(1) of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016¹.</i>	<i>The rural policy area(s) which the activity relates to².</i>	<i>Describe how the public authority has had due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising the policy, strategy or plan or when designing or delivering the public service³.</i>
<p>DIY & Technical Assistance Fund</p> <p>The grant scheme is open to community & voluntary organisations based within the LCCC area. The DIY & Technical Assistance Community Fund enables local groups to refresh, refurbish or make general improvements to existing community facilities and/or commission professional/technical assistance to explore the potential of expansion and/or upgrades to facilities to help increase</p>	<p>The DIY & Technical Assistance Fund is a grant scheme to refresh, refurbish or make general improvements to existing community facilities and/or commission professional/technical assistance to enable groups and organisations to</p>	<p>Rural communities tend to be more socially isolated on a number of platforms. Often characterised by lack of amenities such as school, shops, limited public transport, limited access to medical care and cohesion. More often there is a lack of confidence and many folk experience lack self -esteem and suffer from mental health and poverty. Digital Poverty together with poor/weak Broadband coverage is a key factor affecting rural communities.</p> <p>In developing the programme, we have been mindful of the importance/significance of local community facilities to the lives of people living in rural area who may find it challenging to access services in urban area due to issues with transport, cost, time, poverty, age/disability,</p>

<p>opportunity, reduce inequality and broaden community engagement.</p>	<p>improve income opportunities, make changes to the facility use and/or make the facility more accessible and inclusive to further engage the local community</p>	<p>This is a grant scheme to support adaptations to enable groups to upgrade community facilities and therefore improve opportunities making facilities more accessible and inclusive for the local community. This is likely to benefit people in rural areas who tend to rely heavily on their local community facilities due to the relative inaccessibility of provision in urban centres. Upgrading local facilities or undertaking professional assistance to explore future viability of facilities aims to enable rural community groups who are successful to provide more/enhanced services can make a significant impact on addressing rural needs by offering services that are not duplicated in the surrounding area whereby encouraging community engagement and improve connectivity.</p>
		<p>The grant scheme is open for all projects in the LCCC area and £50,000 has been budgeted. Applicants can apply for a maximum of £1,500. Funding is available for costs associated with the refresh, refurbish or make general improvements to existing community facilities and/or commission professional/technical assistance for those organisations who meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>The criterion for the funding ensures that community groups in rural areas are equally likely to be eligible and that the type of improvements the funding is targeting may particularly benefit people in rural areas who rely more on local community facilities because of their proximity and the relative inaccessibility of provision in urban centres.</p>

NOTES

1. This information should normally be contained in section 1B of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
2. This information should normally be contained in section 2D of the RNIA Template completed in respect of the activity.
3. The information contained in sections 3D, 4A & 5B of the RNIA Template should be considered when completing this section.