

Major Infrastructure

Village Action

Actions that matter in places that matter

Mid Ulster has a number of Villages which act as hubs for the wider rural community, providing access to key public services, social, shopping and employment opportunities. It also has a significant rural settlement pattern based on a network of smaller villages, hamlets and dispersed rural communities.

The 'Village Action' scheme will provide capital funding to support the regeneration and development of villages in ways which support their important social and economic roles.

The scheme will support **major infrastructure** works designed to address dereliction or vacancy with the key objective of bringing such properties back into use.

Who Can Apply?

The Scheme is open to applications from Mid Ulster Council or from a partnership between Mid Ulster Council (where the Council is the grant recipient) and local community or voluntary organisations.

Objectives

The objectives of the scheme are:

- To support the role of the village as an economic and social hub for the community
- To address the issue of derelict and vacant property in villages
- To support the development of villages in ways which contribute to the sustainability of rural communities

At a Glance

TOTAL AREA INVESTMENT: **£1.2 MILLION**

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PROJECTS TO BE SUPPORTED: **6**

ANTICIPATED CALLS: **1**

- GRANTS OF **£50,001** (minimum) **UP TO £200,000** AT 75% TO SUPPORT THE REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF KEY RURAL VILLAGES

What's on offer?

Grants of £50,001 (minimum) up to £200,000 at 75% of the total project cost towards village schemes that include the refurbishment or redevelopment of derelict or vacant properties in villages to bring them back into use.

The villages selected for **Major Infrastructure** funding should be selected on the basis of a Scoping Study/Baseline which will consider issues such as the role of the village as a key “rural hub” and the identification/availability of suitable dereliction / vacancy sites. Funding will

be subject to the submission of an agreed village scheme design and implementation plan.

Indicative Actions

Village investments identified as part of an integrated village plan such as:

- derelict and vacant site enhancement,
- environmental improvements,
- shop frontage enhancements,
- conservation and upgrading of rural culture and heritage (natural and built)
- gateway projects

Match Funding

This scheme is part funded from EU sources therefore projects assisted **cannot** be matched from any other EU source. Council is expected to contribute to the match funding of the scheme (financial & technical or human resource support can be included). Evidence of match funding must be provided as part of the application process.

Please note: The funds available are limited and we do not expect to be able to fund all applications at the maximum amount.

It is anticipated that only 6 awards will be made under the ‘**Village Action: Major Infrastructure**’ theme.

Villages selected for major infrastructure works are not eligible under minor works.

Please note: this information may be subject to change as the programme progress

Minor Infrastructure

Village Action

Actions that matter in places that matter

Mid Ulster has a number of Villages which act as hubs for the wider rural community, providing access to key public services, social, shopping and employment opportunities.

It also has a significant rural settlement pattern based on a network of smaller villages, hamlets and dispersed rural communities.

The 'Village Action' scheme will provide capital funding to support the regeneration and development of villages in ways which support their important social and economic roles.

The scheme will support **minor infrastructure** stand-alone projects identified as part of an existing Council agreed Village Plan.

Who Can Apply?

The Scheme is open to applications from Mid Ulster Council or from a partnership between Mid Ulster Council (where the Council is the grant recipient) and local community or voluntary organisations.

Objectives

The objective of the scheme is:

- To support the delivery of practical actions identified within existing village plans in ways which contribute to the social, economic and environmental sustainability of villages.

At a Glance

TOTAL AREA INVESTMENT: £950,000

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PROJECTS TO BE SUPPORTED: 30

ANTICIPATED CALLS: 2
THERE ARE 2 LEVELS OF GRANT ON OFFER:

FOR SINGLE SETTLEMENT VILLAGE PLANS

- GRANTS OF **£5,000 (minimum) UP TO £30,000** AT 75% TOWARDS A STAND ALONE PROJECT

FOR MULTIPLE SETTLEMENT VILLAGE PLANS

- GRANTS OF **£5,000 (minimum) UP TO £50,000** AT 75% TOWARDS STAND ALONE PROJECTS
- FITTING WITHIN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THEMES:
 - RECREATION & LEISURE
 - CULTURE & HERITAGE
 - SMALL SCALE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

What's on offer?

The scheme will provide **capital funding** towards stand-alone projects identified as part of an existing Council agreed village plan.

Projects must fit within one of the following themes:

- **Recreation & Leisure**
- **Culture & Heritage**
- **Small Scale Environmental Improvements**

Grants of £5,000 (minimum) up to £30,000 at 75% of the total project cost are available for single settlement village plans i.e. a plan that covers one area only.

For multiple settlement village plans the maximum grant is up to £50,000 at 75% i.e. a plan that covers more than one settlement and where the benefit will impact on more than one settlement.

Match Funding

This scheme is part funded from EU sources therefore projects assisted **cannot** be matched from any other EU source.

Technical or human resource support from the Council can be included as match funding where the costs associated with such can be evidenced and are included within the total project cost.

Evidence of match funding must be provided as part of the application process.

Indicative Actions

Village investments identified as part of an existing Council agreed village plan such as:

- Walkways, play facilities & nature trails;
- Sign posting local heritage features;
- Improving physical access to amenities or attractions;
- Gateway projects, entrance features and signage

Please note: The funds available are limited and we do not expect to be able to fund all applications at the maximum amount.

Villages selected for major infrastructure works are not eligible under minor works.

Please Note: this information may be subject to change as the programme progresses