

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

**Community
Awards Scheme
2026**



Community Awards Scheme 2026

Guidelines & Application Form

Deadline: 4:00pm Friday 13th March 2026



**PLEASE READ THE DETAILS OF
THE SCHEME PRIOR TO
COMPLETING THE APPLICATION
FORM.**

**PLEASE NOTE INCOMPLETE
APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE
ACCEPTED.**

Community Awards Scheme 2026

Ethos and focus of awards

The purpose of the Wicklow County Council's Community Award Scheme is to assist local community and voluntary groups, including sporting, arts and cultural organisations that would benefit from small scale or once-off funding to support the groups' activities i.e. running costs or to develop a particular project. The Award Scheme gives the County Council the opportunity to recognise and value the voluntary contribution made by local groups in their own localities.

Applications will not be accepted from statutory bodies. Proposals from individuals will not qualify.

Aims of the Community Award Scheme

The aim of this Fund is to support community and voluntary groups in County Wicklow who wish to undertake projects that will:

- Carry out a service or activity that contributes to the quality of life in their local community.
- Increase voluntary activity.
- Target the socially excluded and increase their opportunities and particularly those who target anti-racism and accessibility issues.
- Recognise the valuable contribution of community and voluntary organisations in Wicklow in some way.
- Support the aims of the Wicklow County Council Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029. More details can be found on www.wicklow.ie

The maximum grant available is €1000 per organisation – one application only per organisation.

Social inclusion is a central theme of the Programme. Social Inclusion is about focusing on the needs of marginalised and disadvantaged groups such as people with disabilities, the unemployed/low-income groups, travellers, homeless, lone parents, gay/lesbian/bi-sexual/transgender community, older people, children/young people, rurally isolated etc.

Appraisal and decision process

A small appraisal committee including representation from the Municipal Districts will consider all applications made under the Community Awards Scheme.

Key considerations in assessing applications will include:

- Group contributes to the general wellbeing and quality of life of the local community.

- The strength of the application – it is very important to supply all information requested on the form.
- Social inclusion and anti-racism projects.
- Sports participation opportunities for disadvantaged.
- The ability of the group to carry out the project.
- The impact, scope, and inclusiveness of the project.
- Sustainability – see the Wicklow County Council Climate Action Plan on www.wicklow.ie to find out how your group can be more Climate friendly.
- Beneficial if the group adheres to the Governance Code.
- Beneficial if your group is a member of the Public Participation Network (PPN).

When will grants be paid?

The grants will be paid out to successful applicants via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) to the receiving organisation's bank account, subject to timely receipt of financial details.

Closing Date

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is **4.00 p.m. on Friday 13th March 2026**. **Late applications will not be considered.**

Applications should be emailed to CAS@wicklowcoco.ie

Or by post to:

Community Awards Scheme 2026, Social Development (Housing & Community), Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow, A67 FW96.

Application Process

Please do not submit multiple applications as only one application per organisation will be considered.

Queries should be directed to Social Development (Housing & Community), Tel. (0404) 20208 or email: CAS@wicklowcoco.ie

In order to process your application, it may be necessary for Wicklow County Council to collect personal data from you. Such information will be processed in line with the Local Authority's privacy statement which is available to view on www.wicklow.ie

PLEASE TICK TO CONFIRM THAT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE, IF REQUESTED:

- Copy of current Bank or Credit Union statement.**
- Copy of group constitution.**

**PLEASE NOTE A COPY OF A CURRENT BANK, CREDIT UNION OR AN
POST STATEMENT WILL NEED TO BE SUBMITTED IF YOUR
APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL.**

**FAILURE TO SUBMIT SAME WILL RESULT IN YOUR GRANT FUNDING
BEING WITHDRAWN.**

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL



COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME 2026 APPLICATION FORM

Name of Community/Voluntary Group

Tax Reference Number or Charitable Status (CHY) Number: *(if Applicable)*

Contact Details	
Contact Name	
Address	
Eircode	
Municipal District in which the group operates (circle as appropriate)	Arklow Baltinglass Bray Greystones Wicklow Countywide
Position held in group	
Daytime Telephone Number	
Email Address	

Number of Voluntary Workers	
Number of Paid Workers	
How many members are there?	
Is membership open?	
Details of membership fees	

What are the aims, objectives, and ethos of your group?

What are the activities of your group?

What is the activity or action for which you are seeking a grant?

How will the activity or action be managed?

Why is there a need for this activity or action? Please provide support/proof of need or consultation carried out.

Who will benefit from this activity?

Important note: Please include supporting documentation.

Capital Funding:

If your project is related to capital works e.g. building/landscaping/construction works or e.g. equipment, then please include estimates/quotes from a minimum of three different independent suppliers with this form.

Current Funding/Running Costs:

Please provide supporting documentation provided i.e. bills incurred.

Governance Code: please tick the boxes to the following if the answer is yes:

- Has your group signed up to the Governance Code?
- Or is in the process of signing up?
- Is your group a member of the Public Participation Network?

Name of your Group Bank/Credit Union Account: (This is the name that appears on your statement).

Outline the estimated cost of the activity or action. € _____

Amount sought from Wicklow County Council. € _____

If the amount you are requesting is not the total cost of the proposed activity or action, please advise from where the balance of funds is coming

Have you applied for or received funding from any other source in the last year. If yes, please give details.

DECLARATION:

I declare that all the information given in this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I acknowledge that any funds awarded must be used for the purpose stated.

I also accept as a condition of the grant scheme:

- That it involves no commitment to any other grants from Wicklow County Council in the future.
- Wicklow County Council reserves the right to request further information, if required.
- Wicklow County Council will undertake to review the scheme from time to time and as a result may make any changes necessary without any prior notice and at the Council's discretion.
- That Wicklow County Council hold no responsibility for the project and that the project must meet with all Planning and Health and Safety Regulations.
- To have the project monitored by Wicklow County Council or by its agents, to allow access to its premises and records, as necessary for that purpose.
- That grants awarded are conditional on grant allocation being spent by 1st July 2026.
- To provide details of the grant spent in the Evaluation/Declaration Form provided by the 31st July 2026.
- That grant allocation must be used for the project approved and grant monies unspent by the end of 2026 must be returned.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name (in block capitals): _____

Position in Organisation:

Chairperson

Secretary

Other (please indicate position held) _____

Does your group wish to receive email notification from Wicklow County Council regarding future community funding schemes?

Yes

No

Your contact details will not be shared or used for any other purpose, in line with Wicklow County Council's privacy statement which is available at www.Wicklow.ie