

# The Levelling Up Fund

Northern Ireland Toolkit March 2022



## **Levelling Up Fund: The Announcement**

As part of the Spring Statement 2022, the UK Government has announced the **second round of the Levelling Up Fund** and has published a refreshed Prospectus, **inviting bids to come forward from all eligible organisations from Northern Ireland** and across the rest of the UK.

This Fund provides £4.8 billion for local infrastructure projects across the UK, with £1.7 billion already allocated to 105 successful projects from the first round.

Through this next round of the Levelling Up Fund, the UK government will continue to invest directly in communities across all parts of the UK.



# The Levelling Up Fund Q&A

### What is the Levelling Up Fund?

The Levelling Up Fund was announced at the 2020 Spending Review, focusing on capital investment in local infrastructure. Local residents across the UK will benefit from a fresh set of infrastructure projects as we open the second round of the £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund.

Now in its second round, the Fund continues to invest in infrastructure that improves everyday life for local residents across the UK, focusing on regenerating town centres and high streets, upgrading local transport, and investing in cultural and heritage assets. Over the first and second rounds of the Fund at least 3% of total UK allocations will be set aside for Northern Ireland.

### Who can apply to the Levelling Up Fund in Northern Ireland?

In Northern Ireland the UK government will accept bids at the most local level, from a range of local applicants, including but not limited to: businesses, voluntary and community sector organisations, district councils, the Northern Ireland Executive and other public sector bodies.



# The Levelling Up Fund Q&A (continued)

### When can organisations apply to the Levelling Up Fund?

The **application window will open from the 31**<sup>st</sup> **May 2022 a**nd eligible applications must submit their full bids, with all supporting documentation via the online portal, **by 12 noon on 6**<sup>th</sup> **July 2022.** In the meantime, the Levelling Up Fund prospectus and technical note can be viewed <u>here</u>, and supporting application guidance can be viewed <u>here</u>.

We are encouraging Northern Ireland organisations to start today in considering what their application will look like.

## Can you tell us about previous winners of the Levelling Up Fund?

Access our **Northern Ireland Levelling Up map** (<a href="here">here</a>) to discover successful bid winners from the previous round of Levelling Up funding.



## Informational webinar

If you or others in your network want to find out more about the Levelling Up Fund, the Department is hosting an informational webinar on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 3pm, see link <u>here</u>. Please circulate this link to your networks.

Any questions you may have ahead of the webinar should be submitted to: <a href="mailto:lufteam@levellingup.gov.uk">lufteam@levellingup.gov.uk</a>.



## For enquiries

If you have any queries or wish to let us know that you've shared the news with your network, please do get in touch. We really appreciate your support.

To contact the Northern Ireland Area Team in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities please e-mail:

northernirelandareateam@levellingup.gov.uk

For any LUF specific queries, please email:

<u>lufteaminbox@levellingup.gov.uk</u>