



LIMERICK ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (LEDP)

IMPACT FUND

Application Guidelines



Corpus Christi NS

Charity Number: 20041397

BENEVOLENCE & ADVOCACY

ENTERPRISE

EDUCATION & UPSKILLING

Doing nothing
is not our way

Our purpose

***To be a catalyst for
positive change in Limerick.***

Our community is at the heart of
everything we do, and our collaborators
are critical to our success.



Every person, every place has the potential to be more.
But potential needs a catalyst.
A spark that moves potential from something that might be, to something that is.
LEDP is that spark.
A mission to help people see potential and realise it.
To help Limerick help itself.
To improve lives and futures.
LEDP is vision, support, and the spark of action to find the potential within,
And move it forward.

Potential moves us

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1. About us

Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership (LEDP) is an organisation synonymous with Limerick's transformation over the past 24 years. Established as a not-for-profit, independently funded charity in response to the closure of the Moulinex-Krups factory in 1998, it has a unique operating model: a commercial property which uses its revenue to invest in impactful community projects. As a multi-stakeholder local partnership, LEDP provides a critical mass of economic activity and community-based services to support inclusive growth on top of its direct investment in the community. The partnership is a European best in class example of a community-led development and is unique in an Irish context.

LEDP is an organisation which on our own cannot eradicate the societal problems in our region, but we can be the spark in curtailing and minimising their impact. We can be a facilitator and catalyst of positive change by empowering people to be the change they want to see in their community.

Doing nothing is not our way.

2. Mission, Vision, Purpose

Mission

LEDP's mission is 'connecting people to opportunities through enterprise, education and upskilling, benevolence, and advocacy'.

Vision

Our vision is one of 'realising the full potential of the people of Limerick'.

Purpose

'To be a catalyst for positive change in Limerick'.

3. What we do and how we do it

Enterprise

We use our private sector experience to promote enterprise and employment at LEDP. We matter to those that are employed in our building and that are benefactors to our work.

How we do it:

- Maintain a Productive Environment
- Explore Opportunities for Development
- Build Long Term Relationships

Education and Upskilling

We support the activities of our tenants in delivering bespoke education and training programmes at LEDP. The quality of what we do improves the quality of life for the people we care about.

How we do it:

- Provision of Physical Space
- Connecting People
- Serve as a Catalyst

Advocacy

We are a voice and advocate for those individuals and communities who reach out to us. For social inclusion, for pathways to opportunities and for a sustainable future.

How we do it:

- Partnering & Networking
- Awareness Raising
- Promoting Social Advancement Causes

Benevolence

We use our physical assets to help people to help themselves, support impactful initiatives and improve community life. We do good for greater good.

How we do it:

- Financial Support
- Guidance and Care
- Property Use

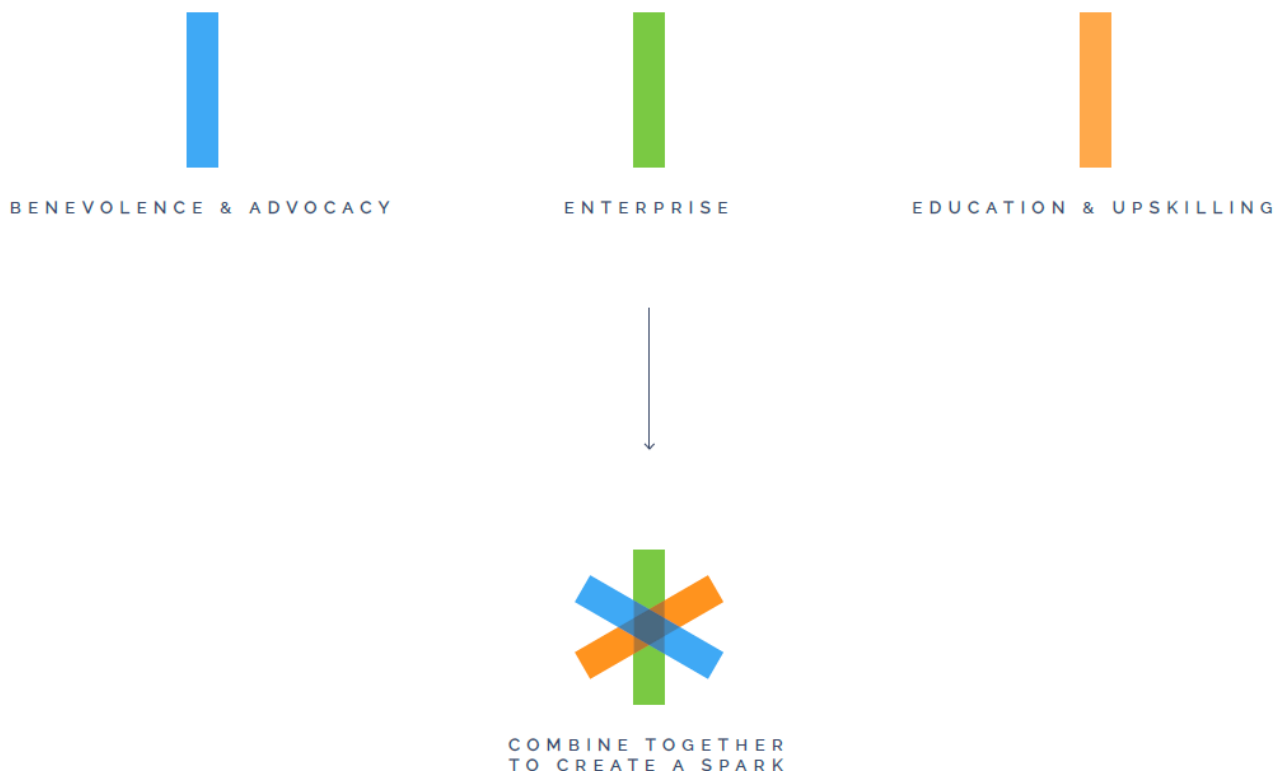
4. Our Strategic Priorities to 2026

Changing demographics, social responsibilities and evolving requirements have all contributed to the ambitions we have outlined in our Strategic Plan '**20 outcomes by 2026**'. (This can be downloaded from the LEDP website www.ledp.ie.)

LEDP now has the expertise to advance and positively impact contrasting elements in Limerick life. But most of all, the ethos of doing the right thing, all of the time. LEDP's Strategic Plan centres on building our impact and reputation by ensuring relevance within the community and wider stakeholder base, focused on overcoming challenges that have real-life impacts. The core activities of **enterprise, education and upskilling, benevolence, and advocacy** remain the focus of what we do.

Our Plan embraces 4 Strategic Priorities to provide the direction required on these areas to ensure the greatest impact, where we plan to invest our efforts:

- Be Relevant
- Have a Meaningful Impact
- A Sustainable Operating Model
- Be Organisationally Excellent



5. Range of Previously Funded Social Impact Projects



6. The LEDP Impact Fund: Description & Requirements

6.1 Award criteria

The LEDP Impact Fund is a supplementary instrument to support the social and socio-economic advancement of the Limerick Region's most disadvantaged. LEDP is seeking projects which are suitable for multi-annual funding to ensure sustainability of impact. Projects should have the capacity to last at least last 3 years to completion – or become mainstreamed beyond this period.

The project must intend on having a demonstrable impact in one of the following areas:

- 1. Educational Access and Support**
- 2. Employment Outreach and Mentoring**
- 3. Other Social Inclusion outcomes e.g., marginalised communities, severe disadvantage, crisis interventions etc.**

This fund is not exclusive to Limerick City and LEDP welcomes applicants from within the entire county of Limerick. Project impact is the key determining factor of application success, not location.

The guideline application amount is c. €15,000. This is neither a minimum nor a maximum, rather an indication of the scale of the resources available. Average funding awards in recent years have been c. €10,000 to €25,000 per annum. We will also accept requests for smaller amounts for specific one-off requirements. Please make this known through your application if this applies.

All applications must clearly demonstrate the following:

1. Strategic alignment with the objectives of LEDP's Strategic Plan **'20 outcomes by 2026'**.
2. Clear targeting of disadvantaged communities and/or specific groups in Limerick prioritised for support as outlined herein.
3. Evidence-base of needs and ability to respond effectively to them.
4. Demonstratable engagement with the target group to date and capacity to deliver actions that work (e.g., previous experience/track record of success).
5. Focus on achieving positive outcomes and meaningful impacts for the target areas or groups.
6. Capacity for project management, governance, financial management and monitoring progress and results being achieved.
7. Sustainability of the project. This includes capacity to attract other public or private funding and/or generate own income.
8. Costs and value for money. This concerns the extent to which costs are clearly and realistically specified, rationale for costs included cost effectiveness of the project with reference to the needs, outputs and outcomes expected to be achieved.

The following chart shows the weighting of the assessment criteria that will be used in the evaluation of applications:

| Criteria | Marks |
|--|------------|
| Quality of the project proposal: <i>Evidence that it meets needs of a disadvantaged community; relevant target groups; clear description of actions; potential to deliver positive outcomes in line with LEDP's Strategic Plan.</i> | 50 |
| Sustainability & Meaningful Impact | 35 |
| Value for Money | 15 |
| Total | 100 |

6.2 Who can apply?

LEDP welcomes applications to the LEDP Impact Fund from community and voluntary bodies, charities, and any other legal entity which provides services which meet the objectives as set out herein and in LEDP's Strategic Plan **'20 outcomes by 2026'**. Organisations operating as community or social enterprises may also apply for funds. Organisations in this category must fit with the definition of "social enterprise" applied by ForFas.

Applications involving a collaboration of two or more organisations are welcome. In this case, a lead organisation must be specified. The lead organisation must be established as a legal entity. If successful, the lead organisation will sign the Service Level Agreement with LEDP, and thus will be the recipient of the grant.

Individuals, commercial entities and public or state bodies are not eligible to apply for grants under the LEDP Impact Fund.

6.3 Eligible Costs

Eligible costs can include:

- i. staff costs for service and programme delivery.
- ii. small-scale equipment.
- iii. feasibility studies.
- iv. professional services related to project planning, design, feasibility testing, business plan development, and training.

All costs must be additional to the core activities of organisations already funded by the organisation. Funding must be spent, and all completed paperwork must be returned within one calendar year of confirmation of funding by LEDP. After one year, all unspent grant aid will be de-committed.

Requests for any carryover of funding from year-to-year must be submitted in writing to LEDP with an explanation as to why monies remain unspent. The organisation (grantee) will be informed in writing by LEDP as to whether carryover of funding is agreed.

6.4 Ineligible Costs

An indicative list of ineligible costs is as follows:

- v. Organisation's overhead costs incurred and not approved as part of the project application.
- vi. Retrospective costs – i.e., costs that take place before the expected date of the commencement of the project.
- vii. Costs for staff, activities, equipment that are already supported by statutory and public funding.
- viii. Costs that are not directly linked to the project outlined.
- ix. Funds to build up as reserves for the organisation.

Where the applicant is unsure as to whether costs can be covered by the grant, they should contact the LEDP Impact Fund at impactfund@ledp.ie, in advance of making an application.

7. Application Process & Key Dates

7.1 Submission details

All applicants must complete their application through the interactive web page at the following link **only**: www.ledp.ie/impactfund

7.2 The Application

An Application to The LEDP Impact Fund consists of two stages:

- (1) the completed online application and, if your project is successfully shortlisted;
- (2) additional supporting documentation

7.2.1 Application Form:

The online application at www.ledp.ie/impactfund is the only valid application form accepted for the Impact Fund. The online broadly form consists of the following segments:

1. About Your Organisation.
2. About The Project
3. Project Outcomes and Governance

7.2.2 Supporting Documentation/Checklist (stage 2):

Applications that are successfully shortlisted will be requested to provide additional information as outlined in the checklist below:

- Referees
- Audited Accounts (within the last two years)
- Project Budget
- If your organisation works with children: **Child Safeguarding Statement** under the Children First Act 2015
- Governing document or Company Constitution
- Tax Clearance Certificate
- A letter signed by **CEO / Chairperson** stating that funding is being sought from the LEDP Impact Fund
- Any other relevant **Annual Reports, Strategy Documents, or Evaluation Reports** as deemed relevant to your application.

7.3 Screening for eligibility & assessment of applications

When your application is received by LEDP, it will be screened to check that it is: **(i) fully completed and if successfully shortlisted, (ii) all supporting documentation is provided upon request.**

Applications that are not fully compliant based on the screening will be deemed “invalid”. There is no mechanism available to appeal.

The LEDP Sub-committee on Donations will review and evaluate all applications for based on the selection criteria set out herein. The LEDP Sub-committee will recommend applications suitable for funding under The LEDP Impact Fund to the Board of LEDP and the amount of grant to be awarded.

Applications that are not recommended for funding will be deemed “Unsuccessful”.

Applicants will be informed in writing of the decision from the selection process – i.e., grant “Approved” or “Unsuccessful”. Successful applicants will be required to sign and return a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with LEDP. The Service Level Agreement will specify the amount of the grant awarded, the purpose of the grant and terms and conditions associated with it.

8. Post Assessment & Post Approvals of Applications

8.1 Service Level Agreement & conditions associated with the grant

If your application is approved, in whole or in part, you will be informed of the decision. The applicant organisation (the grantee) will be required to sign and return the Service Level Agreement to LEDP.

Successful applicants must do the following:

- i. Acknowledge the funding from the LEDP Impact Fund in all public documents associated with the approved project.
- ii. Comply with good practice in recruitment and employment contracts.
- iii. Be willing to participate in any LEDP showcasing of projects and, attendance at LEDP Board Meetings to present project progress and impact.
- iv. Complete the final report and monitoring impact form required by LEDP to verify implementation and assess impact of the grant provided.

8.2 Payments to successful applicants

Payment schedules will be specified in the Service Level Agreement (SLA).



*Potential
moves us.*



For more information, please contact us:

A : LEDP, Roxboro Road, Limerick. V94 C66H

E : impactfund@ledp.ie

W : www.ledp.ie

