



Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
*Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and
Communities*

**Department for Levelling Up, Housing and
Communities**

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Cllr Nadeem Ahmed
Pendle Borough Council
Market Street
Nelson
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Email: Nadeem.Ahmed@pendle.gov.uk

1 August 2022

Dear Nadeem,

Re: Levelling Up Parks Fund: Notification of eligibility

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities is pleased to confirm that you are eligible for funding under the £9m Levelling Up Parks Fund. This Fund is being distributed in equal grants to fund the creation or significant refurbishment of parks. This letter sets out what we are offering and next steps. Full details of the Fund are set out in [the prospectus](#).

We are on a mission to improve access to the green space across the UK and we want to work with you to achieve it. We know green spaces deliver the greatest benefits to residents when they are designed using local knowledge. This is why we are adopting a wide approach to our definition of “parks” and giving you discretion on which projects to fund. Ultimately, we aim to support projects which respond to local communities’ needs and restore pride in place.

What is the offer?

If you decide to accept this funding, we will issue a grant of £85,000 to Pendle Borough Council under powers set out in Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 for the creation of a new or significantly refurbished urban green space.

You will also receive:

- Project planning support and benchmarking: a paid-for pre-project site assessment conducted by Keep Britain Tidy under the Green Flag Awards scheme. This costs £450 (inc. VAT) and will be paid directly by the department.
- Thematic workshops delivered by key stakeholders in the parks sector to support you in putting your creative ideas for parks into motion.

We are asking you to:

- Complete [the opt-in form](#) confirming that you accept this grant by **5 September 2022**. This is necessary for the grant to be allocated. The form should be completed by the member of staff within the local authority who will be the main point of contact for this project. There will be opportunities to update the contact details should this be necessary.
- Provide DLUHC officials with a project proposal by **3 October 2022**.
- Work with DLUHC to agree a Memorandum of Understanding for how this grant will be used by **3 October 2022**. Letters of determination and grants will be sent upon receipt of project plan and agreed Memorandum of Understanding.
- Complete a check-in form every 3 months, capturing insight to understand how the project is performing.
- Prioritise locating the urban green space in neighbourhoods that need it the most, consulting and engaging these communities in the project design and delivery whenever possible.
- Produce a plan to spend the funding within the current financial year (**ending 5 April 2023**). We understand the exact timing and delivery of local projects will depend on local plans. Please get in touch with us if you have concerns about meeting this timeline.
- Collaborate with us on a wider programme evaluation to assess whether the Fund empowered you in your decision-making on urban green spaces, and increased communities' satisfaction and engagement in the local area.

We have tried to keep this process to a minimum so that the grant will be an asset for you. We are more than happy to discuss if you have any questions or concerns.

Why have you been selected?

There is no competitive bidding process required to obtain this grant. Instead, we have assessed places' provision of accessible quality green space against the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) to produce a list of eligible places.

Local authorities and community groups are best placed to know which neighbourhoods would benefit most from a new or refurbished urban green space. To empower you in your decision-making, we have identified the urban neighbourhoods in your area that are in the top 2 deciles of IMD, have less than 5% of their area near an accessible green space and:

- i) are among the 300 most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in England (Category 1)
- ii) have less than 5% 'green cover' (Category 2)
- iii) have more than 5% 'green cover' (Category 3).

We have identified the above categories to indicate which neighbourhoods are particularly in need and support you in your decision-making. While you can choose

where to site your project, we strongly encourage you to prioritise these neighbourhoods, particularly those in Category 1 or 2, where it is practical to do so. The map in this letter may also help you identify clusters of where an urban green space may be needed most. More details on this data are available in Annex A of the prospectus.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Fund's design and delivery team on LUParksFund@levellingup.gov.uk. We look forward to working with you on creating urban green spaces that represent the incredible places and people of Pendle.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

Preferred LSOAs - Pendle

LSOA 2011 Code	LSOA 11 Name	Green cover percentage	Category
E01025219	010F	0.00	2
E01025224	011A	1.01	2
E01025207	004C	2.03	2

