

Carers Group Cash Grant Guidance 2019/20

Who can apply?

Any Carers group that is constituted and meets (*in the Western Trust area*) on a regular basis (at least bi-monthly).

"A carer is someone who regularly provides a substantial amount of care to a family member, friend or neighbour who is ill, disabled or is an older person in an unpaid capacity."

What can the funding be used for?

To reduce social isolation and provide support for Carers that will benefit their health and well-being. *The funding cannot be used for activities for the persons being cared for.*

Examples of what you may wish to apply for:

- To run a course or pay for speakers
- To run a cooking club with a focus on healthy eating
- To run some physical activities e.g. walking club/dancing/drama
- To have a day trip for carers
- Towards a carers information event

The activities listed above are 'suggestions' and are in no way intended to restrict more creative applications.

What must we include in the application?

Please give details about your group, membership (**numbers, please give a breakdown of current and former carers and age range**), how often and where you meet. Please tell us about the usual format of your meetings and activities. **Please enclose a copy of the group constitution with your application if not already provided in previous years.**

You **must** also include your **Government Funding Database registration number**. If you haven't already registered then you can do this at the link below. The process is straight forward however if you have any difficulty with this please contact us and we will be happy to assist.

<https://govfundingpublic.nics.gov.uk/Login.aspx>

How much can we apply for?

The **maximum** grant is **£500**. If the activity is going to cost less than the maximum grant then only apply for the amount needed. The amount allocated will be based on the number of members (current carers).

When does the application need to be returned?

The application must be returned to the Carer Support Office by **4pm on Monday 25th November 2019**.

When must the grant be spent and evidence of spend returned?

The grant must be used by **Monday 7th September 2020** and the DP3 returns form returned by **Wednesday 30^h September 2020**.

Carers Week

Carers Week is **15th – 21st June 2020**. If you are running any of your activities during Carers week please register with Carers NI or directly on www.carersweek.org

Governance

- Your group must be open to and actively encourage the engagement of all members of the community (informal /unpaid carers) regardless of background or circumstances (see section 75 sections 1 and 2).
- Your group must operate honestly and transparently within the parameters and powers set out within the Articles of Association (Constitution/Governing Document).
- Grants are made from public funds and on the basis of good faith. It is vital that all groups work to the highest standards in terms of honesty, transparency, fairness, equality, diversity, due diligence and probity. Departure from any of these principles will result in immediate 'grant clawback'.
- Should your group cease or plan to cease to operate and disband during the period of the grant you must inform the funder without delay. Under certain circumstances, the grant may be subject to 'grant clawback'.

If you are experiencing difficulties within in your group or have questions regarding your application please contact Cathy (028) 6634 4163 or Geraldine (028) 7135 5023.