

Westminster Neighbourhood CIL Application Form 2020



FAQs

1. What is CIL and what can it be spent on?

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge on new development to help fund strategic and neighbourhood infrastructure in Westminster. This can include new or improved facilities for health, education, open spaces, sports and leisure, utilities and waste, transport and the public realm, and other social & community facilities.

Under CIL legislation, the neighbourhood portion must be spent on:

- the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. This could include things such as new open space, cycle/pedestrian routes, strategic transport infrastructure and community facilities.

2. How much is my area entitled to?

Each designated Neighbourhood Area has a say over 15% of the CIL receipts collected in its area (capped at £100 per council tax paying dwelling). This rises to 25% of receipts (uncapped) where a Neighbourhood Forum has successfully adopted a neighbourhood plan for the area.

The council will retain the neighbourhood portion of CIL but must consult with local communities on how to spend it, in line with local priorities. This application form will help the council decide how to spend this portion of CIL in your area.

3. What will the Council agree to fund in my area?

The council has agreed a CIL Spending Policy Statement that sets out the criteria against which it will judge applications. To be approved for funding, projects must:

- Be in line with Westminster's priorities and policies – they must address the principles and policies set out in Westminster's development plan and other relevant strategies.
- Support growth – they should support the growth of the Neighbourhood Area and Westminster as a whole.
- Be supported by the community – they should have demonstrable support from a cross-section of the community.
- Be cost effective – they should represent value for money and be delivered in a timely manner.
- Be supported by infrastructure providers – they should be supported by the organisation who will be delivering the project, including the relevant council department.

When you have completed your form, please email to cils106projects@westminster.gov.uk or post it to us at CIL application, Westminster City Council, Planning Policy, 17th floor, 64 Victoria Street, SW1E 6QP

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION BY 28 FEBRUARY 2020.

If you have any questions, email the team at cils106projects@westminster.gov.uk

1 Applicant details

Please provide details of your organisation and a named contact so we can inform you of the outcome of your application.

Neighbourhood Forum/ Community Organisation Details

N.B. where a designated neighbourhood forum exists, applications must be made by that body.

Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Forum

Named Contact

Christopher Peers

Email Address

chris.peers@paddingtonnow.co.uk

Telephone No.

020 3145 1212

2 Consultation

Please set out how you have consulted with other community groups in your area on your proposal.

04/02/2020 – discussed during walkabout with representatives from Living Streets, Paddington Partnership, PaddingtonNow BID, Marble Arch London BID, Church Commissioners for England, Hyde Park Estate Association.

05/02/2020 – discussed at PaddingtonNow BID Board Meeting.

06/02/2020 - discussed at Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Forum AGM with a significant attendance of residents and businesses from the Forum area together with local Councillors.

11/02/2020 – discussed at Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Forum Steering Group meeting and selected as a priority scheme.

14/02/2020 – discussed at a Councillors briefing with business and resident representatives in attendance.

17/02/2020 – discussed during walkabout with local Councillor and officers from Westminster CC Highways and Transport Planning.

Westminster Ward Councillors

Please give details of WCC ward councillors you have engaged on this proposal.

Hyde Park Ward Councillors - Cllr Heather Acton, Cllr Ian Adams, Cllr Antonia Cox.

Businesses

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and/or individual businesses

PaddingtonNow BID, Marble Arch BID, The Church Commissioners for England, Paddington Partnership

Residents

Residents' Associations or other residents' groups

Hyde Park Estate Association, South East Bayswater Residents Association

Amenity Societies/Other Community Groups

Any amenity societies or other community groups in your area

Hyde Park Estate Association, South East Bayswater Residents Association

3. Project Details

Please give details of your proposal including proposed timescales

Project Name and Location

London Street to Connaught Village Walking Route

Project Summary

(300 words max)

We propose that Westminster CC undertake a detailed design review of the walking route from the Praed Street junction of London Street, south across Sussex Gardens into Sussex Place and along Strathearn Place and Hyde Park Square to the Connaught Village retail shops area and identify and cost the public realm improvements required.

The east side of London Street is used by large numbers of people every day and is blighted by the narrow, uneven and broken pavement. The west side is excellent, but the east side is nevertheless a main pedestrian route which also serves the main entrance to Norfolk Square Gardens, the area's only community green space that is open to the public. The crossing over Sussex Gardens to Sussex Place is a busy one, compromised by the narrow pavement on the London Street corner.

The design review should look at pavement width, surface, lighting and signage and also seek to identify points and areas where greening improvements and additions could be made to improve the attractiveness and air quality of the route.

This route is one of two major walking routes identified by Living Streets for promotion in print and social media to reduce reliance on personal and public transport.

Proposed Start Date

Following the CIL Cabinet meeting in April we would look to finalise the brief for the project with Council officers and stakeholders in May and commence the project in June 2020.

Proposed Completion Date

The plan should be completed by December 2020.

4. CIL funding amount

Please give the amount of CIL funding you are applying for and any other funding that has been identified.

Total Project Cost

£50,000

CIL sought for allocation

N.B. the council has set a minimum threshold of £5,000.00 for proposals.

£50,000

Other (non-CIL) funding identified to deliver project [please state source]

PaddingtonNow BID, the Church Commissioners for England and the Hyde Park Estate Association are willing to devote officer time to work with WCC in the design.

5. Matching our criteria

Please provide details as to how your application matches the criteria we have set out in our CIL Spending Policy Statement.

Project Compliance with WCC CIL Spending Policy Statement

a. Be in line with Westminster's priorities and policies – how does your proposal address the principles and policies set out in the development plan for the area (including neighbourhood plans) and any other relevant strategy documents?

N.B. Westminster's development plan includes: the London Plan (2016); Westminster's City Plan (2016) and the accompanying Strategic Infrastructure Plan; and Westminster's Unitary Development Plan (2007).

300 words max

This application conforms with the Council's priorities and policies.

The 2019-40 City Plan states in para 6.1: "We will continue to improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists through a variety of interventions including the development of our cycle network, upgrading the public realm, managing parking demand, reducing severance, pro-actively place shaping, junction improvements and introducing traffic calming measures."

The project will contribute to meeting the outcomes set out in the Council's own Walking Strategy, (2017-2027): "To increase the number of walking trips by residents for all potentially walkable trips from 84% to 92% by creating a world-class walking environment in Westminster."

b. Supporting growth – how does the proposal support the growth of the neighbourhood area, and Westminster as a whole?

N.B. Proposals will not be considered for funding that are seeking to remedy pre-existing deficiencies, unless these are made more severe by new development.

300 words max

This is an important part of a key walking route from the Grand Union Canal and Paddington mainline and tube stations through to Edgware Road. In addition to commuter and business travellers there are over 10,000 hotel beds in this small area used by tourists and corporate visitors who make their way across this patch.

Creating clear, signed, attractive and straight forward walking routes will enhance their travel and help improve their health and well-being.

c. Supported by the community – Is the proposal supported by the community?

Please give details of how you have consulted with the groups named in section 2 and how such groups have expressed support for the proposal.

N.B. Support of at least two relevant WCC ward councillors will be required for funding proposals to proceed to allocation.

300 words max

The Hyde Park Paddington Forum has identified improving the public realm as one of its key priorities and this was first agreed in February 2019 and re-confirmed at general meetings to which all member of the forum have been invited.

On 6 February 2020, this project was presented at our Annual General Meeting as one of a number of potential CIL applications and received unanimous support from members.

This project along with other projects were then published on the HPP Forum's website on 17 February (<https://www.hydeparkpaddington.org/news/project-ideas-for-community-infrastructure-levy-cil-funding-february-2020/>) accompanied by an email out to all members encouraging them to submit feedback by 20 February. Social media posts were also used to call out for ideas and to invite feedback on the shortlisted projects on the Forum's website.

Responses included several with general support and approval plus these specific comments:

“All the projects would enhance our experience of living in the Hyde Park ward but my choice would be to target the London St to Connaught Village project.

This is a thoroughfare that is used by many people and will be increasingly busy when the new Paddington Square development is completed. Currently it is blighted by narrow pavements particularly at the junction of London Street and Sussex Gardens. It is sometimes impossible to get near to the crossing.

I would like to see that as a 'diagonal crossing to ease the flow of pedestrians.

I am wary of walking this stretch home at night as it is dark and gloomy and does nothing to enhance the neighbourhood - we would welcome your proposals.”

“London Street to Connaught Village - happy to agree, but personally I'd like to see a lot more radical proposal: either much wider pavements, or, dare I say it, closing the north end of London Street to traffic (access only from Sussex Gardens).”

d. Cost effective – does the proposal represent value for money and will it be

delivered in a timely manner?

N.B. Proposals should show whether the allocation of funding could leverage additional resources to ensure it is delivered, and that the proposal can be sustained into the future. Where appropriate, feasibility studies may be required to demonstrate that proposals can be carried out within 12 months of the allocation of CIL funding.

300 words max

The project will be carried out entirely by the City Council and so will be accountable for its delivery and value for money.

We have made an estimate of the costs involved but this will need to be verified by the City Council.

e. Supported by infrastructure providers – is the proposal supported by infrastructure providers who will deliver the proposal, including the relevant council service area?

*Please give details of the infrastructure providers or council officers you have engaged with on your proposal.
300 words max*

Consultation process to date:

04/02/2020 – discussed during walkabout with representatives from Living Streets, Paddington Partnership, PaddingtonNow BID, Marble Arch London BID, Church Commissioners for England, Hyde Park Estate Association.

05/02/2020 – discussed at PaddingtonNow BID Board Meeting.

06/02/2020 - discussed at Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Forum AGM with a significant attendance of residents and businesses from the Forum area together with local Councillors.

11/02/2020 – discussed at Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Forum Steering Group meeting and selected as a priority scheme.

14/02/2020 – discussed at a Councillors briefing with business and resident representatives in attendance.

17/02/2020 – discussed during walkabout with local Councillor and officers from Westminster CC Highways and Transport Planning.

6 Decision Making

For completion by WCC staff.

Date application received

Name

Date Approved

Ward Members

CIL / Infrastructure Officer Group Project Sponsor

Cabinet Member

WCC Project Manager:

Email:

Telephone:

Project director / Project manager's line manager
