

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

### **Amenity Societies/Other Community Groups**

*Any amenity societies or other community groups in your area*

Hyde Park Estate Association

### 3. Project Details

*Please give details of your proposal including proposed timescales*

#### **Project Name and Location**

Sale Place 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 Sale Place, south across Sussex Gardens into Norfolk Crescent and Porchester Place to the Connaught Village retail shops area and identify and cost the public realm improvements required.

Sale Place has very narrow pavements and poor-quality paving and yet it is the main walking route south from the Paddington canal basin. The direct path south along Norfolk Crescent has little regard for pedestrians with uneven pavements which actually disappear at Norfolk Crescent Gardens, necessitating extra road crossings. Road junctions are unnecessarily wide and favour vehicles with poor sight lines for pedestrians and weak lighting in places.

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. Merchant Square and Paddington mainline and tube stations through to Edgware Road and the west end. 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 and one specific comment:

"As one who is constantly traipsing up and down Sale Place, I do think it's worth making the points that you have outlined. People walking directly north-south, especially from the south, will normally be on the western side of Sale Place - because of there being no pavement on the eastern side of Norfolk Crescent (another topic, I know!). The pavement on the western side is narrow right the way up and is also very cluttered with street furniture.

I can see that it's easier to expand on the eastern side and if most of the pavement on that side ended up attractively wider, it would encourage people to walk on that side (and btw as a consequence, be less inclined to cross Praed Street opposite the Post Office i.e. not on a crossing!)."

**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.

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## 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**