



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council



UK Government
Llywodraeth y DU

NEATH PORT TALBOT

TSUK MENTAL HEALTH & WELL- BEING COMMUNITY FUND

FUND GUIDANCE

28/07/2026
TSUK MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING COMMUNITY FUND
Version 5

TSUK MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING COMMUNITY FUND

1. Introduction

Tata Steel UK (TSUK) is transitioning to greener steel making in Port Talbot (PT) with consequent impacts.

UK Government has made £102 million available to mitigate the impact of the economic shock and to support affected TSUK workers, businesses and workers within the supply chain and those businesses operating in non-tradable sectors and to support the regeneration of PT.

The scope of the funding has been widened to fund additional support services for affected workers, people, families and associated communities.

There is evidence to show that unemployment events like the TSUK transition can have a wide range of impacts, which may be being felt individually or as a community.

Given the significant inequalities already in existence within the local population, there is a need to take action to reduce the risk of harm.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) in its role as an accountable body has ringfenced funding to support mental health and wellbeing initiatives. This has been agreed by UK Government and the TSUK Transition Board.

Key feedback from the community is that services will be needed beyond 2025 particularly when redundancy payments run out.

Based on evidence, several interventions have been agreed including the delivery of a TSUK Mental Health & Well-being Community fund. The aim of the fund is to support local community investment and serve the communities and people impacted by the transition.

The fund will be as flexible as possible, so that the projects supported can serve the community now and in the future. This guidance describes the objectives and priorities for the fund, which is applicable to NPT only.

The guidance is aimed at those who feel that they can offer something to help mitigate the impacts of the transition.

2. TSUK – Mental Health & Wellbeing Investment Priorities

A Project Adjustment Document agreed between NPTC and Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)(funders) sets out the following themes that will guide this fund:

- To harness community assets and build cohesion to support and build community resilience and expand availability of community and peer support in order that the local community is protected and supported during and beyond the transition phase.
- To build on existing assets in the community or enable communities to develop their own response in the area.
- To ensure that active involvement of existing social support networks and community leadership can continue to provide safe spaces to enable the community to come together and build a response which draws on existing local assets.
- To address locally important needs.

Over-arching themes

A successful applicant must demonstrate/evidence how the proposal meets the following criteria.

1. Positively impacts people, families and communities (makes a difference):
 - Links to and supports people, individuals and communities affected by the Tata Steel transition (either directly or indirectly).
 - Helps mitigate the impact of the transition in an inclusive way
2. A healthy and well today, tomorrow and in the future:
 - Is of benefit to residents and the communities within NPTCBC by helping to address one or more of the priorities listed and is consistent with the principles and themes above.
 - Focuses on wellbeing, wellness, being able to look after ourselves and others within the community and health which includes both physical and mental health
3. A resilient today, tomorrow and in the future
 - Considers sustainability and the future of the project without grant funding
 - Promotes positivity and fosters greater confidence and wellbeing.
 - Helps people think positively about the future
4. Represents value for money and uses local contractors where possible.

3. NPT TSUK MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING Community Fund

The aim and scope of this TSUK fund is to mitigate the impact of the TSUK transition in line with the above objectives and priorities and to make a difference now and in the future.

Applications are invited for eligible projects across the county borough. The £1.2m NPT TSUK community Fund will support capital and revenue investments.

The Fund will focus on the following priorities. These priorities are consistent with the Public Service Board Well-being plan (which reflects the NPT Council's Corporate Plan), objectives of the skills fund, evidence and insights generated from the Tata Transition Board structures and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, as well as the evidence sources highlighted above.

Your proposal must fall into at least one of the following priorities: The following are not in priority order.

- 1. Replace lost space for peer and mutual support and networking opportunities enjoyed in the work environment (comradery/camaraderie/comradeship):**
 - Enable and strengthen community networks.
 - Support to develop self-esteem, resilience and coping strategies.
 - Harness or build on or develop community resources (whether that is a physical asset or community spirit) bringing communities and peer support together, including intergenerational activities.
 - Support important aspects of community life.
- 2. Enable and strengthen community networks building or improving what is already in the community:**
 - Build on the strengths and opportunities within the community or enable communities to develop their own response.
 - Provide safe spaces to enable the community to come together and build a response which draws on existing local asset(s)/resources.
 - Opportunities for bringing added and new benefits to the area to harness community spirit, increase confidence and build on what is already in our communities.
 - Early intervention and prevention.
- 3. Encourages and supports mental health and wellbeing – including increasing people's self-esteem, and resilience and the development of coping strategies:**
 - Support and encourage purposeful activities which improve health and well-being and counter harmful behaviours or thoughts.

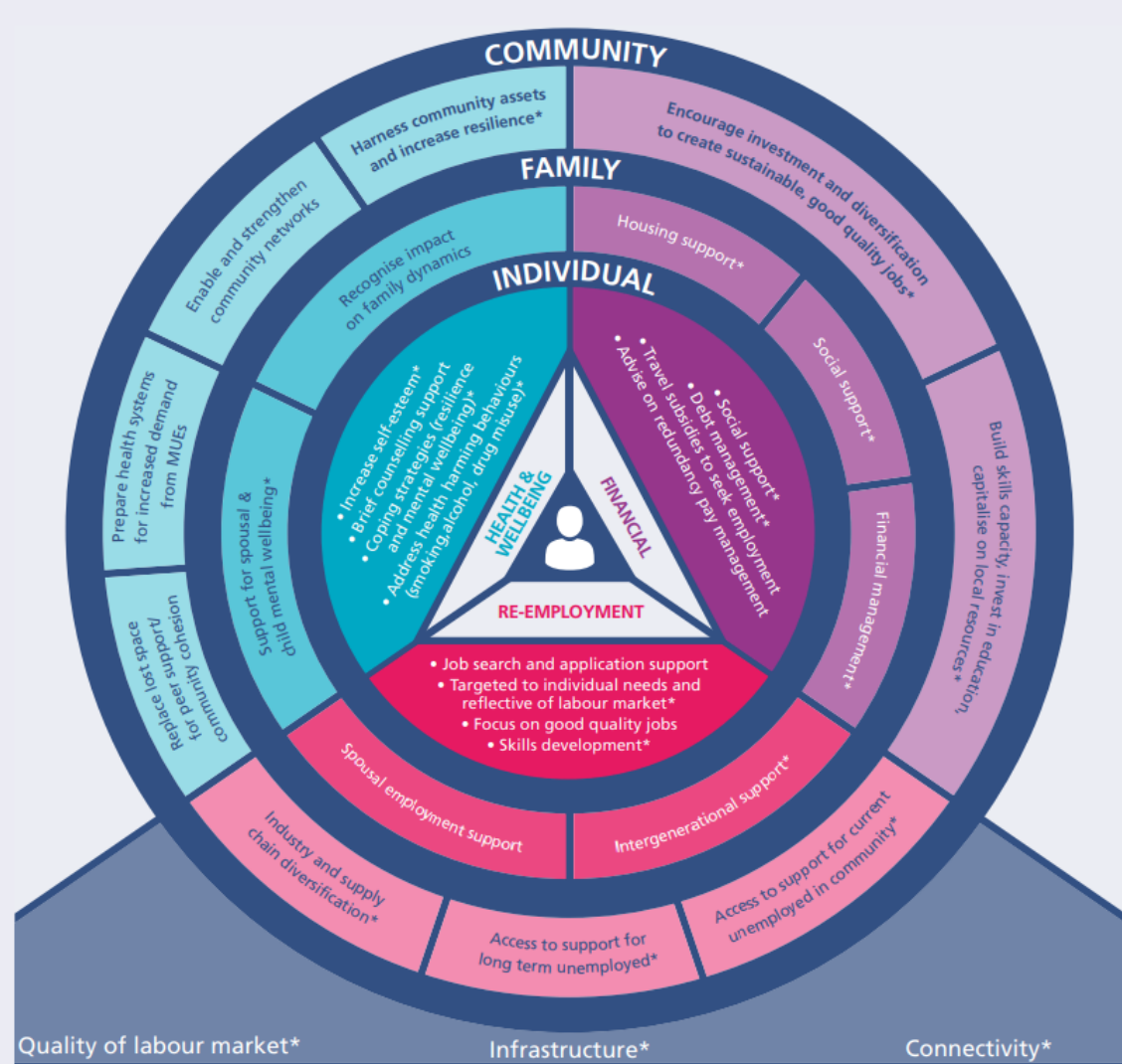
- Engages with suicide prevention initiatives.
- Help tackle poverty and manage debt.
- Protect and support the community.
- Getting active both mentally and physically.
- Family support, including spousal and child mental wellbeing

4. Address health harming behaviours:

- Realise opportunities or encourage new opportunities to support positive life changes and chances
- Support to reduce or prevent harmful use e.g. smoking, alcohol, drug use and gambling
- Support to reduce negative behaviours e.g. violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Build on community spirit
- Builds resilience, cohesion, physical and mental health and wellbeing

The following figure taken from the Public Health Wales (PHW) Report (2017): Mass Unemployment Events (MUEs) – Prevention and Response from a Public Health Perspective may also help your thinking

Figure 1: A public health informed response to Mass Unemployment Events (MUEs)



Examples of Eligible projects

The following are examples of the type of eligible activities that may be considered for funding. This is not an exhaustive list but is designed purely to get you started in thinking about your project or proposal.

1. Positively impacts people, families and communities (makes a difference):

- Funding for new, or improvements to existing community and neighbourhood infrastructure including local green spaces.
- Funding for innovative community initiatives.
- Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including budgeting, debt management.
- Enjoy a better quality of life through better support in the community.
- Help communities feel more confident about the future.
- Support cultural activity, enrichment activities and foster community spirit.

2. A healthy and well today, tomorrow and in the future:

- Support for the development and growth of repair groups or community gardens.
- Support for suicide awareness and prevention.
- Support for promoting physical and mental well-being
- Support to prevent or reduce Violence Against Woman, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.
- Funding for local sports or crafts (or other purposeful activities) which are linked to reducing negative behaviours or ideations.
- Support for community activities to improve health and wellbeing.
- A chance to connect with others, take part in activities, and getting outdoors.
- Activities for children and young people

3. A resilient today, tomorrow and in the future:

- Support for the development or growth of mutual support groups, friendship groups, parenting support, shared interest groups (e.g. repair cafes, community gardens, men's sheds, intergenerational activities)
- Support the development of training where it is linked to volunteering and improving mental health and wellbeing in the community.
- Builds on what is already in the community.
- Support for other small-scale infrastructure projects.
- Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action.
- Activities that raise the awareness around mental health and suicide prevention.

- Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for community groups.
- Better support for volunteers.
- Training for key community persons in mental health training.
- Activities for children and young people

4. Represents value for money:

- Be clear about what you want to achieve and the difference it will make.
- Investment in alternative services within the community.

Levels of grant

There will be two grant streams

- Small grants - up to £10,000.
- £10,001 to £50,000.

Both fund streams will offer up to 100% intervention rate.

Further guidance

The small grants will be open to applications for one-off grants of up to £10,000 to support important aspects of community life. These could include buying small items of equipment, minor capital works, activities, events and projects. The fund cannot support ongoing costs and applicants should not expect to apply every year. You should be able to demonstrate that you are working towards making your activity sustainable.

Eligible organisations

- Constituted Voluntary and Community Groups.
- Registered Charities
- Company Limited by Guarantee
- Social Enterprise
- Co-operative
- Development Trust
- Local branches of national third sector organisations can apply using the parent body's constitution.
- Town and Community Councils can apply for community projects that are additional to normal statutory responsibilities which will benefit the community.
- Local authorities
- Not for profit organisations

Please note speculative applications from organisations who are looking for funding unrelated to the community purpose of this fund will not be successful.

All projects must be located within Neath Port Talbot.

If your project proposal does not appear to align to the above activities, please contact the named Fund Officer who will be able to advise you on eligibility and signpost you to other funding schemes that may be suitable.

Other Costs

Professional costs can also form part of the application where applicable:

- Professional advice (e.g. architectural, surveying, project management).
- Statutory fees (Building Regulations etc).

Where an organisation is not VAT registered, these costs will be eligible as part of the grant. Where VAT is recoverable this will be deemed ineligible.

Ineligible Costs

The following are ineligible costs:

- Paid for lobbying, entertaining, petitioning or challenging decisions, which means using the Fund to lobby (via an external firm or in-house staff) in order to undertake activities intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, Government or political activity including the receipt of UKSPF funding; or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action.
- Payments for activities of a party political or exclusively religious nature.
- VAT reclaimable from HMRC.
- Gifts, or payments for gifts or donations.
- Statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties.
- Payments for works or activities which the lead local authority, project deliverer, end beneficiary, or any member of their partnership has a statutory duty to undertake, or that are fully funded by other sources.
- Contingencies and contingent liabilities.
- Dividends.
- Bad debts, costs resulting from the deferral of payments to creditors, or winding up a company.
- Expenses in respect of litigation, unfair dismissal or other compensation.

- Costs incurred by individuals in setting up and contributing towards private pension schemes.

Work should not be started until a grant agreement is in place. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact the Project Fund Officer at an early stage to discuss any proposals and eligibility, as well as the need for planning or building regulations and key design considerations.

Grants are awarded at the discretion of the Council. The amount of any grant offered will be assessed on an individual project basis, taking account of the environmental and economic benefits arising. There is a limited allocation of grant funding.

Part 2

1. Programme Indicators

As part of your proposal, you will need to demonstrate how you meet specific and measurable indicators which contribute to the overall fund aims.

Projects which secure funding will need to state at least one indicator from the list below. All indicators need to be achieved and evidenced by the date agreed.

Definitions can be found in **Appendix 1**.

Indicators

- Number of people engaged
- Number of amenities/facilities created or improved
- Number of community spaces created or improved
- Number of specialist sessions delivered
- Number of voluntary opportunities supported
- Number of initiatives tackling harmful behaviour

2. Project Delivery Timescales

All projects must be completed by, and funding claimed in full by 30th September 2027.

Indicative Timetable (subject to change):

Fund opens	September 2026
Invitations for Expressions of Interest – fund launches on Council’s website	September 2026
Assessment of Applications	On a rolling basis
Funding Panel (decisions made)	On a rolling basis
Delivery period	September 2026 until 30th September 2027
Closing date for Full Applications	31st May 2027

ALL PROJECTS MUST BE COMPLETED BY 30th September 2027

3. Application Process

- 3.1 Contact the Tata Mental Health and Well-Being Community Fund Project Officer to discuss your project proposal via tatacommunityfund@npt.gov.uk
- 3.2 Your completed expression of interest form will be assessed for eligibility by the Tata Mental Health and Well-Being Community Fund team, and should your project be eligible an application form will be issued.
- 3.3 You may be asked to submit additional information in support of your application where applicable.
- 3.4 Once a decision is made by the assessment panel you will be informed in writing of the outcome of your application. If successful you will be sent a grant offer letter which must be signed, dated and returned to NPT Council within 14 working days of receipt.
- 3.5 If applicable, once all required consents are in place you are able to commence with delivering your project. All work must be undertaken in line with Statutory Obligations such as Planning, Building Control and the requirements of The Health and Safety Executive, a grant offer may be revoked if the work does not comply with the statutory legislation.
- 3.6 You will be required to submit financial claims and monitoring reports for your project within the templates provided. It is the applicant's responsibility to monitor work. Any changes to the cost or timescale of the project, or any change of contractor, should also be reported to the Fund Project Officer as soon as they are realised.
- 3.7 Upon completion of the project, a Project Closure report will be required.

4. Assessment Process

Applications will be assessed and prioritised in line with the following criteria:

- Ability to meet one or more of the fund themes.
- Can demonstrate a clearly identified and articulated need.
- Can demonstrate a clear link to the TSUK transition
- Will deliver against interventions.
- Can deliver the proposed activities within the timeframe
- Value for money.
- All full applications will be considered by a Funding Panel.

Detailed assessment criteria relating to the FUND can be found in Appendix 2.

5. Supporting Documents

The application form outlines the supporting documents which need to be submitted alongside your bid in order to ensure that NPT Council is able to carry out the required due diligence upon your application.

All Applications to complete/submit the following:

- Application Form - completed and signed.
- Governing Document (Constitution/Articles of Association/Rules).
- A limited company/third sector organisation is to provide a copy of the organisation's last 2 years audited accounts.
- A sole trader or partnership is to provide a copy of the applicant's last 2 years self-assessment tax returns.
- A new start-up is to provide a business Plan – which should identify funding sources and a copy of 2 years cash flow forecasts.
- Evidence of additional Funding – Confirmation letters (If applicable).

The following information will only be required where it has been agreed with the Fund Officer:

- Cost of Works – quotations in accordance with the procurement guidelines
- Proof of land ownership - copy of title deeds or copy of lease agreement
- Scheme Drawings & photographs - location plan, detailed or sketch drawings of scheme, current condition and present use of property or land
- Evidence of relevant permissions being in place including planning permissions, landlord consents, licences, building regulations, environmental consent, conservation consent, building notice etc.
- Maintenance agreements where relevant
- Insurance certification and schedule of cover(s)

To express an interest in applying for the Fund, or to find out more about the fund please contact the Tata Fund Project Officer on tatacommunityfund@npt.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Programme Indicators

Output	Definition	Audit Evidence – check below
Number of people engaged	Number of individuals who have participated in mental health and wellbeing activities, sessions, workshops, or community support delivered through funded providers.	• Attendance records, sign-in sheets or similar. • Provider monitoring returns summarising engagement data
Number of amenities/facilities created or improved	The number of new amenities/facilities created or improved. - Amenity/facility means any service contained within a physical structure, including, but not limited to, magistrates courts, police stations, town halls, sports facilities, hospitals and public toilets. - Created means the amenity/facility did not previously exist. - 'Improved' means adding, renovating or repairing facilities with the aim of creating better public space. It does not include maintenance of existing facilities.	• Certificate of practical completion of the works.e.g. QS certification of works carried out, AND • Photographs before and after completion of the scheme
Number of new community groups created	Number of new community-led groups established as a direct result of grant-funded support, focused on improving mental health and wellbeing.	• Confirmation of group formation (e.g., constitution, founding meeting minutes, confirmation email) • Promotional material or activity schedule demonstrating group activity
Number of specialist sessions delivered	Total number of specialist mental health and wellbeing sessions delivered, including counselling, therapeutic workshops, or targeted support interventions.	• Delivery logs detailing number and type of sessions • Session plans or therapist/activity lead confirmation
Number of volunteering opportunities supported	Number of organised volunteering roles supported as a direct result of the intervention. This includes opportunities for people to volunteer on a regular basis, and opportunities for one-off volunteering. - Formal volunteering refers to those who have given unpaid help via a group, club, or organisation: for example, leading a group, administrative support or befriending or mentoring people.	• Declaration by group, club, or organisation providing details of support, AND • Attendance records, OR signing in sheets, OR timesheets.

Number of initiative tackling harmful behaviour	Number of activities or interventions delivered which seek to prevent, reduce or respond to harmful behaviours in the community e.g. drug and alcohol use. This could include preventative measures such as providing peer and social support, developing coping skills to reduce the chance of harmful behaviour in the future etc.	Delivery records, event attendance, campaign materials, harm reduction resources distributed, outreach logs, case studies, evaluation reports
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Appendix 2

Third Party Grant Procurement Rules

Applicants must ensure that the following procurement procedures are adopted according to the estimated value (inclusive of VAT) of the contract at quotation/pre-tender stage. Appointments must demonstrate best value and applicants must keep records to support their decisions.

Failure to fully comply with the procurement thresholds will render the costs ineligible for assistance under the Tata Mental Health and Well-Being Community Fund.

Total Value excluding VAT	Procurement Process
Value up to £10,000 (Inc VAT)	Contracts up to £10,000 – 1 (one) written quotation from a competitive source to demonstrate good practice and value for money. Copy of quotation retained for records. All figures include VAT.
£10,001 to £100,000*	A minimum of 2 (two) quotations must be sought from competitive sources with at least 1 (one) quotation being received. The quotations must be based on: • the same specification of requirements • the same evaluation criteria and evaluated on a like for like basis. It is good practice to establish an evaluation panel. • the same closing date for receipt of quotes, after which no submissions will be accepted. A documented record of the quotations sought, the evaluation process and the decision to award must be recorded for audit purposes.

In the event that only **1 (one) quotation is received, you must contact the Council to provide details and justification of the procurement process you have undertaken. The decision to proceed to purchase must be approved by the Council on a case by case basis. Copy of all quotations and correspondence retained for records.*

Advertising via Sell2Wales

It is possible to advertise on the National Procurement website, www.Sell2Wales.co.uk if you are in a situation where you have difficulty in identifying the minimum number of suppliers required and/or would like to vary or attract new suppliers to quote or tender. Advertising via Sell2Wales is considered to be best practice, however you may feel that you are better able to identify potential suppliers who could provide the best overall offer.

The facility is available free of charge, please visit the Sell2Wales website <http://www.sell2wales.gov.uk/> or contact the website helpline on 0800 222 9004 for further information.

Avoiding conflicts of interest

We recognise that it is possible that applicants / developers or persons connected with them (such as relatives, business partners or friends), may wish to tender for a contract being offered by the applicant/developer. This is acceptable, but applicants will need to ensure that the tendering process is an open, transparent and fair manner, as outlined above, which does not give one person or company tendering any advantage over another, which arises from the process. Appropriate measures must be taken to identify, remedy and prevent any conflicts of interest.

If an applicant/developer or any other person connected with them, has an interest in any of the potential bids for a contract offered:

- That applicant / developer, person party with an interest must declare that interest in writing to the Council
- Specifications and evaluation criteria must not be biased or tailored to favour one solution or any one party over another.
- That person or party with an interest should take no part whatsoever in any of the tender evaluation procedures to ensure that the process is fair to all. It is acknowledged that the grant applicant may be required to provide the final approval.
- Every stage of the procedure must be recorded formally.
- If the contract would normally be subject to a single tender procedure, it is recommended that the sponsor should seek written quotes from at least two other suppliers.

The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that there is fairness in the spending of public money and that the integrity of the applicant is not compromised.

Funding recipients must employ an appropriately qualified professional to assess tenders, supervise project works and provide certificates for completed works. This cost may be included in the qualifying expenditure for funding assistance up to a limit of 10% of the total project cost provided that it has been accounted for in the application form and the Council's specific written agreement has been sought prior to the engagement of consultants. The professional consultant must hold a qualification appropriate to the nature of the works proposed.

Changes to the specification or contract

If any changes are required to the specification after seeking quotes / tenders which affects the original scope of the requirement, a new procurement exercise may need to be undertaken to ensure the best value for money has been achieved. This may occur where there are unforeseen additions to the original requirement, where tenders are received in excess of the available budget, where funding levels change etc. The grant applicant must inform the Council who will offer appropriate advice.

Appendix 3

Application Assessment Criteria

Each application to the FUND will be assessed against the following weighted scoring criteria. Each criterion will be scored from 0-10.

Scoring Criteria	Maximum points to be awarded	Weighting %
Links to and supports people and communities affected by the Tata Steel transition (either directly or indirectly) and ability to meet one or more of the key themes of the fund and will deliver against a wide range of outputs and outcomes	10	25
Extent to which the project can demonstrate a need and how the proposal will help mitigate the impact of the transition on people and communities	10	25
Sustainability of the proposal, what is the completion, continuation or exit strategy	10	15
Value for Money / Financially Sustainable	10	20
Extent to which the project is deliverable within the programme timeframe	10	15
Rating of Response	Score	
Perfect & Fully Compliant Submission – response is very detailed and provides confidence in the applicant’s ability to fulfil all requirements.	10	
Excellent Submission – response is detailed and provides confidence in the applicant’s ability to fulfil requirements	9	
Very Good Submission – detailed credible and convincing response to the requirements	8	
Good Submission: credible response to the requirement	7	
Satisfactory Submission – adequate response to the requirements and programme objectives	6	
Average Submission – addresses some of the requirements but lacks detail in areas	5	
Acceptable Submission – the response falls short of requirements and is poorly explained but not sufficient to warrant rejection.	4	
FAILURE TO MEET THE MINIMUM STANDARD <u>IN ANY QUESTION</u> WILL RESULT IN YOUR SUBMISSION BEING EXCLUDED FROM THE EVALUATION PROCESS		
Weak Submission – falls short of most of the requirements with weak or no explanation. Only addresses the requirements to a limited degree	3	
Poor Submission – scarcely meets the requirements and raises doubt as to the ability to develop an acceptable and beneficial project	2	



Unacceptable (Major issues) Submission either completely fails to address the criteria or fails to demonstrate any understanding/experience/credibility against the programme objectives.	1
An unanswered response, or a response that is totally unacceptable and does not fulfil the requirement in any way	0

Appendix 4

Subsidy Control

TATA Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund is being operated under UK Subsidy Rules.

Each application will be assessed to establish whether the support amounts to a subsidy under the UK Subsidy rules. All applicants will be required to answer the following 4 questions.

If your answer to all 4 of the following questions is 'yes', the assistance is a subsidy. If one or more of your answers are 'no', it is not a subsidy. If you are unsure, more detail is provided in the statutory guidance (see also [Further Help](#)).

Applicants are required to provide a rationale to their assessment in Section 10 of the application form.

Is the financial assistance given, directly or indirectly, from public resources by a public authority? YES/ NO	'Public authority' includes any entity which exercises functions of a public nature. This includes public authorities at any level of central, devolved, regional or local government and non-governmental bodies that are performing a public function. 'Public resources' include public funds that are administered by the UK government, the devolved governments, or local authorities, whether they are given directly, through public bodies (such as agencies), or through private bodies.
Does the financial assistance confer an economic advantage on one or more enterprises? YES/ NO	The recipient must be an 'enterprise': any entity engaged in an economic activity, which means offering goods and services on a market. The financial assistance must confer an economic advantage, meaning that it is provided on favourable terms. Financial assistance will not confer an economic advantage if it could reasonably be considered to have been obtained on the same terms on the market.
Is the financial assistance specific? That is, has the economic advantage been provided to one (or more than one) enterprise, but not to others? YES/NO	This covers financial assistance that is provided to specific beneficiaries determined on a discretionary basis by the government, as well as assistance that benefits (directly or indirectly) only enterprises in a particular sector, industry or area, or with certain characteristics.
Will the financial assistance have, or is it capable of having, an effect on competition or investment within the UK, or trade or investment between the UK and another country or territory? YES/NO	

Where there is a subsidy, we will work with you to ensure that any support is compliant with the public subsidy rules.

*'Mae croeso i chi gysylltu gyda'r cyngor trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.
You are welcome to contact the council through the medium of Welsh or English*