

Criteria	Score	Judgement
<p>1. The need for the project is clearly shown.</p> <p>Refer to questions 19 and 12 in the application form. Back to scoring guidance</p>	0 – Little or no evidence of need.	<p>The applicant does not describe what needs existing or potential project beneficiaries have and no reason is provided for delivering the project.</p> <p>Or, the description of beneficiary need does not link back to the proposed project activities and therefore does not provide any justification for the project.</p> <p>For example, the group may simply state that the project is something they do every year, but do not justify why they do it.</p>
	5 – Sufficient evidence of need.	<p>The project is being delivered to address a specific need, which has been identified and communicated by the applicant.</p> <p>Sufficient evidence of need must include a description of the need (for example, socially isolated older people, low confidence / skills of unemployed people, poor health and activity levels of children, lack of parenting support). The applicant should also describe how they are going to meet the need: the project activity (For example, lunch club, training course, active play sessions).</p>
	10 – Strong evidence of need.	<p>In addition to the above, strong evidence of need will include a description and / or evidence of the research and consultation that has taken place with existing or potential beneficiaries to establish need.</p>
		<p>For example, details of a survey (who it was carried out with and the findings), numbers on a waiting list, relevant statistics (such as unemployment levels), evaluations of previous projects that show a continued need for a project.</p>
Points to note	<p>Evidence of need should be relative to the size of the project and appropriate to the beneficiary group. Consultation can be proportionate to the size of the project, but existing projects should aim to consult with all their existing service users and potential service users' as a minimum (although remember not all will respond). Where a project is the consultation or research to explore need, the applicant should still be able to identify the beneficiary group, explain the reasons behind exploring their need and have a plan to respond to the findings.</p>	
<p>2. A wide range of beneficiaries will be involved.</p> <p>Refer to questions 2.1 and 21 in the application form and page 8 of the guide for applicants (equal opportunities). Back to scoring guidance</p>	0 – Some people who could benefit will be excluded	<p>The applicant has not clearly indicated who will benefit from the project, or the project is open only to people who currently use the project.</p> <p>For example, the applicant does not describe how it will publicise and promote the project to attract new service users. Or, it appears that the project will only benefit the people who are involved in running the organisation (see Q2.1d for management committee numbers and Q2.1f for restrictions on membership).</p>
	5 – The project will be open to all who could benefit	<p>The applicant has indicated that the project will be open to all potential beneficiaries (For example, all older people / unemployed people / children in a defined area, or everyone in the neighbourhood).</p> <p>The applicant must describe how it will promote and publicise the project to this group. This should be in appropriate formats and places (for example, large print, leaflets / posters in key places, online, with schools, doctors, job centre).</p>
	10 – The project will actively seek to involve a wider range of beneficiaries or this is not appropriate.	<p>The applicant has indicated that as well as the project being open to all potential beneficiaries as above, they have identified that there is a particular group of potential beneficiaries (for example, BME older people or disabled children) who do not traditionally participate in the groups activities and they have described plans to target and involve them.</p>
		<p>The applicant is going beyond its existing users and actively seeking out new service users from different backgrounds. Again, they have described appropriate methods for doing this (for example, community languages, contact with different faith groups) and have shown how they will adapt their project to accommodate these users (for example, interpreters, disabled access).</p>
Points to note	<p>Examples of when wider involvement may not be appropriate include women's Muslim groups, domestic violence, and men's health. For these groups it is appropriate to restrict who can take part in the project and they should score maximum points if they are actively seeking to involve all those who are appropriate to the project. Refer to our Equalities guidance for further guidance.</p>	

<p>3. The project will achieve the programme outcomes</p> <p>Refer to questions 20a and 12 in the application form and page 3 of the guide for applicants. Back to scoring guidance</p>	0 - The project does not meet any of the programme outcomes.	The applicant cannot describe (and it cannot be identified from other information) how the project will help to deliver any of the Scotland outcomes.
	20 - The project is a weak fit with one or more of the programme outcomes.	The applicant has indicated that the project will meet one or more of the Scotland outcomes, but it is not clear how the project activities will support this.
	40 - The project is a good fit with one or more of the programme outcomes.	The applicant has indicated that the project will meet one or more of the Scotland outcomes <u>and</u> it is likely that the project activities will support this.
	60 - The project is a strong fit with one or more of the programme outcomes.	The applicant has clearly described how the project will meet one or more of the Scotland outcomes <u>and</u> has described how the project activities will have a direct impact on the outcomes.
<p>4. The project meets the programme priorities.</p> <p>Refer to question 20b in the application form and page 3 of the guide for applicants. Back to scoring guidance</p>	0	The project does not meet any priorities.
	20	The project meets one priority group: a beneficiary priority; or a geographic priority ; or is in a cold spot
	40	The project meets two priority groups: a beneficiary and geographic priority; or a beneficiary priority and is in a cold spot; or a geographical priority and is in a cold spot; or
	60	The project meets three priority groups – a beneficiary priority and a geographic priority and is in a cold spot
Points to note	It must be clear from the information provided how the project will meet a priority. Please also refer to distributor specific guidance on priorities when scoring this criterion.	
<p>5. The applicant has not received funding from A4A.</p> <p>Refer to question 7 in the application form and Merlin. Back to scoring guidance</p>	0	The applicant has received A4A funding in the last three years
	10	The applicant has received A4A funding but not in the last three years
	20	The applicant has never received A4A funding before.
<p>6. The applicant is a small local community group.</p> <p>Refer to questions 2 and 5 in the application form and page 4 of the guide for applicants. Back to scoring guidance</p>	5	The applicant is a statutory body (for example, a council department, health body, police or fire authority).
	10	The applicant is a voluntary and community sector group or Community Council with an annual income of £100,001 or more.
	20	The applicant is a school.
	30	The applicant is a voluntary and community sector group or Community Council with an annual income of £100,000 or less.

<p>7. The total project cost is small. Refer to question 15a in the application form. Back to scoring guidance</p>	0	The total project cost is more than £25,000 .
	5	The total project cost is between £10,001 and £25,000 .
	10	The total project cost is between £5,001 and £10,000 .
	20	The total project cost is less than £5,000 .
<p>8. The project promotes community involvement. Refer to questions 2.1f and 21 in the application form. Back to scoring guidance</p>	0 - The project does not demonstrate any evidence of community involvement.	The applicant has not indicated that the project will involve anyone from outside of the organisation, or beyond its existing service users.
	5 - The project has a small element of community involvement.	The applicant has indicated that there will be some basic involvement from people outside of the organisation and can describe who will benefit from the project . For example, a school environmental project will describe who will benefit from the project activities (access the gardens / play area) in addition to its pupils .
	10 - The project has a medium element of community involvement, or community involvement is not appropriate.	The applicant has indicated that there will be some involvement from people outside of the organisation and can describe who will be actively involved in the project and benefit from this For example, a school environmental project will describe who else will directly participate in the project activities in addition to its pupils.
	20 - The project has a strong element of community involvement.	The applicant has indicated that there will be a high level of involvement from people outside of the organisation and as well as the above, can describe who will help to deliver the project For example, a school environmental project which uses a community gardening project / city farm to deliver the project, which non-pupils can participate in and benefit from .
Points to note	Wider community involvement may not appropriate for specific projects. See Q 2.1f for restrictions on membership.	