



Late Night Levy Fund Questions & Answers

I am pleased to announce that from the 1st December applications for the late night levy Fund for 2016/17 will be welcome. Monies raised by the late night levy have been set aside to fund night time economy initiatives in line with five outcomes agreed by Cheltenham Borough Council and Gloucestershire's Police and Crime Commissioner. Community groups, organisations and businesses in the county are invited to bid for a share of the money to reduce the demand on policing and management of the night time economy as part of a preventative approach within the Borough of Cheltenham.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

The late night levy is a power, conferred on Licensing Authorities by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. This enables Licensing Authorities to charge a levy to persons who are licensed to sell alcohol late at night in the authority's area, as a means of raising a contribution towards the costs of policing the late-night economy. Further information including exemptions and reductions can be found on the Cheltenham Borough Council web-site at:

http://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/info/860/licence-alcohol_entertainment

Why was the legislation introduced?

The coalition felt that businesses which profit by selling alcohol in the night-time economy should contribute towards these costs, rather than relying on other taxpayers in the community to bear the full costs.

Cheltenham has a vibrant night-time economy that far exceeds other towns of similar sizes. The town offers a rich choice of entertainment and facilities making it a destination usually attracting high numbers of visitors some travelling considerable distances to enjoy what the late night economy has to offer.

The town also hosts a number of internationally renowned festivals throughout the year including one of the biggest race festivals in the UK, the 'National Hunt Festival', attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors to the town, at times, many of whom also enjoy the vibrant night time economy.

Although the vast majority of people visiting the town do so safely and responsibly, an active night-time economy nonetheless demands additional resource and cost for the council, police and other partners to deal with associated crime, disorder and other anti-social behaviour.

Who will receive the revenue raised by the late night levy?

Under the legislation the Police receive at least 70% of net levy revenue with the remainder being retained by the licensing authority to fund alcohol-related crime and disorder and services connected to the management of the night-time economy.

Rather than managing two separate spending programmes, a single spending programme for Cheltenham has been agreed facilitated by a Late Night Levy Advisory Group that will include members from the licensed trade.

The approach is designed to be more preventative, will predominately not fund existing services, but instead fund those that are aimed at reducing demand both on policing and management of the night time economy.

What is the Late Night Levy Fund?

The Late Night Levy Fund is a process to manage the allocation and spend of monies raised from the Late Night Levy in Cheltenham on behalf of Cheltenham Borough Council (the licensing authority) and the Police and Crime Commissioner (on behalf of Gloucestershire Constabulary).

What kinds of projects can be supported?

The Late Night Levy will support projects that meet the following outcomes:

- a) Promoting a greater diversity in the night time economy that is not solely focused on alcohol
- b) Supporting better management of licensed premises and public spaces
- c) Working together to support safe movement through the night time economy
- d) Working together to reduce alcohol related health harms by preventing vulnerability, promoting safe drinking limits and reducing pre-loading
- e) Working together to promote a clean environment

How much funding is available?

The total amount of funding available will not exceed £70k. The aim is to support a range of projects and activities across Cheltenham Borough. Funding will vary based upon the nature of each application.

Successful applicants will be paid on a quarterly basis following completion of a quarterly monitoring report. Payment will be dependent on achieving the aims and objectives set out in your application form.

How will we assess applications?

Because the funding is limited, not all applications will be successful. The Late Night Levy Fund is a competitive grant scheme. This means that projects seeking funding will be assessed against criteria referred to in the application form and compared to each other in terms of benefits and value for money.

A guidance document will be sent with your application form, but if further assistance is required, please get in touch with Commissioning Team by email Commissioners.Fund@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

Who makes the final decision on applications?

Your project will then go through an appraisal process conducted by the Late Night Levy advisory group and recommendations will be made to the Police and Crime Commissioner and relevant Cabinet Member for consideration and you will be advised of the outcome.

What sort of costs can the grant cover?

Grants can cover a range of costs such as practical work; equipment and materials as well as awareness raising, marketing and promotion and training.

The Late Night Levy Fund is not intended to fund feasibility studies or research projects but consideration will be given to funding group or partnership development resulting in practical work.

What kind of project is not eligible?

Projects that do not support the Late Night Levy outcomes will not be considered. In addition the following will not be eligible:

- Activities that take place or any expenditure incurred or committed before we confirm our grant (including deposits)
- Any costs you incur when putting together your application
- Fundraising activities for your organisation or others
- Loans or interest payments
- Projects or activities that the public sector has a legal obligation to provide
- VAT that you can recover (you may need to pay VAT on purchases you make as part of your project. You must only include VAT in the amount you request from us if you cannot claim it back from HM Revenue and Customs. If you later find that you can recover VAT that we have included in our grant, you must repay this amount to us).

Who can apply?

There are no restrictions on who can apply for the Late Night Levy fund.

The maximum term for funding will not exceed one year however funded projects may reapply the following year if further funding is required.

Application timeline:

Applications can be requested from the 1st December 2015.

All applications must be completed and returned to Commissioning Team for attention of Joanna Szymanska by 5pm, Friday 29 January 2016 in order to be considered.

All applicants will be notified if they have been successful from March 2016.

To request an Application Form or if you have any further queries, please contact:
Joanna Szymanska, Commissioning Officer in the OPCC, via the below email address

Commissioners.Fund@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk