



Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration

Capturing Lived Experience Grants – Grant Guidance

Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration is funded by Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales and is a collaboration of TCC (Trefnu Cymunedol Cymru/Together Creating Communities), Citizens Advice Wrexham and Wrexham Foodbank. The purpose of the collaboration is to influence power holders and decision makers to:

1. Develop a Tackling Poverty Strategy for Wrexham, including the creation of an active portfolio for financial justice and crisis support.
2. Place the lived experiences of people experiencing poverty, and those supporting them at the heart of both a Tackling Poverty Strategy for Wrexham and the Public Services Board's Wellbeing Plan.
3. Inform local funding decisions using data and insights from frontline organisations that provide direct support to those in need.

To drive meaningful change, we're looking to collaborate with 12 voluntary and community sector groups and organisations on projects that explore and share the lived experiences of people affected by poverty and the cost of living.

We believe that real change starts with listening to those are most affected. Ask yourself:

- Do you feel that the voices and lived experiences of the people you support often go unheard?
- Does your organisation wish it could dedicate more time to influencing local policies and strategies that impact the communities you serve?
- Do members of your team wish they had more knowledge and resources to effectively capture lived experiences?
- Do you want to connect your work with decision-makers focused on tackling poverty and the cost of living?

Our Offer

Up to £2500

1. This funding will be used to help you organise activities or events to capture the views and lived experiences of the people you support on issues related to poverty and the cost of living.
2. It can be spent in any way that supports the project, including staff time, participant incentives, venue hire, food, and interpreters. We cannot provide funding for items



that have already been purchased and a breakdown of costs as well as receipts will be required to be produced.

One day dedicated support from a member of Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration

Our team member can collaborate with you to help capture the lived experiences of the people you work with. You bring the expertise on what works best for those you support, while we provide support and training. For example, our training includes how communities can harness collective power and build influence together.

This assistance will help facilitate your plans and bring them to life. However, we won't be shaping them; you and the people you work with will be leading the way. We can either work entirely behind the scenes or join you on the day of the events to assist—whatever works best for you.

Information offer

Will your activity include giving information about poverty and the cost of living to the people you support? If so, we can work with you to ensure that the right information resources are available and where community members can get signposted for further support if required.

Support to write and share the report

Your work will need to be documented in a report. We will provide a template for this, and the final version will be shared with participants, the public, and decision-makers responsible for implementing a Tackling Poverty Strategy in Wrexham. We want the report to reflect your voice, but we're happy to collaborate to ensure it clearly communicates the key messages from your work, including any recommendations for community improvements. The report should also acknowledge funding from the Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration and the Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales. The report your organisation submits will contribute to a larger document produced by the Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration, aimed at influencing the implementation of this strategy.

Connecting people with decision makers

As part of the grant, we aim to create opportunities for people to share their experiences directly with power holders and decision-makers within their communities. This connection can be made during group work while gathering lived experiences or at the end of the process, by bringing people together to share and discuss the findings in the report.

We will collaborate with you to identify the relevant power holders through our Power Training sessions and determine the best approach for your group. We will support you in making these connections happen.



However, we understand that due to the personal nature of the subject, participants may choose not to engage with decision-makers. This is their right, and it will not be a requirement for the grant application.

The ask:

Grant recipients will:

- **Collaborate with Us:** Recipients are expected to work closely with our team, adhering to the collaborative approach we've outlined. This includes participating in the "What is Power" training sessions provided by the Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration. These sessions are designed to empower participants with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively engage with power holders and decision-makers.
- **Design and Deliver Activities:** Recipients will be responsible for creating and implementing activities aimed at capturing the views and lived experiences of at least 12 individuals. We are particularly interested in hearing from marginalised communities whose voices are often underrepresented. These activities should be inclusive and designed to ensure that everyone can share their experiences.
- **Complete the Project by 10th November:** The project should be fully executed by this date. While a final report is not required by this deadline, all activities aimed at gathering insights and experiences should be completed. This ensures that sufficient data is collected to inform the subsequent reporting process.
- **Submit Findings by 28th November 2025:** Recipients must send us their findings, which can include written summaries, completed surveys, and other relevant documentation, by this date. We will provide support, if needed, to assist in the report writing process, ensuring that the final document accurately reflects the collected data, insights and lived experiences.

FAQs and how to apply

1. What do projects need to focus on?

Many families in our communities are grappling with the harsh realities of poverty that deeply affect their daily lives. Our focus is to capture the lived experiences and powerful stories of those impacted by poverty and the rising cost of living in Wrexham and we aim to present these compelling insights to local decision-makers to ensure their voices resonate and influence the creation of support strategies.

It's crucial that their voices and lived experiences are at the heart of developing a Tackling Poverty Strategy for Wrexham. This approach will amplify the need for those in crisis that



need support. By weaving lived experiences into the fabric of strategic planning, decision-makers and power holders will be better equipped to tackle recurring challenges and drive meaningful change.

2. Who can apply?

To be eligible for funding, your group must meet the following criteria:

1. **Non-Profit Status:** Your group should be a not-for-profit, third sector, voluntary, or community organisation.
2. **Local Connection:** Your group must have a substantive base in Wrexham or be connected with, or meet the needs of, people living in Wrexham.
3. **Financial Account:** Your group must have a bank or building society account in its name.
4. **Governing Document:** Your group should have a governing document that includes at least the group name, aim, and membership. This document doesn't need to be overly formal but should describe how the group operates.

If your group is interested in applying but has difficulty meeting these requirements, please contact us. We will work with you to explore possible adaptations to meet the criteria.

3. How much are the Capturing Lived Experiences Grants

There are twelve grants available – each award is up to £2500

4. What are the timescales?

The grant scheme opens	Monday 7 th July 2025
Deadline for applications	Thursday 7 th August 2025 (5pm)
Outcome notification	17 th August 2025
Complete your activities	Monday 10 th November 2025
Send your findings to Wrexham Poverty Action Collaboration (completed surveys, write ups etc)	Friday 28 th November 2025

5. What sort of activities can the grant be used for?

Below are some examples of what you could use the money for – these are suggestions only and not intended to be exhaustive lists.

What activities could you run?



- Events
- Activity days
- One to one interviews
- Groups interviews
- Surveys
- Artwork/filming

What can the money be used to pay for?

- Purchase of equipment and/or software
- Training and associated expenses for volunteers
- Staffing costs
- Interpreters
- Room hire
- Food

Applications should not include activities promoting religious beliefs, political activities, or goods that have already been bought or ordered.

