



Derry City & Strabane  
District Council  
Comhairle Chathair  
Dhoire & Cheantar  
an tSraitha Báin  
Derry Cittie & Strabane  
Destrack Cooncil



## SMART VILLAGE NETWORK PROJECT

### APPLICATION FORM

A detailed [Guidance Note](#) is available at [www.derrystrabane.com/rural/](http://www.derrystrabane.com/rural/). Please read the Guidance Note ahead of completing this application. All sections of your application form must be completed as fully and concisely as possible, as this information will be used in the assessment of your project proposal. Incomplete applications will be deemed ineligible and will not be assessed for funding. Please note the maximum word limits per question. The application form provides a brief description of how to fill in each question.

[Register](#) to attend a mandatory pre-application workshop on 19 or 20 September.

Email applications to [smartvillagenetwork@derrystrabane.com](mailto:smartvillagenetwork@derrystrabane.com)

Closing Date: 12 noon on Tuesday 19 October 2023.

## Eligibility Check (place an x in the relevant box)

**1. Did you attend one of the mandatory pre-application workshops?**

Yes ☐

No ☐ Sorry, attendance is a requirement to submit an application.

**2. Is the project you're proposing located within one of the following Derry City and Strabane District Council areas?**

Yes ☐ Derg DEA rural wards of Finn, Sion Mills, Newtownstewart, Glenderg, and Castlederg.

Yes ☐ Faughan DEA rural wards of Eglinton, Claudy, Slievekirk, Enagh and Newbuildings.

Yes ☐ Sperrin DEA rural wards of Glenelly Valley, Park, Donemana and Artigarvan.

No ☐ Sorry, we can only fund projects in the above target rural areas.

**3. Are your project beneficiaries from the Derry City and Strabane District Council Area?**

Yes ☐

No ☐ Sorry, we can only fund projects where the beneficiaries are from the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.

**4. Does your organisation/project focus on promoting religious or political interests, and/or exist primarily to raise money for charity or for profit?**

Yes ☐ Sorry, this falls outside the scope of the funding opportunity.

No ☐

**5. Will your project be fully operational by March 2025?**

Yes ☐

No ☐ Sorry, this falls outside the scope of the funding opportunity.

**6. Is your project proposal already funded or within the scope of the council's or another statutory body's responsibility?**

Yes ☐ Sorry, this falls outside the scope of the funding opportunity.

No ☐

**7. Does your proposal improve or benefit privately owned land that has no or significantly restricted public access?**

Yes ☐ Sorry, this falls outside the scope of the funding opportunity.

No ☐

**8. Can you provide up to date accounts and a recent bank statement if requested?**

Yes ☐

No ☐ This may be expected as we move through the process.

**9. Does your proposal have relevant statutory approvals to deliver your project, e.g. a suitable space for a digital hub? (Please refer to section 1.6 in the Guidance Notes)**

Yes ☐ Minor works only (please describe in the box below)

Yes ☐ Major works (please describe in the box below)

No ☐ Not required (please describe in the box below)

<b>Briefly describe any statutory approvals relevant to your proposal OR why they aren't required.</b>	
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# Smart Village Network Project (SVNP) Application

## Organisation Details

*Information only; not scored*

Organisational details	
Organisation name:	
Organisational status:	
Organisation registration number:	
Full Address:	
Landline phone number:	
Organisation email:	
Website(s):	
Contact details	
Primary contact name:	
Primary contact mobile number:	
Primary email contact:	
Secondary contact name:	
Secondary contact mobile number:	
Secondary email contact:	

<b>Please enter the current number of full-time and part-time employees (including yourself, if applicable)</b>	
	<b>Current staff</b>
<b>Permanent full-time</b>	
<b>Temporary full-time</b>	
<b>Permanent part-time</b>	
<b>Temporary part-time</b>	
<i>Full-time employees must work at least 30 hours per week in the organisation and part-time is a minimum of 16 hours per week.</i>	

## Project details

*Information only; not scored.*

<b>Project Name:</b>	
<b>Estimated start and end date for your project:</b>	
<b>Project address (include postcode):</b>	
<b>Funds requested:</b>	

## Q1 Project Need (20%)

*Points are awarded for clear and concise evidence of the need for the project, including demand from target audience within the scope of the fund.*

**Please provide an overview of the need for a Rural Digital Hub within your facility. (1000 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer:*

- Overview of the project
- How will your project support the themes of Rural Connectivity, Digital transformation, and Green Transition?
- Key local drivers of need and how your project addresses the needs specific to your area.
- How was the need for your project identified (e.g. surveys, community engagements, desktop research)? Details should be included in Annex A of this application form.
- Who are your target project beneficiaries, and how will they benefit from your project?

## Q2 PEACEPLUS Impact (10%)

*Points are awarded for a transformative capacity clearly defined for the impact for marginalised groups in the local rural community.*

**Please describe how your project will promote the socioeconomic inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households, and disadvantaged groups, including people with additional needs. (500 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer:*

- How does your project prioritise under-represented or marginalised groups?
- How does your project enable people with visible and/or hidden disabilities?

(It may be helpful to review the stated aims and objectives of [Area 2.4](#) of [PEACEPLUS](#))

### Q3 Economic Impact (20%)

*Clear and realistic outcomes set for the project that will deliver clearly defined benefits beyond the funding period. This could include employment opportunities, additional amenities or helping reposition the targeted rural area as a smart place .*

**What are the main economic benefits of your project? (1000 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer:*

- How will your project help more people in rural areas to engage in remote working and participate in high-value employment opportunities?
- How will your project promote entrepreneurship and smart work opportunities (e.g. through co-located services or amenities such as childcare)?
- How will your project increase opportunities for smart activities in the rural area (e.g. smart agriculture, smart tourism or helping reposition the targeted rural area as a smart place)?
- How will your project deliver improved outcomes for local businesses (e.g. Improved online presence, Improved access to business support, Increased efficiency and productivity, and Additional sales)?
- How will your project continue to deliver these benefits beyond the funding period (e.g. revenue generation from co-working space, additional services and new amenities)?



## Q4 Social Impact (10%)

*Points awarded for projects that clearly demonstrate social impact and improved societal outcomes within the scope of the funding.*

**What are the main social benefits of your project? (500 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer:*

- How will your project help more people in the rural area to engage in social activities and build a collaborative community (e.g. access to Tourism, Arts, Culture and leisure activities, and improved social interaction through networking )?
- How will your project deliver digital inclusivity, capability, and equality of access (e.g. access to technology, digital skills building, online services, and media, including retail, and banking)?
- How will your project deliver improved rural societal outcomes (e.g. online access to local government services, job-seeking opportunities, distance learning opportunities, or health services)?

## Q5 Environmental Impact (10%)

*Points awarded for clearly describing how the project will support the theme of Green Transition and contribute to Net Zero ambitions.*

**What are the main environmental benefits of your project? (500 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer:*

- How does your project contribute to Net Zero ambitions (e.g. reduced carbon emissions associated with remote working, EV charging use, Renewable energy generation and Smart energy management)?
- How will your project measure, achieve and sustain these climate benefits (e.g. the development of a Net Zero plan, data capture from Hub users around transport choices, reduction of energy costs in the Hub)?

## Q6 Project experience/Management strength (20%)

*Points are awarded for the ability, skills, and experience of the organisation, to deliver the project*

**Outline the experience of the proposed team, partnership and implementing arrangements. (1000 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer:*

- Evidence of your experience delivering high-value projects (including financial management practices, location of the project, duration of project, and grant value)?
- How will your systems and procedures track and measure success?
- How will your systems and procedures mitigate against risk?
- How will you manage challenges if they arise? This could include details on:
  - Governance arrangements (e.g. Board of Directors, advisory panel, or trustees)
  - Insurance
  - Policies (e.g. data governance, safeguarding and volunteer policies)
- Demonstrate experience in collaborating with external partners (e.g., Networks, Cross community, Cross border)

## Q7 Innovation (10%)

*Points awarded for projects that clearly demonstrate innovation to solve a problem within the scope of the funding.*

**How does your proposal use Smart technology to maximise the overall impact of the project? (500 words or less)**

*Include the following information as part of your answer.*

- How your project will use technology in your local area:
  - to improve connectivity
  - to demonstrate the benefits of Digital Transformation
  - to demonstrate the benefits of Green Transition

## Annex A

## Detail of Local Community Engagement

[illegible]

## DECLARATION

### Application

- I declare that all the information provided in this application and accompanying documents is true and correct.
- I confirm that I am age 18 or above.
- I confirm that the project detailed in the application has not commenced.
- I confirm that a staff member will be available for up to 15 hours of mentoring between the 1st and 15th of November 2023 (Refer to guidance noted section 1.3)

<b>Signed by Applicant:</b>	
<b>Print name:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	/ /
<b>Position held:</b>	

## Applicant's Declaration

**We hereby declare that the information contained in this application form is accurate and in line with the requirements as outlined in the guidance notes.**

**Chairperson**

**Date signed**

**Treasurer/Secretary**

**Date signed**

**General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)** - When you apply for the Smart Village Network Project (SVNP), we will ask for some personal information. When you provide this information, it is processed in adherence with the GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018 to enable us to communicate with you about the application.