

SMALLER AUTHORITIES TRANSPARENCY FUND

Guidance Note for County Associations

2017-18

The Transparency Fund project and work with County Associations

While all Smaller Authorities should comply with the Transparency Code, we recognise that access to funding will be required by some Smaller Authorities to fully meet the Transparency requirements.

It is important that any delivery of funds is done on a local basis and meets specific local needs and is targeted at compliance with the Smaller Authorities Transparency Code. This means that County Associations will play a vital part in delivery of the Transparency Fund and play an important role in ensuring that Transparency is achieved by Councils.

We are asking County Associations take the lead in promoting access to the funding available to councils as well as coordinating submissions of grant funding applications.

Access to the Fund must be equally available to both member and non-member councils. Funding made available to County Associations is aimed at helping your association promote the Transparency Fund and administer the grant submission process. **Therefore no fee should be charged to either member or non-member councils.**

Who is in scope?

- All Parish Councils (both CALC members and non-members) which have a turnover of less than £25,000 (councils with a turnover of greater than £25k are not bound by these regulations)
- Parish meetings are not in the scope of this programme

What will NALC do to help?

- Provision of a grant to cover CALC costs of running information events and administering the grant submissions process. Please ensure all expenditure is documented.
- Provision of promotional materials to build awareness of the Transparency agenda Provide access to CALCs to attend NALC and/or DCLG meetings on Transparency
- Provision of advice and support from the grants team