**Connecting Scotland Digital Inclusion Fund**

**Assessment Framework**

Applications will be assessed against the criteria outlined in the Connecting Scotland Digital Inclusion Fund Assessment Framework. Each scored section will be rated from 1 (weak) to 4 (excellent).

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| **1 point** | *Weak* | The response addresses some of the requirements but lacks sufficient evidence that the proposed project will be delivered to an acceptable standard or will meet the objectives of the grant. |
| **2 points** | *Satisfactory* | The response addresses most or all of the requirements and provides adequate evidence that the project will be delivered to a satisfactory standard and will meet the objectives of the grant. |
| **3 points** | *Good* | The response is clear and well thought through, fully addressing the requirements for the specific criterion. It provides strong evidence that the project will be delivered to a good standard and will meet the grant objectives. |
| **4 points** | *Excellent* | The response is comprehensive, relevant, and clearly addresses all requirements for the specific criterion. It provides robust evidence that the project will be delivered to an excellent standard, fully meeting the grant objectives and, in some cases, exceeding expectations. |

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| **Criteria** | **Consideration of criteria** | **Scoring** |
| **Rationale and value for money** | A strong rationale for intervention including identifying the digital inclusion challenge(s) that the scheme is intended to address and the outcomes expected.  Explain why funding this project is an efficient use of government funding including how the benefits justify the costs and why funding this project is better than doing nothing. | **1-4** |
| **Innovation/Best practice** | Clear explanation of why the proposed project EITHER:  is innovative, including clear identification of how the proposal will produce new knowledge on ‘what works’ and build the evidence base on effective digital inclusion interventions  OR  will replicate or scale best practice. This should include evidence to demonstrate past success of the example of best practice along with details of how the proposal will either replicate or expand on that success. | **1-4** |
| **Deliverability and sustainability** | Who will lead on key activities, for example, project management, etc within your team?  What role project will partners take in the project?    Provide a project activity and delivery plan, setting out key activities, risks, and timescales for completing your projects (including how you will ensure the project timescales are met).  What is your resource capability and project management including skills & experience in delivering this type of project? | **1-4** |
| **Alignment with government priorities** | Clear explanation of which Programme for Government priorities and/or wider Scottish Government strategies the proposal supports.  How does the proposal support the identified priorities and strategies?  This explanation should reference how the proposal supports at least one the key demographics detailed in the grant details. | **1-4** |
| **Monitoring and evaluation** | Provide a clear explanation of how and what data will be collected. Identify clear outcomes for how the success of the programme will be measured. Please confirm that you accept that carrying out evaluation is a requirement of accepting funding. | **1-4** |
| **Sufficient resource and capability** | **[For those applicants (and/or partners) involved in more than one application]** Provide an explanation with proof of your ability to manage all responsibilities, including sufficient resource capabilities and clear governance structures, should you be successful in securing funding for all/more than 1 of the projects you intend to participate in. | **Not scored** |