

This is a tool to help groups assess the impact of grant applications.

Assessment for impact of the item is based on a set of statements about the outcomes the item requested would have for the applicant.

The statements are drawn from an analysis of 200 successful applications, which identified common themes for the impact the applicant felt the item would have. Statements were then rated for importance for someone with MS, by 170 people affected by MS, to produce a core list.

Supporting information comes from Part 2 of the application form, which asks applicants to tell us how the item would help with improving their wellbeing in the three areas below.

We also consider the letter of support from a health or social care professional. This supports applicants who may find this section difficult.

Outcome statements

Improved mental and physical wellbeing

- Reduce stress, depression or anxiety
- Improve safety or physical comfort at home or outside
- Maintain or increase physical activity
- Improve confidence, self-esteem or dignity
- Improve standard of living (for example, access to facilities or appliances for everyday living or communication)
- Reduce fatigue
- Reduce risk of financial harm

Increased independence

- Increase physical activity or mobility
- Less reliant on others (for example, reduce the amount of assistance needed to maintain personal care, be mobile, or do household chores)
- Increase financial independence
- Increase access to online services and resources (for example, shopping, medical appointments, support and information sessions)

Strengthening social inclusion

- Increase or maintain quality time with family
- Reduce loneliness
- Increase opportunities to socialise - through hobbies, with friends, in the community or online

Applications that do not meet any of the impact outcomes would not usually be awarded a grant. Those with the highest level of impact or meeting a high number of outcomes are given priority.