

Neighbourhood Portion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Bath

PROJECT EXPRESION OF INTEREST AND APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FORM

1) Contact Details:

Name:	Ghika Savva
Organisation:	The Student Community Partnership

2) Project Details:

2.1 Have you or your organisation previously applied for funding from Neighbourhood Portion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Bath

The SCP received £15,000 over two years for the funding for an administration post in 2019. In 2020 funding of £105,000 was granted for three years to fund two part-time Community Warden roles.

2.2 Description of your project – including your outcomes and objectives (maximum 300 words)

The previous funding from the Bath Neighbourhood CiL has transformed the way the Student Community Partnership can operate. Transforming it from a reactive one-person office that handled complaints from residents to a proactive, positive team. A Team that is handling three times the levels of complaints, thus alleviating the workload on B&NES Councillors and Officers. The Wardens walk daily rounds across five Bath wards and run door-knocking campaigns for 22 weeks of the year, providing guidance to support community cohesion. These are the Moving Out and the Moving In Campaigns. This application is requesting that funding be provided that would be used to employ one full time Warden and one administrator for the Partnership.

The Council's purpose is to improve people's lives and give people a bigger say. One of the core pillars of the Council's Corporate strategy is around delivering for local residents. It is important that we "tailor our community engagement in Bath" and this project brings together short term and long-term residents across an increasing number of wards in the city.

These posts will: -

- Provide a daily visible presence in areas of Bath with a high level of students in Houses of Multiple Occupation.**
- Be available to deal with issues affecting residents as they arise; such as litter, noise complaints and parking, as well as licensing issues for Student tenants.**
- Act as ambassadors for the Council and the other partner organisations within the Student Community Partnership by engaging with long term residents and building relationships in the local community.**

- **Develop a network of volunteer street-level Community Wardens in areas with a high level of student residents. Thus, reducing demand on Council Services.**
- **Support the creation of new Residents Associations initially in Oldfield Park and Westmoreland Wards**
- **Act as a communications link reporting back issues to the Ward Councillors, THE Council and the Police Neighbourhood Teams.**

This community facing role would expect to see linkages with a variety of groups: -

- **Resident Groups (outside of the FOBRA coverage)**
- **B&NES Council Officers including those from the HMO Licencing Team, Environmental Health, Parking, Waste Services and Partnerships and Corporate Services**
- **Tenant's Rights (CAB)**
- **Gathering evidence in our mixed communities and fostering good relationships**
- **Ward Councillor Surgeries**
- **Feeding issues into the B&NES Council "Fix My Street"**
- **Student Community Partnership Manager**

2.3 Reasons for supporting this project (maximum 300 words)

The Student Community Partnership (or SCP) is a bridge between the [University of Bath](#) and its [Students' Union](#), [Bath Spa University](#) and its [Students' Union](#), [Bath College](#) and its Students' Union and [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#). It supports student residents and permanent residents in coming together and living in the community of Bath. The SCP campaigns for good neighbourly relations, public safety, sustainability and other aspects of community awareness and partnership building.

The SCP facilitates opportunities for volunteering and advocates active citizenship. The partnership helps all residents to work together to benefit the community and ensures all residents have an active voice. The SCP also offers support when issues arise as we all live life together. The SCP is here for the community of Bath as we all have a share of our city.

Student population: In 2022/23 the University of Bath had 20,311 students enrolled. Of these 32% came from outside the UK, representing 153 nationalities, 14,481 undergraduates and 5,830 postgraduates. (For comparison in 2002/03 the University of Bath had 10,922 students.) In 2019/20 Bath Spa University had 8450 students. The population of Bath as per the 2021 Census results is 94,092. So just over 30% of the population are Students from Bath and Bath Spa Universities.

The Community Warden and SCP Administrator will help to deliver the aims and objectives of the strategic partners, assist in building community cohesion and support the mitigation of the impact of the high number of students in relation to the total population of Bath.

The SCP currently runs the "Moving Out" Campaign. This directly benefits the Council as 25.2 tonnes of materials that would have gone to landfill are now recycled. This saves the Council £28,000 every year.

2.4 Is this a new project or does this project link into an existing project? (include a breakdown of how you plan to allocate the funding)

The existing SCP Manager is based at a University of Bath site close to Oldfield Park, Westmoreland and Southdown Wards. The aim is to continue to base these posts in the communities they serve rather than on campus.

2.5 Target Start Date

April 2024

2.6 Target Completion Date

March 2027

2.7 What milestones and targets have you included in the delivery of this project?

Funding will only be released each year on receipt of an annual monitoring report. This report to be agreed by Officers and the Councillors of the Panel.

The report will detail the activities of the Partnership and the Officers to include statistical information on the effectiveness of the interventions.

To illustrate this a copy of the most recent report is attached to this application.

2.8 If planning permission is required for this project has it been granted?

If Yes - please include the dates and reference numbers for these permissions.

Not Applicable

3) Criteria

- 3.1 How does the project address the specific impacts of the new developments from which the funding has been generated? (You may consider this on a ward basis, a locality basis or a city wide basis.)

The greatest numbers of new properties that are designated for student accommodation stretches from Newbridge and Kingsmead wards north of the River Avon along the river corridor into Widcombe, and then south of the river into Oldfield Park, Westmoreland wards and into the Twerton Ward.

Bath on the whole has seen constant growth in student numbers and the development of accommodation which is required to house them. Over the last twenty years growth in student numbers has dramatically increased. In addition, where this has been

concentrated in traditional areas including Oldfield Park, Westmoreland, Southdown, Twerton and Newbridge there is now a significantly increasing number of students in Widcombe and Lyncombe, Bathwick and Lansdown.

- 3.2 How does the project provide links to the locality in the area where development has taken place? (if your project has city wide impact you will need to demonstrate how the broader community in the city will benefit)

The project will cover all areas that have been affected by the growth in student numbers; the communities which have the densest population of students will see greater levels of engagement. The developments that have taken place on the Lower Bristol Road have all increased the numbers of students in particular Wards. The SCP focuses on these areas.

- 3.3 Please provide evidence which shows how the community has been listened to and what support exists for your project?

The SCP handles complaints and undertakes door knocking campaigns three times a year and has produced analysis of how the community has responded to students that live in areas of the city that have undergone significant development.

The responses that have been voiced at Ward Councillor surgeries have asked for better opportunities around communication and engagement and there is evidence to show how effective this initiative has been for community cohesion in general.

The nature of the student population is continually changing and the long-term residents have expressed the need for a constant link with which they can engage.

3.4 The project must show that it either:

- Supports the development of the relevant area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure
or
- Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.

Please explain how the project fits with these requirements

The Student Community Partnership operates within the context of 'our shared city'. There are numerous developments that have taken place to deal with the higher levels of accommodation that is needed to accommodate the students that are studying in the City's Universities.

The demands and impacts that are brought to Bath by having higher numbers of students living in the City need to be managed through early engagement with the

different types of residents that are living side by side and having to share facilities in some cases for the first time.

Investment in supporting positive campaigns that help with the social cohesion is needed for all of the residents impacted by developments. Generating a better understanding through the running of strong initiatives will generate longer term efficiencies that will benefit all of the community.

4) Project Contact Details:

Contact details for the project (if different to person completing the form)	As above.
Project Name	SCP Community Engagement Programme
Project Location	Bath
Locality or Ward which will benefit from this project	The greatest numbers of new properties that are designated for student accommodation stretches from Newbridge and Kingsmead wards north of the River Avon along the river corridor through Widcombe, Oldfield Park and Westmoreland wards and into Twerton Ward. This project will also benefit Southdown, Widcombe and Lyncombe, Bathwick, and Newbridge.

5) Funding:

5.1 Total Cost of Project:	<p>£201,508 (2 staff full-time) £140,874 (Ft CW and PT, 18hrs term time, only Admin)</p> <p>Over three years £67,169 a year. £46,958 a year on the second option.</p>
5.2 Amount of funding sought from Neighbourhood Portion of CIL Fund:	<p>Full amount £201,508 over three years Part time option £140,874 over three years.</p>
5.3 Does this project benefit from any source of matched funding? (include below the sources, dates funds agreed/expected and the amounts)	<p>The three funding partners fund the post of the SCP Manager and the core operating budget of the SCP. The Universities currently contribute £40,700 pa. B&NES has increased its contribution to core</p>

	costs from £10,000 to £15,000 per year. So match funding is £55,700 per year.
5.3.1 Volunteering Hours:	The SCP currently is responsible for a large number of projects that deliver volunteer hours through the Students' Unions. These new posts will seek to develop new Street Warden volunteer positions and networks as well as Residents Associations. Monthly volunteering hours for litter picking and campaigning to encourage recycling and community engagement. 40hrs campaigning + 10hrs litter picking per month is £600 per month £7,200 a year.
5.3.2 Additional Funds which have already been agreed:	None apart from the core costs funded by the Council and the two Universities.
5.3.3 Funds which have been applied for but are awaiting a decision:	NIL

5.4 Please provide and breakdown of the costs for the delivery of this project

Two employees, delivered over a three-year programme - £201,508 (2 staff full-time) or £140,874 (FT CW and PT Admin)

**September 2024-2025 - £10,211/ £29445 PT/FT Admin £34,475 Community Warden
September 2025-2026 - £10,722/ £30,917 PT/FT Admin £36,199 Community Warden
September 2026-2027 - £11,258/ £32,463 PT/FT Admin £38,009 Community Warden**