

Neighbourhood Portion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Bath Grant Application

Project name:

Percy Centre MUGA resurfacing

Organisation:

Percy Community Centre

Project location:

Kingsmead, Bath

Locality or Ward which will benefit from this project:

Kingsmead

Target start date:

01/09/2022

Target completion date:

30/10/2022

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

Yes, although not yet successfully!

Description of project:

Resurfacing of outside court

The Percy Community Centre is fortunate in having an enclosed outside space. However the surface was laid down in 1997, is showing its age and has also suffered from subsidence. It is a conventional tarmac surface which can be quite unforgiving for some activities. The surface has deteriorated noticeably over the last year or two and we've had more than one booking cancelled or terminated early because of the poor playing surface. The intention would be to resurface it with a modern specialist finish designed for sports and mixed activities. There's good evidence that this will attract more users and ensure that the space will be better used. We've recently had work carried out by B&NES to provide ramped access from Monmouth Place while a grant from the Bath Half has paid for new football goals. Together with a new playing

surface we are sure we will be well placed to attract additional users. In particular the space will now be accessible for wheelchair users and pushchairs.

I would have to concede that it would be difficult to make a strong commercial business case for the MUGA. It is primarily a community facility and a large proportion of its use will be uncharged. However I cannot think of a similar public facility in the city centre; the closest equivalents would be Southside and Riverside.

Reasons for supporting this project:

The Percy Centre is an independent charity (reg. no. 1127986). We receive no revenue funding support and rely on room hire to cover our core running costs. For the charitable activities we provide we are dependent on grants and donations and increasing the revenue from the outside court will benefit the Charity. However, while increasing revenue is important, our primary purpose is to provide the best quality and choice of facilities for the local community. Between 20 and 30 thousand people use the Centre in a normal year. The area we serve includes many families in flats without access to their own outside space and particularly during the pandemic this has been a valuable asset for local children enduring lockdown..

The outside court is used for our regular free youth club as well as the LGBTQ youth group run by Off the Record, by our free holiday playscheme and for social events such as our Percy Old Boys reunion. The space has been used for sports from basketball to football, for skateboarding and astronomy sessions. Even open air baptisms! We have a Mencap group that uses the court each week and the Centre is also used by B&NES Family Services for supervised family sessions; often any children will make use of the court. Much of the use, though, is informal – by local people who just want a space to kick a ball around or throw a basketball. We don't charge for this kind of casual use but it is an important community facility.

Is this a new project or does this project link into an existing project?

New

Project milestones and targets:

This is a rough estimate. Work could start as soon as funds were available and a contractor appointed but progress would be dependent on outside factors such as weather.

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

The work does not require planning permission.

Are there any planned changes that will have an effect on the premises or location where your project is to be located?

No

Are there any planned changes in circumstances to your organisations operation that we should be aware of?

No. However I know that for the previous application there were queries raised about our lease. I have submitted an additional document explaining the situation with this.

How does the project address the specific impacts of the new developments from which the funding has been generated?

There is continuing growth in residential and student living in the area and these contribute to a growing demand for leisure facilities. For example, recent student developments in Green Park Road and James Street West and housing schemes for the retired in Upper Bristol Road and (subject to planning permission) on the Homebase site. The Percy Centre serves people of all ages and this would be a fantastic opportunity to improve our offer to the local community. People new to the area will often call in at the Percy Centre to enquire as to what we offer.

How does the project provide links to the locality in the area where development has taken place?

The outside court is used by local residents but also by groups from elsewhere in the city. This includes students, both informal use from those who live in the area (and there continues to be growth in student accommodation in the vicinity) and with bookings from student societies, particularly from Bath Spa University.

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

In normal times we will receive between 20 and 30 thousand visitors and users each year. We have many activities run by third parties as well as the charitable activities we organise ourselves. A fair proportion of these will want to use the outside court but we know from feedback that not all groups find it useable. We have also recently held workshops and consultation meetings about planned future development of the Centre and improvements to the outside court (MUGA) have often been suggested as desirable.

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:

Increased demand has come from the growing number of students resident in the area. There is also expected to be additional demand for the Centre's facilities from the older population, with new residential developments on the Upper Bristol Road and a planned scheme for the former Homebase site. Other contributors will include, e.g., the conversion of Monmouth Surgery to residential.

Total cost of project:

£25,353.60

Amount of funding sought from Neighbourhood Portion of CIL Fund:

£25,353.60

Does this project benefit from any source of matched funding?

No

Additional Funds which have already been agreed:

Nil

Funds which have been applied for but are awaiting a decision:

None

Volunteering hours:

0

Breakdown of the costs for the delivery of this project

Item	Amount
Preparation and new surface	£20,133
Line marking	£995
VAT	£4,225.60
TOTAL	£25,353.60

Quotation provided by Caloo Ltd.

(Although the Percy Centre is a registered charity my understanding is that VAT will be payable.)