

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

Project name:

Percy Youth Project

Organisation:

Percy Community Centre

Project location:

Percy Community Centre

Locality or Ward which will benefit from this:

Kingsmead (but users will come from all areas of the city and district).

Target start date:

01/09/2022

Target completion date:

31/08/2023

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:

Percy Youth Project

We need funding to maintain a youth project that has operated at the Percy Centre for a number of years. The money will fund the salaries of a youth leader, assistant leader, two youth workers and a studio engineer – all trained and experienced – together with a contribution to room costs (subsidised by the Percy Community Centre) and an allowance for resources. The project takes place on two evenings per week and is provided as a free community service. This has run continually for over twelve years, funded by a variety of organisations including Children in Need and the National Lottery.

For the past three years we have been supported by St John's Foundation (which has now redirected its funding to the pre-secondary school ages). We provide a facility for young people to socialise, learn life skills, and engage with issues with positive adult role models. We have a dedicated indoor room with kitchen facilities (originally paid for with funds raised by past members of the youth project). Activities available include table-tennis, table football, darts, computer games, a suite of iMacs and a music studio with recording facilities; outside is a tarmac games area used for activities including five-a-side football, basketball and skate boarding. From time to time we organise group outings; in the past this has included crazy golf in Royal Victoria Park and trampolining at the Sports Centre.

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.

The Percy Youth Project provides increased access to sport and leisure activities for young people in central Bath. They can face barriers to accessing the limited facilities in the city and multiple deprivations in local areas. The Project benefits these young people by providing a forum for a sustained social engagement, promoting healthy activity and friendly competition, bringing together young people from across the city in a positive and supportive atmosphere. This helps our users to form positive associations as part of their lifestyle, along with the increased confidence and health benefits this brings. The Project helps to build confidence and self esteem during the difficult transition stages of their lives through its friendly and supportive approach to healthy competition. Youth workers provide positive and nurturing role models that will influence the development and attitudes of those attending so that the young people will benefit from their engagement. At times the Percy Youth Project also benefits from the involvement of volunteers (currently we have a musician who helps in the studio).

Numbers attending vary but will often be in the range of 15 to 20 at a session. There have been serious cutbacks in youth service provision over the past few years (of over a billion pounds nationally since 2010 according to a YMCA study). We are possibly one of the only independent youth services in the city centre. The closest comparable services are further out, at Riverside and Southside.

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

It's the continuation of a long-running project that has been offered in this form for over 12 years, although it's built on the Centre's origins as the Percy Boys Club, founded in 1940.

Project milestones and targets:

The progress towards the outcomes will be measured quantitatively by the youth workers and management team using registration forms, registers and session record forms. These allow the collation of geographical, ethnic, and age data along with attendance and level of engagement. This information is then complemented by qualitative data recorded by the youth workers before and after every session in order to assess the success of each activity and identify adjustments and

improvements that can be made. The process of consultation with the young people is ongoing and the feedback from this is also recorded in the session evaluations.

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

N/A

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

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

There is continuing growth in the numbers of residents in Bath as the Council strives to meet its housing targets. In the immediate vicinity there have been new developments, e.g. the conversion of Monmouth Surgery to residential. A significant proportion will be from our target age group (i.e. 11 to 18 years.)

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

Our service users mostly come from Bath although at times we've had some from further afield in B&NES, including Radstock and Peasedown. We will promote the activity both on social media and by displaying posters in local schools. By targeting schools we can be sure of reaching families who have moved into the area.

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

We conduct ongoing consultation with local children and young people, both within the project to review activities and working practice and through outreach within Kingsmead to communicate with local residents who don't yet use the service. Those who attend will be involved in choosing and planning activities. (Previously we have been awarded the Children's Society Children's Rights Charter for our involvement of children and young people in the design and delivery of our services.) We also work with the Black Families Education Support Group.

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:

There's increasing numbers of potential users for youth services driven by new residential developments in the area. This is reflected in secondary school provision with six secondary schools oversubscribed in B&NES. (ASCL survey, May 2021)

Total cost of project:

£32,050

Amount of funding sought from Neighbourhood Portion of CIL Fund:

£28,050

Does this project benefit from any source of matched funding?

No

Additional Funds which have already been agreed:

£4,000 (room subsidy by Percy)

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

Nil

Volunteering hours:

Approx. 200 pa

Breakdown of the costs for the delivery of this project

Item	Amount per week
Youth Leader: 10 hrs @ £18/hour	£180
Asst. Leader: 6 hrs @ £12/hour	£72
Studio engineer: 6 hrs @ £12/hour	£72
Youth worker 1: 6 hrs @ £11/hour	£66
Youth worker 2: 6 hrs @ £11/hour	£66
Total wages	£456
Resources	£25
Room hire (£80 x 2 sessions)	£160
Total	£641
Total amount (£1,197 x 50 weeks)	£32,050