



# Funded by UK Government

## Community Regeneration Partnership – Dundee Community Facilities Challenge Fund

### Background

Positive diversionary activities for young people such as sport, arts, music or other activities play an important role in supporting young people to gain new skills and experiences, raise levels of self-confidence, encourage interaction amongst different groups and in reducing anti-social behaviour. Low levels of physical activity are also a major public health challenge and there are vast inequalities in levels of physical activity across the UK. This is exacerbated in areas with limited facilities, with the challenges associated with higher levels of disadvantage.

The 2021 Engage Dundee survey found that access to and the quality of community play, and recreation facilities were one of the three lowest rated areas across the city.

The UK Government has been investing in facilities to ensure that every young person has access to high quality activities and facilities. Working in partnership with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Dundee City Council has secured £1M of funding to support the development of community focused facilities in deprived communities that provide diversionary activities for young people e.g. sports, indoor activities/youth groups, outdoor activities. This funding is part of the city's recently agreed Community Regeneration Partnership.

This is a **capital** funding programme. Capital means asset purchase, physical works and professional fees directly related to the works. The purchase of equipment is eligible where a project includes the fitting out of a new/upgraded facility. It will not cover the costs of replacing furniture, equipment or updating ICT. On going revenue or maintenance costs must be met by the applicant.

### Objectives of the Programme

The aim of the programme is to provide young people with opportunities to engage in activities, reducing the risk of anti-social behaviour, meeting people and learning new skills. Access to recreation, leisure and sports facilities is a key challenge, with cost and access to facilities often being the biggest barrier to participation for young people. The programme will see new facilities created and existing facilities expanded/upgraded.

Facilities should offer young people/children the opportunity to become more active, confident and with enhanced well-being as a result of participating.

### Eligible Applicants

Community groups, third sector organisations, local authorities, constituted organisations. Other than in exceptional circumstances, organisations need to have been established for a minimum of 18 months so appropriate due diligence checks can be undertaken. If you haven't been operating for 18 months, please discuss with a member of the External Funding Team. Applicants must own or have a

lease of at least 5 years, on the premises to be upgraded. Projects must support youth/young people's activities either organised or ad hoc. This includes sports facilities and other leisure activities.

[externalfunding@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:externalfunding@dundeecity.gov.uk)

### Eligible Areas

Projects will be based in the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in the city, including (ranked in order of % of population living in 20% most deprived areas):

- East End (71.6%) – Mid Craigie/Linlathen
- Coldside (60.9%) - Hilltown
- Lochee (49.4%) – Lochee, Charleston
- Strathmartine (40.8%) – Kirkton, Ardler
- Maryfield (36.5%) – Stobswell, city centre
- North East (34.1%) – Fintry, Douglas

All community areas identified the need for enhanced facilities/greenspace/play areas in their Local Community Plans.

Consideration will also be given to projects located in the city centre (Maryfield Ward) that can help to address the issues of anti-social behaviour.

### Funding

A total of £1m is available. Grants will vary in size from £25,000 to £150,000 – projects will be required to provide match funding of at least 10%. Larger (or smaller) applications may be considered on a case by case basis – based on evidence of need.

<b>Grant Available</b>	£1,000,000
<b>Minimum Project Size</b>	£25,000
<b>Maximum Project Size</b> – larger projects may be considered but must engage with DCC in advance of an application	£150,000
<b>Match Funding</b>	Minimum of 10%

### Timescales

The fund will open for applications in March 2025, with applications being accepted at any time. Projects will be assessed and applicants informed within 6-8 weeks of success (this may be extended if there are a significant number of applicants to be assessed at any given time). Projects must be completed/funding spent or have contracts let by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

There may be a second call for applications if the funding is not all awarded following the first call.

Application Launch	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025
Deadline for Expression of Interest	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Deadline for Applications	11 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Assessment Panel Meetings	Late June 2025
Decisions announced	July 2025
Project Spend/Completion Date	Contracts must be let by 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026

Example projects. This is not an exhaustive list:

- Floodlights at playing fields
- Community Sports Hub – objective of improving access to sport and physical activity
- Support for community hubs – indoor and outdoor activities
- Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) in community areas
- Skatepark development/Pump tracks
- Support for new astroturf pitches
- Games rooms/activity rooms in community facilities – social engagement
- Play areas
- Mountain bike/BMX bike trails
- Community facilities offering activities for young people/wider community

### **Need for project**

Applicants will be required to provide evidence of need for the project e.g. lack of facilities elsewhere in the area, demand from local clubs/youth groups, planned use of the facility post completion, impact it will have on the people of the area and the community etc.

As this is a capital only programme, projects will need to provide evidence of how access to and use of the facilities will be supported in the longer term. This will form part of the assessment criteria.

### **Requirements**

Any applicant must show how the facilities will be used post completion, what opportunities will be available, who will support the engagement etc.

### **Assessment Approach**

Dundee City Council have created an Assessment Panel of key officers and partners who will consider all applications. The assessment will include an analysis of the application and scores on key sections outlined below:

<b>Assessment Area</b>	<b>Maximum Score</b>
Fit with objectives of the programme	15
Community Involvement/geographic location	10
Match Funding	5
Collaboration with Partners	10
Capacity/Experience to Deliver the Project	15
Benefit to young people	10
Assessing split of activity types/audience types	10
Tackling inequality	10
Project sustainability / legacy	15

Any project scoring less than 60 will not be considered for funding as it would be considered underdeveloped. However, achieving the minimum score of 60 will not guaranteed a grant.

### **Process**

- Expression of Interest Submitted – only eligible/viable projects will receive a copy of the application form
- Application form provided to applicant
- Application submitted

- Scoring panel assess the applications
- Feedback to applicants/additional information requested
- Further assessment
- Due diligence checks on projects progressing to this stage
  - Fraud checks
  - Finance checks
  - Previous experience of managing funds
  - Lease/ownership checks – evidence of agreement as required
- Decision made and communicated to applicants

### **What will funding support**

Note that this is a capital only funding. UK Government definition of capital costs is the creation of assets that would generally last more than a year. Note this list is not exhaustive.

- Costs incurred within the grant funding period
- Design fees
- Statutory fees e.g. planning application, building standards
- Capital costs of development e.g. site preparation, installation, landscaping, purchase of equipment, materials
- Fixtures and fittings – agreed as part of the application
- Labour costs of delivering capital investment – generally included in the costs provided for construction
- Contingency costs

### **What will funding not support**

- On-going revenue costs
- Any costs that cannot be capitalised

### **Deliverability/Governance Model**

Applicants will be asked for evidence of their ability to deliver the project and existing governance structures.

### **Partnerships**

A partner is an organisation that the applicant is working with to operate their facility and/or to deliver their project. For example, another community group using the facility on a regular basis and providing opportunities for young people.

### **Community Engagement**

All applications will need to show how the community has been involved in the development of the project and how they will continue to be involved in the future operation of the facility. Partners can help you to provide this evidence. Partners can also help to show how your project is important to the community. The term community engagement is intended to include a wide range of levels and forms of engagement by local people, including:

- Information sharing, so as many people as possible know about the planned project
- Empowerment of local people, developing their skills and confidence and by providing opportunities for them to get involved in local decision making

- Active participation by local people in the project, including involvement in decision making and by providing volunteering opportunities.

### **General Funding Criteria**

Applicants to the Community Facilities Challenge Fund will need to demonstrate that the facility to be created/improved is:

- Needed by the community and well used, or will be offering services not duplicated in the community
- Providing services or hosting activities which offer young people the chance to improve their lives
- Supported by and developed with the involvement of the local community
- Sustainable over the medium to long term (at least 3-5 years)

### **Procurement Approach**

Any project awarded funding must procure the works appropriately. Any works under £50,000 can be subject to 3 quotes, any works over £50,000 must go through a full tendering process.

### **Information we will need**

- Name and contact details
- Organisation name/status
- Company or charity number if relevant
- Strategic documents that reference the project
- Project location – plans/sketches/drawings
- Planned timescales
- Planning permission status (if required) or other statutory permissions e.g. building warrants
- Existing lease agreement or ownership
- Total project costs and breakdown of costs including fees
- Details of any match funding secured or to be secured
- Bank account which requires at least 2 unrelated signatories
- Organisation's financial position – latest annual accounts (and previous 2 years if available)
- Current bank statements
- Organisation's constitution, set of rules
- Details of any loans or financial securities
- Operating income and expenditure
- Safeguarding strategy
- Procurement approach
- Business case for future sustainability

## Expression of Interest

The Expression of Interest (EOI) is intended to prevent organisations whose applications have little chance of succeeding committing valuable resources towards developing a full application. EOIs will be scored against the assessment areas listed above. This is an example of the questions that form part of the EOI – this must be submitted via an online MS Forms form available here:

### [COMMUNITY FACILITIES CHALLENGE FUND Expression of Interest](#)

## Contact

If you have any questions, please contact the external funding team by email and we will do our best to respond promptly.

[externalfunding@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:externalfunding@dundeecity.gov.uk)

Project Name	
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SECTION 1: APPLICANT DETAILS	
1.1	Organisation name
1.2	Organisations Type / Registration number (if applicable)
1.3	Date organisation established
1.4	Registered Address
1.5	Contact Name:
1.6	Contact Email

SECTION 2: Project Details	
2.1	Project Location/Ward Area
2.2	Project Description (500 words maximum): Provide an overview of your project, what you will do with the funding, what activities do you deliver and who will benefit.
2.3	How will you ensure the sustainability of the project delivery, in terms of activities being delivered for young people and facilities maintained.
2.4	What stage is your project development at? Do you have designs, costs, planning permission etc.

SECTION 3: Proposed Budget	
Grant Requested from CFCF	
Match Funding	
TOTAL	
Source of Match Funding	