

## Appendix 2

### Youth and Play Grants Commissioning Plan 2017-2019

1. Southwark is a dynamic, youthful and diverse borough in the heart of London. Children and young people make up a significant and growing proportion of our population, with around 70,000 residents or 22 per cent of our total population, aged 19 or under. Our population of children and young people is ethnically diverse, with 66 per cent of our children and young people from black, Asian, and minority ethnic backgrounds, with minority ethnic groups expected to rise significantly by 2025.
2. Children and young people have access to a range of play, sport and leisure activities. This is provided through the borough's playgrounds, parks, youth centres, libraries and leisure centres as well as services provided by a range of voluntary and community organisations from sports clubs to internationally renowned arts organisations.
3. However, some of our young people still face significant challenges. We were ranked 9th in London and 18th in England on the Child Poverty Index for 2012, with 13 out of 21 wards in Southwark having 30 to 40 per cent of children living in poverty. We also have significant levels of sexual ill-health, substance misuse and violence as well as challenges with child and adolescent mental health and too many children who are obese and overweight.
4. We will seek to commission VCS organisations to assist in the delivery of the priorities as established within the Activities for Children and Young People strategy. The commissioned organisations will be subject to meeting the selection criteria, and be expected to work together collaboratively across localities, with local authority youth facilities and each other.
5. The Activities for Children and Young People Strategy (ACYPS) was adopted by the council in December 2016 March 2017 sets out priorities for the council. This was developed through consultation with children young people and their families.  
<http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s65494/Appendix%201%20Activities%20for%20Children%20and%20Young%20People%20in%20Southwark%20a%20strategy%20for%202017-2020.pdf>  
<http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s65495/Appendix%202%20Activities%20for%20Children%20and%20Young%20People%20Consultation%20report.pdf>
6. The ACYPS and the commissioning plan objectives support the fairer future promises. The objectives in the commissioning plan fall within the Council Plan and the ten Fairer Future promises to create a fairer future for all in Southwark.  
[http://www.2.southwark.gov.uk/downloads/download/3895/summary\\_of\\_council\\_plan\\_201415-201718](http://www.2.southwark.gov.uk/downloads/download/3895/summary_of_council_plan_201415-201718)

7. They will also follow the Common purpose common cause' outcomes:
  - Better partnership working to improve outcomes for residents
  - Improved commissioning and grant-giving to focus on outcomes and be more collaborative, and community-led
  - More resilient communities that are connected and more resourceful.
8. It also supports the council's approach:  
Equalities:[http://www.southwark.gov.uk/downloads/download/2921/southwark\\_councils\\_approach\\_to\\_equality\\_delivering\\_a\\_fairer\\_future\\_for\\_all](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/downloads/download/2921/southwark_councils_approach_to_equality_delivering_a_fairer_future_for_all) in relation to tackling discrimination, promoting positive community relations and giving due regard to inequalities of outcome which may result from socio-economic disadvantage.

### The Priorities for grants in 2017 to 2019

9. What we will fund.
10. We will only fund activities that clearly demonstrate that they will meet the strategic outcomes and commitments detailed in the ACYPS, detailed below.
11. Activities can be provided for children and young people from ages 5 to 19 and range from play to targeted youth work.
12. We will not fund the general maintenance/overheads of facilities for example a youth club, or adventure playground. We will fund activities that are delivered in a youth setting or adventure playground tailored to meet a specific outcome such as a health and well-being programme. Organisations will be required to clearly articulate, what activities they are seeking funding for, and what outcomes they want to achieve.
13. Organisations will be subject to meeting the selection criteria, and be expected to work together collaboratively across localities, with local authority youth and play facilities and each other. In their application they will be required to demonstrate that their activity does not duplicate that of other organisations.
14. Services, programmes and projects will have to demonstrate that their activities meet some of the following ACYPS commitments.
15. **Priority Outcome 1: Happy** - Activities that improve confidence and self-esteem, support better engagement with adults and/or other young people, the development of new interests or hobbies
- 15.1 **Priority Outcome 2: Active** - Activities that increased participation in physical activity, new hobbies, , engagement in after school clubs, learning new skills, peer leadership, participation in youth forums, youth led activities ,and increased interest in local area and communities.
16. **Priority Outcome 3: Healthy** - , Activities that support children and young people to live healthier lives make healthier choices improve knowledge of health and nutrition, improve emotional well-being, improve physical fitness, improve sexual health, and improve access to health information.

17. **Priority Outcome 4 Safe** -activities that support improved confidence to travel using public transport, , reduce risky behaviours, develop young people ability support each other to stay safe, and feel safer in their local communities young people benefit from theme based workshops, on key subjects such as, gang and knife crime, child sexual exploitation anti radicalisation and the Prevent duty 2015.
18. **Priority Outcome 5:** Prepared – Activities to support the development of communication skills, social skills, life skills, employment, training, apprentices, accredited outcomes young people volunteering, improved resilience, ability to manage personal challenges.

#### **Grants awards 2017 to 2019 – commissioning criteria**

19. As this is an 18 month programme organisations must seek funding only for activities that will take place during the period of funding. All funded activities and projects must be completed by March 2019.
20. In their applications organisations must demonstrate that their proposals do not duplicate existing provision in the locality in which they deliver their services. It is advisable that bidding organisations seek to build collaborative approaches with others, so their activities, programmes, projects or activities are not duplication, but instead are complimentary.
21. Grants will be awarded to organisations who demonstrate their ability, and commitment to achieve the defined outcomes of this programme and meet the criteria described below.
22. Organisations must:
  - Be a non-profit organisation able to operate in Southwark and 80% of young people accessing the project must live in Southwark
  - Agree to provide quarterly reports, data and information to demonstrate the outputs and outcomes achieved in the preceding quarter
  - Provision should extend the range of 'things to do'
  - Providers must ensure their support compliments and does not duplicate activity in the area by other providers including the council;
  - Providers should ensure young people have an opportunity to fully participate and make decisions
  - Under the Equality Act 2010, the council and its partners have a positive duty to make "reasonable adjustments" where any aspects of arrangements (including premises) place a child or young person substantial disadvantage. The disability provisions of the Equality Act sets out a range of specific types of "reasonable adjustments" that may need to be made. These include: making adjustments to premises, acquiring or modifying equipment;
  - Offer a varied programme that ensures young people have an opportunity to attain recorded outcomes
  - Be in an area of need, and be open at a range of appropriate times to make it accessible for young people in the area
  - Seek to engage young people in the area, particularly those who are more vulnerable and/or disengaged

- All outcomes must be linked to the 'Activity for children and young people strategy' priority outcomes as detailed above
  - Encourage participants to make decisions, develop life and social skills, and increase their self-confidence and self-esteem
  - Enable them to be more independent and play an active role in their community
  - Organisations must be able to meet the minimum standard as set out in the supplementary information form, including safeguarding and health and safety policies in place.
23. Applications will need to be submitted by Monday 5 June 2017 for grants to operate for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 March 2019 (18 months).
24. The minimum award is £4,000 per annum (i.e. a minimum of £6,000 over 18 months of this programme) and the maximum award is £30,000 per annum (i.e. a maximum of £45,000 over 18 months of this programme)
25. All applications will be considered by a panel of local authority officers, who will appraise the quality of the application, in meeting the priority outcomes, the commissioning criteria and the expectations set out in the supplementary information form. The decisions on the award of grants will be taken by the cabinet member for communities and safety.

### **Performance Management**

26. The performance framework consists of two sections: monitoring outputs, and achieving outcomes.

27. Monitoring outputs:

Organisations that receive funding will be expected to provide data to demonstrate the take up of the activities. This information will be used to demonstrate value for money, and take up of the services provided, and will also be used as comparative data.

The following outputs will be used to measure success as appropriate

- Number of youth sessions delivered
- Number of community outreach or detached work delivered in the period
- Number of young people who attended youth sessions within the period
- Number of new attendees in the period
- Number of young people/ repeat attendees in the period
- Number of young people who received individualised support in the period
- Number of young people benefitting from off-site activities in the period.

28. Monitoring outcomes:

In addition organisations will be required to provide qualitative data to demonstrate the impact of their work. A suite of different measures and methods, that are based on the input from the VCS will enable grant funded organisations to use methods that best suit their skills and ability, establishing the sort of flexible approach the VCS expressed was their preference. Examples include: case studies, questionnaires and focus groups with young

people, audio and visual diaries, personal portfolios, testimony and staff feedback. Key to this will be that the measures are reasonable and realistic.

As part of the application process organisations will have to identify which of these outcome measures they will use and which are most suited to their particular activity.

29. To maximize the partnership with the voluntary sector and the use of facilities we will seek to rent or lease two council youth clubs to voluntary community and charitable organisations to develop new programmes for young people. These are Blue Youth Club and Camberwell Youth Club. Expressions of interest in these can be included in applications.
30. We will welcome applications that include delivery of activities in council run youth centres and Adventure playgrounds.