

APPENDIX ONE

Positive Futures for Young People Fund 2024-26 Commissioning Framework and Grant Specification

1.0 Introduction:

Thank you for your interest in the Positive Future for Young People Fund (PFYPF) - Universal Provision.

Please read this information carefully and in full before completing the online application form.

These Guidance Notes will assist you in making an application to the Fund, provide details on how we will assess applications and what to avoid when completing the Application form. They also provide information about how we process successful applications.

Applicants are encouraged to contact us for clarification on points unanswered within the Guidance Notes, at pfyfp@southwark.gov.uk.

2.0 Background

Youth services provide young people an essential opportunity to participate in peer-group activities and build trusted relationships, supported by qualified staff. They harness skills of young people not fulfilled by formal education and provide safe places for them to learn together, be supported and have fun. This collective impact ensures that no young person is 'left behind'. With 85% of a young person's waking hours spent outside of school and formal education, vulnerable young people can fall prey to loneliness, poor mental health and fear of violence or at risk of exploitation. Investing in universal, open-access youth services shows the council's positive commitment to young people's inclusion in decision-making, community engagement and increased life skills.

Southwark Council acknowledges the importance of prioritising support for young people and in this context, it launched the Youth New Deal in 2021 to enable young people to have positive lives now and in the future, linking Leisure, Education, Local Economy and Children's Services closely together to deliver for Southwark's young people.

Southwark Council also acknowledges the crucial role youth and play services have in delivering this vision and has developed an extensive youth and play offer that includes both direct delivery and commissioned activity.

The commissioned activity is funded via the Positive Futures for Young People Fund (PFYPF) 2022-2024 current programme, which was established as part of the aforementioned Youth New Deal. The PFYPF brought together a variety of grant streams for a one council joined up approach to youth commissioning. The PFYPF 22-24 projects are being delivered by a diverse range of Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations operating in the borough.

This document sets out the proposed commissioning framework for the next round of Positive Futures for Young People Fund 2024-2026.

3.0 Evidence of need

It is estimated that there are approximately 33,000 young people in Southwark between the ages of 10 and 19, with the largest concentration within the wards of Old Kent Road, Peckham and South Bermondsey. Southwark is an area of high ethnic and religious diversity with one third of children at state schools speaking English as a second language. It is also estimated that almost half (43%) of all children in Southwark were living in poverty in 2019/20, and there is a high local rate of childhood obesity concentrated in the north and central wards of the borough. In this context the Positive Futures Fund for Young People seeks to provide an inclusive and responsive youth service which aims to address these inequalities by supporting, informing, upskilling and encouraging young people.

Public Health knowledge and intelligence April 2023

Further data on the youth population in Southwark can be found on the Positive Futures For Young People Fund [page](#) in the attached presentation compiled by Southwark Public Health Division. Below is a summary of key points:

Demography:

- The population aged 5-19 has increased in Southwark in recent years, while the 0-4 population has fallen.
- There are a concentration of children and young people in and around the Old Kent Road, Peckham, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe areas of Southwark.
- Most children and young people in Southwark are from a Black, Asian or ethnic minority group.
- A third (35%) of all children at state-funded Southwark schools spoke English as a second language. Most children who have a religion are Christian or Muslim, with over a quarter having no religion.
- It is estimated that around 2,700 16–24-year-olds in Southwark identify as LGBTQI+
- Three quarters of asylum seeker and refugee children are of primary or secondary school age.
- In Southwark, free school meal eligibility has increased year on year since 2016/17 and is higher than the London average.
- Almost half (43%) of all children in Southwark were living in poverty in 2019/20. If the impact of housing cost was factored in, almost double (25,700) children in Southwark would be living in poverty. One in four children aged 0-16 years old are estimated to be food insecure, higher than the London average

Physical Health:

- Children in Southwark are more likely to be either obese or overweight than in London and England. There is a concentration of childhood overweight and obesity in the north and central wards of the borough.
- Conception rates in 15–17-year-olds are below average and reducing in Southwark. A decline in under 18 conceptions has been seen in Southwark, as well as regionally and nationally.
- Mental health conditions are becoming more common for children and young people across London. Around 3% of Southwark school children have Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, the third highest in Southeast London. It is to be noted SEMH needs are more prevalent amongst children with SEND.
- Most Southwark CAMHS service users are aged over 10, while Black and Asian children are underrepresented.

Special Education Needs and Disabilities: (SEND)

- There was a decline in overall SEND prevalence from 2012 to 2018 but it has since been increasing. Meanwhile, the proportion of children with an Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) has been increasing since 2012.
- The prevalence of SEND varies significantly between different ethnic groups, both locally and nationally. Speech, language and communication are the most common needs in primary school while needs at secondary are more varied

Safeguarding:

- Southwark has a higher proportion of children in need than London and England. Almost half (46%) of children had a primary need as abuse or neglect, followed by 14% with family in acute stress and 13% for child's disability or illness. These were also the three most frequent reasons across London.
- Over 200 children in Southwark have a child protection plan with emotional abuse as the most common reason
- 457 children were 'looked after' in Southwark as of 31 March 2022, similar to previous years

Educational Attainment:

- Two thirds of children in Southwark achieve a good level of development at end of Reception.
- Girls are more likely to have a good level of development (75% vs 62% for boys).
- The largest gap is between children from a White (74%) and Black (61%) ethnic group.
- Almost 60% achieve a good pass in English and mathematics GCSEs, similar to the London average, however there is an 8% gap between the proportion of children from White (62%) and Black (56%) ethnic groups who achieve a good pass.

Youth Offending:

- The number of youth justice incidents in Southwark is lower than the London average and declining. The number of youth justice incidents in Southwark is lower than the London average and declining.

Youth Consultation 2023

264 young people between 18/05/2023 to 02/07/2023 were consulted in youth and community settings. The following outcomes have been identified through consultation with young people:

A) What activities can the Youth Service offer to make you feel safe in your own neighbourhood & in Southwark?

Option	Percent
Social Space / Chill out area	68.94%
Safe place to socialise	63.64%
Stay connected through social media	17.05%
After School activities (3.30pm – 6pm)	59.09%
Later Evenings (6pm -9pm)	46.97%

Weekends (including Friday evening)	51.14%
More community events i.e Sports Days, Festivals, Sports Days etc	57.20%
Not Answered	0.76%

B) Physical Activities Young People are interested in:

Option	Percent
Football	49.62%
Swimming	53.79%
Basketball	38.64%
Gym	46.59%
Boxing	37.12%
Tennis	22.35%
Dance	27.27%
Skateboard	18.56%
BMX	24.62%
Circuit Training	11.74%
Fitness / Exercise classes	35.23%
Healthy Eating / Cooking classes	43.18%
Climbing	34.47%
Martial arts	30.68%
Skating	28.41%
Not Answered	0.38%

C) Young people involvement in making community better place to live, study and work:

Option	Percent
Volunteering in your community	64.02%
Taking part in Youth Forums	42.80%
Being a community champion i.e mentoring other younger people, Peer Leaders etc	39.02%
Being involved in social action projects e.g Food Banks, Gardening etc	44.70%
Supporting other people in my community, e.g. older people, homeless, refugees etc	42.42%
Not Answered	3.41%

D) Activities young people would you like to take part in to make community greener and more environmentally friendly:

Option	Percent
Learning how to grow food, gardening	51.89%
Learning how to recycle things, e.g. clothes	48.48%
Learning how to fix items e.g. small equipment	55.30%
Bike workshops	38.26%
Promoting greener lifestyles	32.95%
Making use of green spaces in Southwark	53.79%
Getting out into the countryside	45.08%
Not Answered	2.27%

E) Opportunities young people like to have to help them move on with their career/aspirations:

Option	Percent
Career Mentors	56.06%
Employability workshops / training	48.48%
Education support: Homework Support Club	42.80%
Budgeting Skills	44.32%
CV writing / Interview skills	42.05%
IT Skills for business/work	40.53%
Support with Post – 16 opportunities	41.29%
Not Answered	4.17%

F) Topics do you think are important for young people to learn about:

Option	Percent
Sexual Health	61.74%
Drug and alcohol	64.77%
Mental Health	79.92%
Stopping smoking classes	44.70%
Healthy relationships	69.70%
Entrepreneurship & Business	60.23%
Not Answered	0.76%

G) Skills young people would like to learn:

Option	Percent
Music production	42.05%
Sound engineering	24.24%
Creative arts	40.53%
Bike and scooter mechanics	31.06%
Radio presenting	20.08%
Podcast	23.48%
Taster courses / Learning a trade	33.71%
Photography	40.53%
Music Instrument	44.70%
Jewellery making	40.91%
Computer programming	38.26%
Not Answered	2.65%

H) Social Media site young people like to use:

Option	Percent
YouTube	76.89%
Instagram	40.15%
Snapchat	43.18%
Twitter	12.88%
Facebook	9.47%
Tik Tok	51.89%
Discord	14.39%
Not at all	6.82%
Not Answered	0.76%

l) What other ways do you find out about things to do in Southwark?

Option	Percent
Friends	73.48%
Schools	57.20%
Family	58.33%
Classmate	35.23%
Posters / Flyers	35.98%
Youth Workers	43.56%
Teachers	32.58%
Email	21.97%
Youth Service Website	15.15%
I don't know or I don't have much info	7.20%
Not Answered	1.14%

4.0 Relevant Background Documents

Fairer, Greener, Safer Southwark's Council Delivery Plan

In 2022 Southwark Council set out its Borough Delivery plan. A link to the plan can be found [here](#). This identified our priorities and commitments to the people of Southwark until 2026, across 7 themes.

The Youth and Play Service plays an important role in delivering many of the corporate ambitions set out in the Delivery Plan priorities. The service has the potential to support delivery of the following including:

- Close the gap in life chances
- Deliver thriving and sustainable neighbourhoods
- Support residents who face the most barriers to employment into jobs
- Make Southwark a digitally connected borough
- Create safe, healthy, green streets
- Tackle misogyny and violence against women and girls.

There are additionally several ambitions in the Borough's Delivery Plan which relate more specifically to the Youth and Play Service and must be central to our service delivery. These are:

- Make Southwark safe for young people
- Support Children and Young People to thrive
- Provide great playgrounds for children of all ages
- Ensuring young people have access to positive activities:
- Ensuring that wherever residents live in Southwark there are local youth and sport activities
- Ensuring access to a mentor for young people who are most in need
- Putting our new Southwark Youth Parliament in the driving seat, working with them to set priorities for all funding for young services as part of our Youth Deal, so together we can ensure it delivers for every Southwark young person.

Southwark Stands Together (SST)

Southwark Council is committed to tackling racial inequalities at all levels. This includes ensuring our grant making and commissioning practices remove any barriers to equal access to funding and delivery opportunities. We will therefore be asking questions about the make-up of your organisation within the process.

We also require that you have signed your organisation up to the [Southwark Stands Together pledges](#) – you can do this by emailing SST@southwark.gov.uk More details about Southwark Stands Together can be found at [Southwark Stands Together - Southwark Council](#)

Tackling the Climate Emergency

Southwark Council is also committed to Tackling the Climate Emergency Together in Southwark. In this process you will be asked to outline how your organisation will support [Climate Emergency - Southwark Council](#).

5.0 Service Specification

All applications will need to explain how their proposal meets the specification. All projects will need to evidence in their application the planned output targets and how their project addresses the Common Outcomes Framework. Below is some guidance to support your application. In determining those projects that are successful this will be considered alongside ensuring that projects recommended for funding reflect and recognise the diversity of Southwark's young people and provide a broad, borough-wide offer of universal and targeted support delivered by qualified staff and trusted adults in a range of VCSE organisations, representing best value for money from both the PFYPF and other council funded delivery projects and programmes.

Required Outputs:

The following outputs will be used to measure success:

- Number of youth sessions* delivered per year
(*A session is defined as the time allocated to youth work planning and delivery and will be 3 hours long including 15 minutes briefing and 15 minutes debriefing and a total of 2.5 hours direct face to face delivery.
- Number of unique individuals attending services per year
(Year is based on financial year 1st April – 31st March)
- Number of Participants* attending services per year (* A participant is defined as a young person who attends at least 9 times in a quarterly period) with a target of 60% of all unique individuals
- Number of young people achieving a recorded or accredited outcome evidenced by a minimum of 1 case study per number of weekly sessions delivered (i.e. 1 for 1 weekly session, 2 for 2 weekly sessions) shared as part of quarterly monitoring.
- Record of young people with Protected Characteristics. It is expected that all successful projects provide all protected characteristics of individuals attending PFYPF provisions through consent. All providers are requested to see NYA guidance on under 18s as a general mail out and consent.
<https://www.nya.org.uk/safeguarding-asset/informed-consent/>
- Engagement in quality assurance activity as part of the monitoring requirements

- as least once a year.
- Delivery of a year-round offer.

Required Outcomes:

In 2017 the Council adopted a Common Outcomes Framework. This framework was developed by a cross sector group with the ambition to improve commissioning, make it more collaborative, joined up and focussed on outcomes for residents, and to simplify it.

For this process the commissioned activity will focus on delivering the following outcomes from the council's common outcomes framework. It is expected that each project will need to evidence how they meet each outcome. Some examples of activity that would support meeting that outcomes are included in the box below, but providers may outline other examples in their application:

Outcomes	Examples of activity to meet the outcomes
<p>Outcome 1: Safer Communities</p> <p>Children and young people feel safe in their neighbourhood & in Southwark</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified staff visible and present in locality. • Late evening and weekend provision. • More opportunity to engage in activities • More Safer Neighbourhood / wardens visible present in the neighbourhood • Annual events / Community Cohesion events to make good connection YP and communities. • Creating safe space to socialise / After school provision • Staff available on the estate both prior and closing of the session. • Good communication between staff and parents.
<p>Outcome 2: Healthier Communities</p> <p>Children, young people & families feel more supported & able to access appropriate health & wellbeing services for the best start in life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building up generic sports-oriented activities. • Opportunity for young people to take part in fitness / exercise classes • Sports / adventures-oriented activities • Developing organised sports activities including swimming, football, tennis • Healthy Eating • Smoking cessation programme • Reducing Teenage pregnancy – Early identification and prevention strategy
<p>Outcome 3: Engaged Communities</p> <p>Young people have increased opportunities and support to volunteers. Organisations can demonstrate they work more frequently in partnership across communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating opportunities for young people to receive accreditation • Connectivity with borough's youth involvement strategy • Developing Community Champion / peer leader's programme • Developing Future Leaders programme • Social Action Project • More intergenerational work • Entrepreneurship

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership with potential partners / various sectors to create employment Opportunities • Project based initiatives – Involvement in locality to make positive contribution
<p>Outcome 4: Greener Communities</p> <p>Young people and organisations feel more able to use green spaces to support social action & health & wellbeing activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor activities • Outdoor gym / play / sports facilities. Street Dance • Events / festivals • Trips / outings / going places • Climate friendly service delivery <p>Engaging young people in developing green infrastructure Sustainable transportation Climate Education Carbon reduction targets</p>
<p>Outcome 5: Vibrant Communities</p> <p>More young people feel ready for work, to train and able to start & grow their own business.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Advice and Guidance • Employability skills - Interview / CV preparation • Coaching • Enhancing LifeSkills • Budgeting • Support with post – 16 opportunities

6.0 Monitoring

- If your project receives our funding, you will be allocated a Grant Monitoring Officer who will be your key point of contact within the Council, providing regular support and monitoring of outputs, making connections to wider council / borough initiatives and joining the dots where possible.
- You will be asked to provide quarterly updates and information about how your activity is progressing, including outputs against the benchmarking figures. The frequency of monitoring will depend on what you are delivering and the size of your grant.
- The information we ask for will be focused on the demographics and protected characteristics of individuals involved in your activity either as audiences, workforce, and governing body or as part of the delivery of artistic content activity. Additional performance indicators around youth engagement and climate change / sustainability may be considered, depending on what you are delivering.
- Once your activity has been completed you will be asked to provide an evaluation summary of how your project went, how you spent the money, who benefited, what outcomes you achieved and what you learnt.
- You will need to provide this information in a standard template and will be agreed with your Grant Monitoring Officer.
- Stories of success and challenges that emerge through the evaluation process may be shared publicly where appropriate.
- We want to encourage current and future applicants to be ambitious, learn from failure and celebrate success.
- As part of the monitoring process we ask that all successful providers engage in quality assurance activity as least once a year.
- Organisations will be required to provide qualitative data to demonstrate the impact of their work. Organisations will have to identify which of these outcome

measures they will use and which are most suited to their particular activity. Examples are case studies, before and after questionnaires, parental submissions, observations, focus groups with young people, audio and visual diaries, personal portfolios and staff feedback.

- Base line targets will be set each year for each commissioned provider in consultation with Youth Service Commissioning team which and will be monitored against delivery performance in each quarter.
- Even though the grant is awarded for two years 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025 and 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026, an annual performance appraisal will take place at the end of first year against set targets through quarterly monitoring return and visits.
- Providers are expected to develop forward plan for year 2 to address and mitigate any concerns raised in relation to performance from year one.

7.0 How much can you apply for:

The total funding available for the 'Positive Futures for Young People Fund' grants programme for the period 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2026 is £1,125,994.

The minimum award is £10,000 (£20,000 over 24 months) for one session a week and the maximum award is £26,000 - £30,000 per annum (i.e. a maximum of £52,000 - £60,000 over 24 months of the programme).

Delivery of work is expected to be of a regular nature over the year including during school holiday periods, and especially during the Easter and Summer school holiday breaks.

The council may offer a lower amount than requested following an assessment of the proposal and budget.

Organisations will be required to identify which specific LOT they are applying for from any of the followings, and a separate application for each LOT will need to be submitted:

- LOT1: Organisation wishing to apply for up to £30k per year for a two-year period to deliver activities from their own or third party premises.
- LOT2: Organisation wishing to apply for up to £30k per year for a two-year period to deliver activities from Damilola Taylor, Brandon or New Venture Youth centres.
- LOT3: Organisations wishing to apply to deliver activities from Damilola Taylor, Brandon or New Venture Youth centres and who do not require funding (their project already has funding from third parties).
- LOT4: Specialist projects directed to specific protected characteristic cohorts i.e., LGBTQ+ and SEND.
- LOT5: Organisations wishing to apply for funding to deliver on the Kingswood Estate, which is complimentary to the existing council direct delivery offer.
- LOT 6: Organisations wishing to apply for funding to deliver adventure play and which have secured access to a Southwark based Adventure Playground.

Organisations will be subject to meeting the selection criteria and are expected to work together collaboratively across localities, with local authority youth and play facilities and each other. In their application, they will have to demonstrate that their activity does not duplicate that of other organisations.

It is advisable that bidding organisations seek to build collaborative approaches with others, so their activities, programmes, projects or activities are not duplicated, but instead are complimentary.

Grants will be awarded to organisations who demonstrate their ability, and commitment to achieving the defined outcomes of this programme. When considering the impact that the bid might have against the outcomes a number of criteria will be considered, including whether the activity meets the overarching vision for the council’s youth offer.

Organisations must meet standard procedures such as qualified staff with varied skills working with children and young people, safeguarding, health and safety; they must demonstrate sufficient experience and success in delivery; and they must meet the financial requirements. All the information required will be specified in the application form and associated guidance document.

8.0 Application Process

The PFYPF Grant programme application process will adopt a new three-stage format:

- Stage 1 – Expression of Interest (EOI)
- Stage 2 – Application Form
- Stage 2 – Presentation

Stage 1 -EOI	0%	Screening process. Only those meet criteria will go to stage 2.
Stage 2 – Application form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Proposal • Evidence of need and consultation. • Quality Assurance • Budget and Budget Monitoring 	80%	All organisations will be invited to attend stage 3 of the commissioning process. presentation
Stage 3 - Presentation	20%	Each organisation will be required to do a presentation maximum of 20 minutes.

9.0 Application Process timeframe

Activity	Dates
Market warming event	23 rd August 2023
Expression of Interest (EOI) open	24 th August 2023
Expression of Interest closes	17 th September 2023
Assessment of EOI	18 th September – 30 th September 2023
Notification to progress to stage 2 of the commissioning process	By 30 th September 2023
Stage 2 open	3 rd October 2023
Stage 2 closes	15 th October 2023

Notification for stage 3 of commissioning process - presentation	Week beginning 16th October 2023
Review applications by panel members	23 rd October 2023
Presentations to panels	24 th –26 th October 2023
Review applications and advise the Lead Member on successful organisations in Report	November 2023
Report published and decision (taken)	15 th December 2023
Decision implemented and formal notification to applicants	January 2024
Start date for newly commissioned organisations	1 st April 2024

10. If your application is successful

- Successful applicants will be required to work with [the Council's terms and conditions of grant funding](#) (PDF, 350kb).
- You will be set up on the Council's finance system so that you can receive your funding. Funding instalments will be in four quarterly payments/year. One at the start of your project, and followings on receipt of your quarterly monitoring report.
- We will introduce you to your Grant Monitoring Officer who will be your main point of contact to ensure that you get the most out of your grant.

11. If your application is unsuccessful

If your application is unsuccessful, we will offer feedback where possible.