ROYAL borough of GREENWICH



# NextGen Grants Prospectus Round 1

# NextGen Grants Prospectus

## About NextGen Grants

**NextGen Grants** is a children and youth-focused funding programme established by the Royal Borough of Greenwich. It provides grants to deliver positive activities for children and young people. Organisations from Greenwich and beyond are invited to apply. Funded activities must be for children and young people that live or attend school in Greenwich and are aged 5-18 (up to 25 with SEND and/or care leavers). Through the current round (Round 1) organisations can apply for funding of between **£5,000-£30,000** (a Launch grant) or **>£30,000-£130,000** (a Grow grant), both of which are for delivery over two years from **April 2027 to March 2029**. NextGen Grants is a key element of NextGen Greenwich.

**NextGen Greenwich** is Royal Greenwich's new children and youth offer. Built on extensive research and consultation with children, young people, families and our wider community, it will enable children and young people to realise their ambitions, while also supporting and growing our valued Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS). The programme includes three elements: **NextGen Youth**, **NextGen School Aged Health and Wellbeing Service (SHAW)** and **NextGen Grants**. All elements centre youth voice and choice, ensuring that services are built on the needs and priorities of our children and young people. Read more and sign up for updates here

This document shares information about **NextGen Grants** for prospective applicants, setting out aims, values, priorities and important guidance about who can apply and for what.

## Aims

1. NextGen Grants will empower children and young people in Greenwich, supporting them to gain confidence, resilience and a sense of belonging through fun, positive activities that reflect their priorities.

2. The fund will also support our Royal Greenwich mission to strengthen the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector, enabling organisations to provide more quality support to children and young people most in need.

## Values

NextGen Grants is underpinned by four values developed by children and young people. They want the activities delivered to align with the values and for adults involved to use these to help guide how and why we do things. Applications for funding should be grounded in these core values

- **Youth-led** – *youth voice and choice at the heart*
- **Imaginative** – *recognising the importance of creativity and fun*
- **Authentic** – *true to Greenwich, reflecting who we are*
- **Community** – *embedded in our community and strengthening links*

## Priorities

The fund will support projects delivered in Greenwich that provide positive activities for children and young people aged 5-18 (up to 25 with SEND and/or care leavers) who live or attend school in Greenwich. Children and young people have identified six NextGen Greenwich priorities (see below) and activities funded through NextGen Grants must align with one or more of these.



**Our Present & Future:** Activities that will support our present and future by acting as a launchpad to real-world experiences, life skills and opportunities to see what the future could hold for us.



**Our Support:** Activities that support us with consistent and compassionate help that is available in ways that work for different people and situations.



**Our Safety:** Activities that will support our cultural, physical and emotional safety by giving us access to the spaces and education we need to make informed choices and feel protected at school, online, and in our communities.



**Our Voice:** Activities that will support our voice and choice by empowering young people to shape services and share information in ways that feel relevant and respectful.



**Our Health:** Activities that will support our health by making mental, emotional and physical wellbeing support easy to access, trustworthy, and built around what young people actually need.



**Our Relationships:** Activities that will support our relationships by allowing us space to build strong connections with others and feel supported at home, in school, and in our communities.

The 'Example Activities Table' below provides guidance about the kinds of activities that could be delivered. This has been informed by:

- Consultation with children and young people for NextGen Greenwich
- Greenwich's 2025/2026 Schools Health Education Unit Survey (6,105 5-19 Yr olds from 46 schools took part in 2025)
- Greenwich public health priorities
- Workshops with VCFS organisations
- Discussions with Greenwich Children's Service professionals

However, we know that applicants' knowledge and expertise will mean you are aware of wider activities that will enable young people to reach their potential, under these priorities. These ideas are welcome where strong evidence of need and youth voice is provided.

See also **Appendix A: What We Heard From Young People** for a visual representation of feedback.

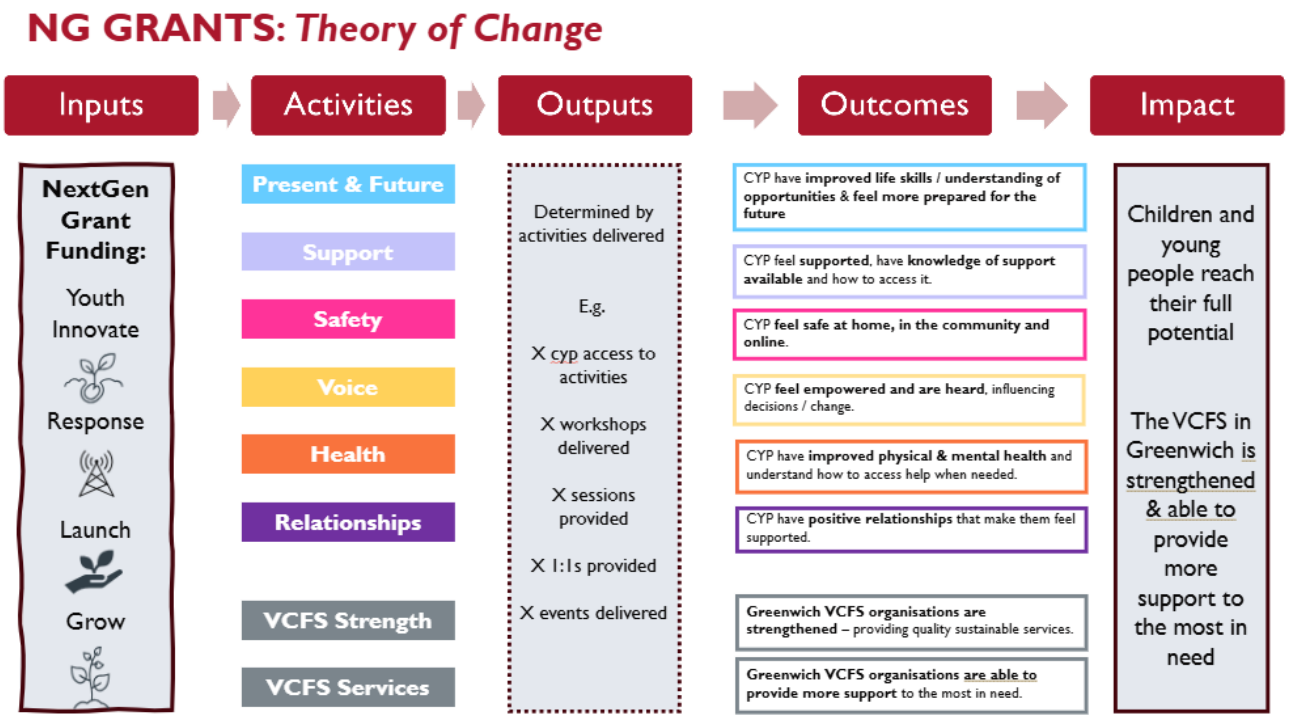
## Example Activities

| Priority | Activities | Examples |
|---|---|---|
| **Our Present & Future** | Activities that will support our present and future by acting as a launchpad to real-world experiences, life skills and opportunities to see what the future could hold for us. | *Education or career support*<br>*Managing transitions (primary to secondary, post-16 and into adulthood)*<br>*Volunteering and work experience*<br>*Financial and decision-making skills*<br>*Life skills like travel, using digital tools, earning money , making and fixing and cooking*<br>*Environmental issues activities* |
| **Our Support** | Activities that support us with consistent and compassionate help that is available in ways that work for different people and situations. | *Someone to talk to*<br>*Mental health, emotional wellbeing and resilience support**<br>*Culturally appropriate mental wellbeing support*<br>*Youth mentoring*<br>*Peer support programmes*<br>*Confidence and self-esteem building activities* |
| **Our Safety** | Activities that will support our cultural, physical and emotional safety by giving us access to the spaces and education we need to make informed choices and feel protected at school, online, and in our communities. | *Safe physical spaces to hang out*<br>*Guidance about safety when out and about*<br>*Online safety advice, e.g. about cyberbullying, sexually explicit content, online grooming and image sharing*<br>*Anti-bullying activities (including cyber bullying)* |
| **Our Voice** | Activities that will support our voice and choice by empowering young people to shape services and share information in ways that feel relevant and respectful. | *Spaces to be seen, heard and explore identity*<br>*Opportunities to be part of groups of young people coming together and learning from one another*<br>*Opportunities to develop ideas and projects*<br>*Different ways for cyp to express themselves in ways they might not always be able to at school*<br>*Youth led social media campaigns or podcasts on topics such as screen time and sleep* |
| **Our Health** | Activities that will support our health by making mental, emotional and physical wellbeing support easy to access, trustworthy, and built around what young people actually need. | *Sports for wellbeing – activities that engage cyp in conversations about health*<br>*Other activities that help cyp build lifelong healthy habits e.g. swimming, outdoor activities or active travel programmes*<br>*Young Health Champions – peers who can share reliable health information*<br>*Creative health projects - using drama, music, film etc. to explore health issues such as understanding health risks and making informed choices, e.g. about vaping / smoking, drugs, alcohol, gambling, sexual health etc.*<br>*Relaxation & meditation sessions. Play and fun.*<br>*Culturally relevant spaces for physical activity and food , cooking clubs or community food projects*<br>*LGBTQ+ inclusion* |
| **Our Relationships** | Activities that will support our relationships by allowing us space to build strong connections with others and feel supported at home, in school, and in our communities. | *Activities that help with making friends and building relationships*<br>*Healthy relationships and relationship advice*<br>*Boys being able to express feelings in healthy and sustainable ways*<br>*Social skills development* |

** Mental health support focused on vulnerable groups e.g. communities that have experienced racism, from deprived neighbourhoods, sanctuary seeking, women and girls, LGBTQ+, with SEND, children in our care, young carers and those with unmet mental health needs.*

# Impact of Next Gen Grants

You can see the full **NextGen Grants Theory of Change** below. This shows how we anticipate the NextGen Grants will lead to Greenwich's children and young people reaching their full potential.




## Activities, outputs, outcomes and impact – what are these?

**Activities** are the interventions under one or more of the 6 NextGen Grants priorities – e.g. health-related sports activities for cyp aged 10-15.

**Outputs** are what will actually be delivered and can be quantified - e.g. 150 children and young people participating, 10 workshops delivered, 6 events delivered, 15 sessions run. You will be asked to set these out clearly your application.

**Outcomes** are the changes that happen as a result - e.g. cyp have improved physical health.

**Impact** is the broader, longer-term difference the activities contributes to – e.g. children and young people reach their full potential.

# Outcomes

NextGen Grants projects should aim to deliver outcomes that help achieve the overall impact – that Greenwich children and young people reach their full potential. There are 6 NextGen Grants Outcomes. These are set out in the table below, alongside indicators that can be used to measure them.

| Priority | Outcome | Indicators |
|---|---|---|
| Our Present & Future | CYP have **improved life skills / understanding of opportunities** & **feel more prepared for the future** | Number and % of cyp reporting improvement in life skills.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting improved understanding of opportunities.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting feeling more prepared for the future.<br>Number and % of cyp taking a next step in their progression i.e. securing a job interview, applying for course.<br>Number and % cyp that gaining new skills / qualifications.<br>Number and % of cyp people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities |
| Our Support | CYP feel **more supported** and have **improved knowledge of support available** and how to access it. | Number and % of cyp reporting improvement in feeling supported.<br>Number and & of cyp reporting improved knowledge of support available & how to access.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting increased self-esteem and confidence. |
| Our Safety | CYP **feel safer at home, in the community and online**. | Number and % of cyp reporting improved feelings of safety.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting improved knowledge of how to keep themselves safe. |
| Our Voice | CYP **feel more empowered and are heard**, influencing decisions / change. | Number and % of children and young people reporting feeling empowered and heard.<br>Examples of decisions/changes cyp's input has led to. |
| Our Health | CYP have **improved physical & mental health** and understand how to access help when needed. | Number and % of children and young people reporting that they have improved physical health.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting that they are more physically active.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting improved knowledge of healthy behaviours.<br>Number and % of children and young people reporting that they have improved mental health.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting increased self-esteem and confidence.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting improved understanding of their health needs and how to access help with health needs.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting improved understanding of risks to their health. |
| Our Relationships | CYP have **improved positive relationships** that make them feel supported. | Number and % of cyp reporting improved positive relationships.<br>Number and % of cyp feeling more supported.<br>Number and % of cyp reporting increased self-esteem and confidence. |

We also expect NextGen Grants to also have a positive impact on Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCSF) organisations in Greenwich, supporting these to strengthen and provide more support to the most in need.

### Which outcomes do activities need to achieve? How do we measure them?

Applicants will be asked to select from the NextGen Grants outcomes. During delivery, grantees will need to track the impact of their project against the outcomes, identifying the indicators they are focusing on and using a NextGen Grants Outcome Measurement Tool (e.g. a baseline and exit outcome star or post-activity survey), which the NextGen Team will develop with children and young people. Grantees may also want to use other tools, for example locally developed tools that your organisation uses to measure impact (including case studies and questionnaires), alongside widely used validated tools, to gather more detailed information about the impact of activities (e.g. the Stirling Children's Wellbeing Scale, Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire, and Warwick Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale). Information about these and other validated tools can be found on the Child Outcomes Research Consortium's Outcome Measures Directory, found here.

## Funding Available

Total funding of c. £800,000 is available for delivery across Financial Years (FY) 27/28 and 28/29. For Round 1 Launch and Grow Grants we expect to allocate c. £700,000, with the remaining funding allocated through Youth Innovate and Response Grants during 2027 and 2028.

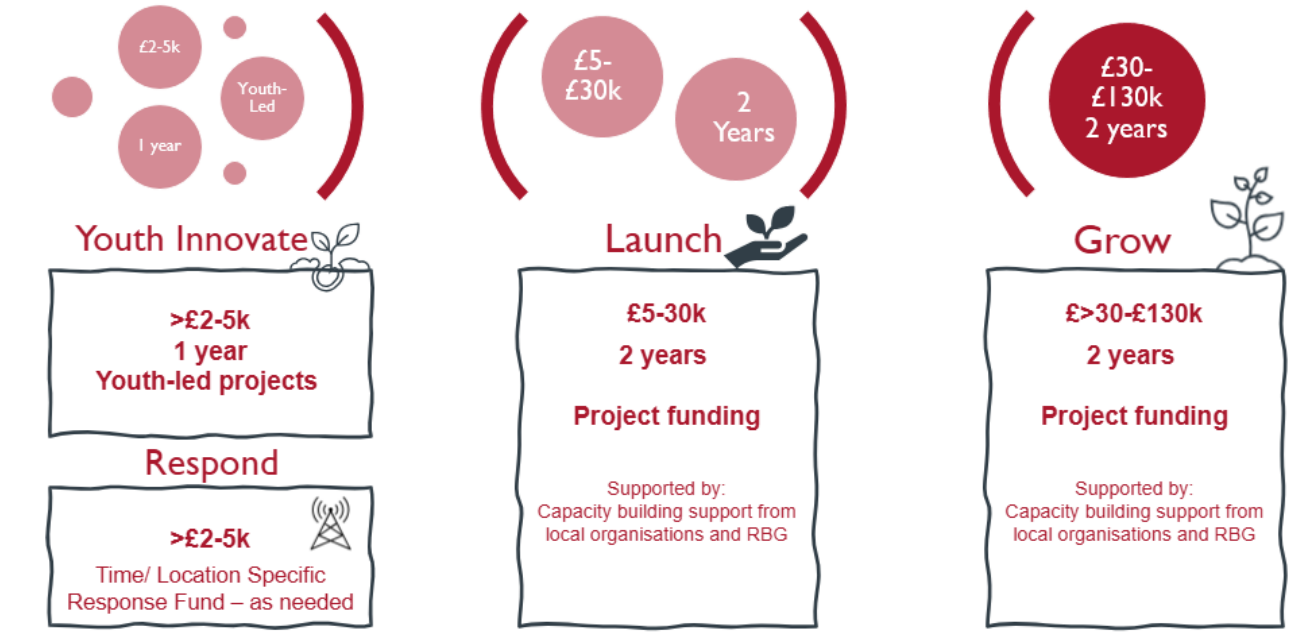
- **NextGen Launch** grants are for between **£5,000 and £30,000** for delivery across 2 years, from April 2027 to March 2029.

- **NextGen Grow** grants are for between **>£30,000-£130,000** for delivery across 2 years, from April 2027 to March 2029.

- **NextGen Youth Innovate** grants are likely to be for between £2,000-£5,000 for delivery over 1 year. We are developing NextGen Youth Innovate grants with children and young people, including carefully planning what support will be provided. We will launch these in 2027. **These are not currently open for application.**

- **NextGen Respond** grants are likely to be for between £2,000-£5,000 with a flexible delivery period. Through these, we will ensure that some funding remains available to respond to any emerging issues during the 2 years of delivery. **These are not currently open for application.**

You can see the grant types in the **NextGen Grants Grant Types** diagram below.




## Organisation Location

Organisations from Greenwich and beyond are invited to apply. While we highly value local knowledge and experience, we also know that expertise and skills from outside the borough may add to our offer for children and young people. All activities must be based in Greenwich and for children and young people that live in Greenwich or at school in the borough.

## Effective Allocation of Resources

Our resources as a council are limited, so we need to focus our investment where it can make the greatest difference. This means responding to local need and inequalities. This also means a fair distribution across our neighbourhoods, ensuring interventions and services are delivered where people need them most.

We also need to ensure that resources are used as effectively as possible. We will focus on funding complementary activities that cover gaps in statutory provision to ensure there are co-ordinated, engaging and stimulating activities for children and young people. Applicants will need to demonstrate that their organisation has appropriate links or networks in Greenwich and, where possible, that activities have been designed in consultation with children and young people.

## Inclusion and Equity

All NextGen Grants projects must be inclusive and, wherever possible, bring together children and young people from diverse communities across the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Applicants will need to

demonstrate how their project will respond to the needs of the children and young people they serve, including making reasonable adjustments to ensure activities are accessible and inclusive.

Our ambition is to fund a broad range of high-quality projects that are open and accessible to all children and young people who live or go to school in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, promoting inclusion, participation, and positive opportunities for everyone.

We are committed to advancing equality and equity across the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Applicants should demonstrate how their proposed project will contribute to reducing inequalities and improving outcomes for children and young people. We have developed a NextGen Data Pack (see below) should to inform your application, helping you understand local need and evidence how your activities will reach and engage communities that may face additional barriers to participation.

## Locations

We welcome and encourage applications for projects delivering in any part of our borough. We want to achieve a good spread of activity for all Greenwich's children and young people. Projects should where possible bring together children and young people from different communities and locations in Greenwich.

We know that there are different barriers that children and young people growing across the borough face. We encourage applicants to consider data such as the Indices of Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI) and other geographically mapped data that highlights inequity of experiences. Our NextGen Data Pack (see below) will support this, but we know applicants will also bring significant local knowledge and expertise that will be valued within applications.

## Data Pack

We have developed a NextGen Greenwich Data Pack to share key information that may support your application. You can access this on the 'How to Apply' page of our website **here**. You do not have to use the pack; we also value your own research and local insights and knowledge.

## Who Can Apply

This programme is open to organisations that are a:

- Registered charity
- Community interest company (CIC)
- Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
- Social enterprise
- Company limited by guarantee
- Educational establishment (e.g. school or college) applying for funding for non statutory delivery
- Religious organisation
- Constituted community organisation
- Friends of group
- Tenants and residents' association

Additionally, we will need to ensure that your organisation:

- Is non-statutory (except in the case of schools and colleges, which can apply for non-statutory activities)

- Is formally constituted
- Has a properly elected management committee or equivalent e.g. Governing Body

The following will not be considered for funding:

- Individuals
- Groups seeking funding for the purposes of fundraising or redistribution
- Political parties
- Organisations using funds to engage in political activity or political campaigns
- Churches or religious organisations if the activity is intended to promote the religion itself, or if people must take part in religious services or be from a particular religious group in order to benefit.
- Organisations where 'campaigning' is the main purpose or activity
- Organisations currently under investigation by the Charity Commission and/or regulatory body e.g. Ofsted, CQC etc. However, if the Charity Commission has investigated the organisation within the last two years and the investigation has concluded, provide details of the outcome for consideration in the eligibility assessment

Please note, applications will be subject to a higher level of scrutiny if they are from:

- Organisations with outstanding undisputed debts to the Council and no agreed repayment arrangement and
- Organisations with a poor track record of delivering and monitoring of key performance indicators (KPIs) as part of previous Council funding arrangements and with no agreed transformation plan.

**Consortium bids:** We welcome applications from consortiums, either legally constituted or submitted by a lead applicant, who will complete the form. You will need to provide a consortium or partnership agreement when you submit your application. For support with developing consortium bids, please contact sectorsupport@bvsc.co.uk

**Governance:** Applicants that are charities should have **three unrelated members** legally responsible for the governance of the organisation; Trustees/Directors/Management Committee as appropriate to your structure. Please note that this refers to the highest level of governance, a Management Committee that sits below a board of Trustees (e.g. charities, CIOs) or Directors (CLG or CICLG) does not count towards this.

**Bank account:** Applicants must have a **UK bank account in the same name as the organisation** applying with a minimum of two unrelated signatories.

**Insurance and Policies:** Applicants must have current **public liability and employer's liability insurance** (minimum £5m each) and a robust **Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Equality & Diversity Policy and Health and Safety Policy**. All staff and volunteers working with children and young people must have an enhanced DBS check and the organisation must operate safer recruitment procedures in line with Government guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children.

**Audited accounts:** Applicants must provide audited accounts for the last two years. If these are not available an alternative means of demonstrating financial status will be required, e.g., independently examined accounts.

**We can only accept one application per organisation**

**Organisations are advised not to apply for than 50% of their annual turnover. In exceptional circumstances, please contact us for guidance at nextgen-greenwich@royalgreenwich.gov.uk .**

### Income Thresholds

There is no income threshold for organisations applying to this fund. However, we are looking to support and grow smaller to medium-sized organisations and in a competitive situation where other elements are equivalent priority may be given to an organisation more demonstrably in need of financial support.

### London Living Wage

If you are applying for funding for staff costs (this could include existing staff members, sessional workers, part-time or full-time posts, freelance workers) you must budget these at the London Living Wage or above.

## What We Can Fund

This funding is restricted funding for the purposes of delivering the project activities only. Changes to use of funding or utilisation of underspend need to be agreed with Greenwich grant officers in writing prior to any spend. You can apply for funding to cover project activities and staffing, running costs related to the project (including a contribution to organisational overheads **of up to 15%)** and small-scale, reasonable and cost-effective purchase of any equipment you need (**no individual capital items over £1,500**).

As part of our aim to strengthen VCFS organisations, enabling them to provide more support, we encourage you to consider including budget for the following in applications:

- Staff training to support delivery
- Funding for London Youth Membership[1]
- Contribution towards developing a sustainability plan following the end of the grant

## What We Can't Fund

- Capital expenditure (capital items costed at over £1,500)

[1] London Youth is the umbrella body and membership organisation for youth organisations across London. London Youth members get access to a comprehensive and responsive support offer which strengthens youth organisations across the capital to ensure their ongoing provision of support and services for young people. annual membership year runs from 1 April – 31 March with a fee structure that is based on your organisation's annual turnover of the previous year. Income under £100k, annual fee of £100; income £100k - £1m, annual fee of £150; income over £1m Annual fee of £200. https://londonyouth.org/membership/

- Grants to individuals
- Expenditure or activities that have already taken place. By this we mean that retrospective funding will not be awarded
- Activities that promote religious or political views (we can fund religious organisations if they are providing benefit for the wider community and activities do not have a religious agenda or exclude children and young people not of a particular religion)
- Foreign travel
- Activity that replaces government funding or is a statutory responsibility
- Activities where people are excluded on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender or ethnicity (unless the issue is group-specific).

## Child Protection and Safeguarding

Child protection and safeguarding are paramount. Applicants must demonstrate a strong commitment to best practices and demonstrate that they maintain robust safeguarding policies and procedures. Your child protection and safeguarding policy will be viewed by assessors as part of the assessment process. Ensure that you have reviewed this, that it has been updated within the last 12 months and that you include the date of next review. There is a threshold score for safeguarding (see Appendix C). Applicants that do not achieve this score will not be funded.

Please see **Appendix B** – Children's Service Safeguarding Requirements and **Appendix C** - Application Questions and Review Information.

## Round 1 Application Timeline

| Grants | Activity | Dates |
|---|---|---|
| **Launch and Grow** | Information sessions<br>- Online<br>- In person (40) | <br>Tuesday 3rd November 11am-12:30pm<br>Thursday 5th November 12-3 pm |
| | Applications open | Tuesday 3rd November 2026 |
| | Final date to submit questions about your application to ensure a response **(48hrs before deadline).** | ~~**Wednesday 25th November at 4:00pm**~~<br>**Extended to Wednesday 2nd November at 4:00 pm** |
| | Applications close **(deadline)**<br><br>**NB! You will not be able to submit your application on our application portal Plinth after the submission deadline. Please ensure you plan accordingly.** | ~~**Friday 27th November at 4:00 pm**~~<br>**Extended to Friday 4th December at 4:00pm** |
| | Review period, decisions & governance<br><br>*NB: In some cases applicants may be contacted for clarification information or to attend a brief online meeting to clarify an issue.* | December 2026 – February 2027 |
| | Outcome notification | March 2027 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Delivery* | April 2027 (for 24 months to 31/03/29) |
| | Grantee launch event | April 2027 |
| **Youth Innovate – Cohort 1** | Application & review process | Spring 2027 |
| | Grant award | Early Summer 2027 |
| | Delivery | Summer 2027 (for 12 months) |

*While we aim for delivery to start where possible in April 2027, we understand that mobilisation time will be required in some cases.

## How to Apply

- All application information will be available on our website here.
- You will be asked to apply via our online application portal Plinth. You will need to register on Plinth to access the application form. You will then be able to view all the questions on the form and save your progress as you go.
- The closing date for applications is: ~~**Friday 27th November at 4pm.**~~ **Extended to Friday 4th December at 4:00pm**
- **You will not be able to submit your form after this date as the application portal will close.** Please plan accordingly.

### Top Tips

- Plan your project before you begin, using the quality questions in the application form as prompts.
- Draft quality question responses in a Word document and then paste them into the form.
- Make sure that every question has been answered in full, referring to the prompts provided for what you should include.
- Ensure your budget section has a clear breakdown of all the costs associated with your project.
- Ensure that what is in your budget aligns with the key information you provide about your project in the application form.
- Ask somebody to read through the application before sending, preferably someone who knows nothing about the project.

## Grant Application Review Process

Your application will be reviewed in the weeks following your submission by a team including young people (specific questions will be identified on the form). You may receive a call or email from a member of the NextGen Grants Team if there are clarification questions related to your application.

Please note that **contextual analysis and review across the pool of applications will form part of the process** e.g. to ensure there is a geographical spread of activities, range of activities, range of ages engaged and range of equity groups reached.

See **Appendix C** - Application Questions and Review Information.

## Accessibility

- **Guidance** – We will provide guidance on using Plinth and completing the application form in our Information Sessions, which will also be recorded and shared. You can sign up for updates on our webpage here to ensure you receive invitations to Information Sessions.
- **Plinth** – If you need technical support with using Plinth please use the live chat function on Plinth (blue speech bubble) to submit your query.
- **Language** – Plinth provides a function to translate the application form and instructions. Look for the **"Choose a language"** or **translate button** located near the top of the form or page interface, then tap it to instantly convert the text into your preferred language
- **BVCS** – Can provide support for applicants in preparing applications. Email: info@bvsc.co.uk
- **NextGen Team** - You can also contact the NextGen Grants Team by emailing nextgen-greenwich@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

## Supporting Documents

To enable us to consider your application you must attach relevant supporting documents to your application on Plinth. All documents must be submitted by the application deadline and your application may not be considered if the supporting documents are missing.

Please ensure you have the following documents ready to submit. **Please note that all policies should be – reviewed within the last year with date of last review and date of next review clearly specified.**

- Your governing document (e.g. articles of association or constitution or instrument of government)
- Audited annual accounts for the last 2 years (or income and expenditure records or management accounts if these are unavailable)
- Safeguarding Policy and Procedures including safer recruitment procedures
- Whistleblowing Policy (if separate from the safeguarding policy above)
- Health and Safety Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Data Protection Policy & Procedures
- Employer's liability insurance that is in date and shows the indemnity amount (at least £5m)
- Public liability insurance that is in date and shows the indemnity amount (at least £5m)

- You will also be asked to submit a budget for your project. The template can be downloaded from our website here

- I**f you are applying as a consortium or formalised partnership:** A statement of intent, memorandum of understanding or agreement signed by all partners

**Please note:** A risk assessment for your activity will be requested if you are successful, following notification of the outcome of your application.

## Due Diligence

To verify the information provided, the Royal Borough of Greenwich will undertake a range of due diligence checks. Relevant council officers and, where appropriate, accredited external organisations may carry out these checks. We may also verify information using publicly available sources relating to your organisation and where relevant, named individuals associated with it. Any personal information supplied will be processed in accordance with relevant data protection legislation and guidance.

Due diligence may include the Council checking its own records (for example related to any debts, Council property lease/hire arrangements and prior performance) and conducting external checks, (e.g. including financial checks, complaints and Ofsted reports/inspection outcomes) as part of assessing the veracity of info provided by applicants and their suitability to deliver activities. In submitting an application providers are giving consent for due diligence checks to be conducted, and understand that the results of these may inform decision making. We may request written evidence from your organisation regarding information you have submitted – for example evidence of approval from your landlord for venue use.

We require organisations that have submitted an application to inform us of any changes to their status, or to the information in the application they have submitted, during the period subsequent to application submission.

If required, we may request additional information or supporting documentation before making a funding decision.

## Monitoring & Evaluation

If your application is successful you will be asked to complete monitoring reports about delivery. These are likely to include

- The activities you carried out with the funding
- Project spend breakdown – actual against forecast
- Number of children and young people that participate in the project
- Demographic data about the children and young people that participate
- Numbers of children and young people in the equity groups
- Actuals against target outputs
- Actuals against target outcomes achieved (based on the outcomes chosen at the application stage related to your project)
- Changes to the delivery of your project and any learning that could help you when delivering similar activities in future
- Successes and challenges
- Safeguarding
- Case studies

Evidence you will need to keep will include the following:

- Financial records (see below)
- Attendance registers (we will be requiring attendance to be logged on the Council's data system once ready – see section below on Systems)

- Records and evidence of delivery against the identified outputs e.g. number of people benefiting, number of sessions and records of attendance
- Records and evidence of delivery against the identified outcomes identified outcomes e.g. the difference the project has made to participants, participant feedback, staff observations and external reports from partners
- Records and evidence of staff training and safer recruitment processes

## Funding

- Funds must be spent by 31st March 2029 (except where extenuating circumstances apply and an agreement is made with RBG) and final reports submitted within 1 month of your project end date.
- Funding will be provided in grant instalments with an up-front instalment provided. We expect to be able to confirm funding in March 2027, with receipt of initial funds within c.2 months from 1st April 2027.
- Funding will be dependent on evidence of quality delivery, achievement of outputs and outcomes and submission of monitoring information.
- Financial records of how the grant is spent, including a budget tracking actual spend against forecast spend, receipts and invoices, must be kept and made available on request.

## Social Impact

The Royal Borough of Greenwich is committed to delivering the best possible outcomes for its communities through services it delivers directly, through external provider contracts and grants, and through its strong relationships with the voluntary, community and faith sector.

We encourage applicants to demonstrate how their projects will create and deliver positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes that benefit local people in addition to what is being funded by the grant.

This could include how projects will:

- Improve the health, wellbeing, and resilience of local communities.
- Create opportunities for local people through employment, training, volunteering, or skills development.
- Adopt an equity and inclusion approach by reducing barriers to participation and supporting underrepresented groups.
- Strengthen community connections and foster collaboration between organisations, residents, and local partners.
- Support environmental sustainability through responsible use of resources, carbon reduction, biodiversity enhancement, or other climate-positive actions.
- Deliver long-term benefits that continue beyond the funding period.

We are committed to building a meaningful monitoring and evaluation framework that helps us tell our collective story about equity and social impact and demonstrates the impact of funded activities across all grant themes.
We understand that social value will be proportionate to the size of the grant you are requesting and your organisation's capacity.

## Use of AI

We appreciate that AI is a handy tool that might be able to save time but be careful about 'overusing' it. Please always check the accuracy and relevance of AI support. It is much better to use AI to refine what you have already written. AI tools don't necessarily capture your work or what makes your application stand out. Our NextGen Grants values are **Youth-led**, **Imaginative**, **Authentic** and **Community**. Assessors, including young assessors will be looking for this in your application. When applications are assessed, it is important to hear the knowledge and skills of those who will be delivering. AI cannot replace or replicate an organisation's passion and knowledge of the work they undertake.

## Systems

Grantees will be required to use centralised online management systems provided by the Royal Borough of Greenwich, for example for the registration of children taking part in activities. Further information will be shared prior to delivery.

## Commitments and Support

Grantees will be expected to sign up to the following commitments and undertake specific training as part of their formal grant agreements. You can sign up to specific offers through the links here

- Greenwich Safeguarding Children Training
- Equality and Equity Charter (if not already signed up)
- Borough of Sanctuary Pledge of Support (if not already signed up)
- Complete Make Every Opportunity Count (MEOC) in Greenwich training
- Sign up to the Greenwich Community Directory
- Sign up to the VCFS Bulletin and the Community Champions Bulletin
- Sign up to be a member of the quarterly Children's Provider Forum

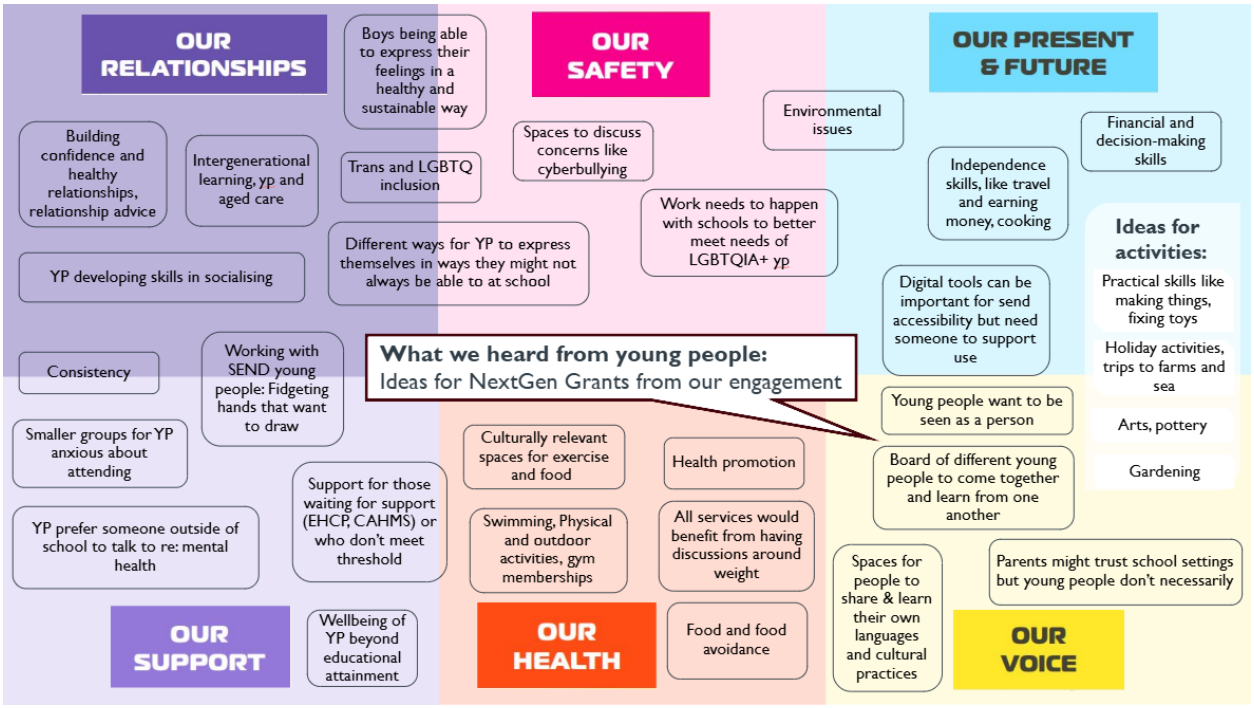
Organisations can also access ongoing support and training from the council voluntary-and-community@royalgreenwich.gov.uk and/or Bexley Voluntary Service Council (BVSC).

## Contact

**If you have any questions, please contact the NextGen Grants Team at** nextgen-greenwich@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

# Appendices

## APPENDIX A: NextGen Greenwich Consultation – What We Heard Visual Representation



## APPENDIX B: Children's Service - Safeguarding requirements

Organisations are expected to:

**Training and Development**

- Ensure relevant staff and volunteers attend the following Greenwich Safeguarding Children Partnership (GSCP) training:
  - Basic Safeguarding Induction
  - Working Together to Safeguard Children
  - MASH and Thresholds (half-day session)
- Maintain a record of safeguarding training completed by staff and volunteers.
- Subscribe to and regularly review updates from the GSCP newsletter.

**Leadership and Governance**

- Nominate a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or safeguarding lead officer.
- Ensure the safeguarding lead attends any role-specific safeguarding training as required.

**Policies and Procedures**

- Have an up-to-date safeguarding policy and procedures in place.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers are aware of the organisation's safeguarding policy and Greenwich safeguarding procedures and understand how to respond to concerns.

**Safer Workforce**

- Maintain appropriate and up-to-date DBS checks for all staff and volunteers who are in contact with children and young people.
- Demonstrate the use of safer recruitment practices when recruiting staff and volunteers.
- Organisations are to have a procedure in place for recording and reporting health & safety incidents and serious health & safety incidents to Health & Safety Executive.

# APPENDIX C: Application Questions and Review Information

Application forms are on our application and grant management platform Plinth. A link to this will be published on the 'How to Apply' page on our website here, in line with the application timeline.

Below is a summary of the questions asked, weighting and how they will be assessed:

| Section | Questions | Requirement | Review |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Organisational details | Key information about your key contact, the organisation, its legal status and staffing.<br><br>If you are applying as a consortium you will be asked to identify the lead partner and provide your Memorandum of Understanding or Agreement. | Not scored. For information. |
| 2 | Compliance and due diligence | Confirmation of London Living Wage Payment.<br><br>Information about the governance of the organisation and any prior complaints, safeguarding issues, quality or performance issues, whether your organisation is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office and whether you plan to use a council venue and have agreement for this.<br><br>**Key documents:**<br><br>• Your governing document (e.g. articles of association or constitution or instrument of governance)<br>• Equality & Diversity Policy – reviewed, dated and signed within the last year<br>• Safeguarding Policy and Procedures – reviewed, dated and signed within the last year | Red, Amber or Green RAG rating<br><br>**Please note – if a 'Red' overall rating is agreed by assessors the organisation cannot be funded.** |

| Section | Questions | Requirement | Review |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | • Health and Safety Policy – reviewed, dated and signed within the last year<br>• Whistleblowing Policy (if separate from the safeguarding policy above) reviewed, dated and signed within the last year<br>• Data protection policy and procedures<br>• Public liability insurance that is in date and shows the amount (at least £5m)<br>• Employer's liability insurance that is in date and shows the amount (at least £5m)<br>• A statement of intent for consortia bids signed by all partners (if applicable) | |
| 3 | Financial due diligence | Information about your organisation's financial situation, stability and governance, including any debts to the council.<br>**Key documents:**<br>• Audited annual accounts for the last 2 years (or income and expenditure records or management accounts if these are unavailable) | |
| 3 | References | We will ask you to provide two references. | Taken up prior to delivery for applicants identified for funding that have not recently delivered children and young people's services commissioned by Royal Borough of Greenwich. |
| 4 | Key Project Information | Key information about the project you plan to deliver including:<br>• Name | Not scored. For information. |

| Section | Questions | Requirement | Review |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | • Grant size (Launch or Grow)<br>• NextGen priorities<br>• Funding requested<br>• Age range<br>• Outputs (number of cyp that will participate, number of workshops / other activities)<br>• Partners<br>• Planned main delivery address<br>• Location/s<br>• Times of delivery<br>• Duration/frequency of delivery<br>• Outcomes<br>• Target group/s (if relevant) | |
| 5 | Quality questions | • WHO - Organisational experience: Tell us about your organisation and why it is well placed to deliver this project. (300 Words max.)<br><br>• WHAT - Project activities: Describe the activities you will deliver and the difference they will make for children and young people. (400 Words max). ***Please note that young assessors will review this response.***<br><br>• WHY - Need and alignment: Describe the need for your project, including which children and young people it will reach, how it will meet their needs and how your proposed activities align with the NextGen Grants priorities. | 10%<br><br>15%<br><br>15% |

| Section | Questions | Requirement | Review |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (400 Words max). ***Please note that young assessors will review this response.*** | |
| | | • WHERE - Location and venue: Explain where your project will be delivered, including the venue/s, location/s and the reason for these choices. (300 Words max.) | 10% |
| | | • YOUTH VOICE - Explain how children and young people have shaped your project and how they will continue to influence delivery. (300 Words max.) ***Please note that young assessors will review this response. If you would like to you can upload or link one additional document, video, voice note or other media item that illustrates this. This will not be included in your word count.*** | 10% |
| | | • INCLUSION - Explain how your project will engage and support children and young people who experience barriers, disadvantage or inequity. (300 Words max.) | 5% |
| | | • SOCIAL VALUE - Explain how your project will create wider benefits for children, young people and communities in Greenwich. (300 words max) | 5% |

| Section | Questions | Requirement | Review |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | • CAPACITY (Staffing, project management and governance) - Describe what structures you have in place within your organisation to deliver a project like this effectively. (300 Words max) | 5% |
| | | • SAFEGUARDING: Explain how your organisation will keep children and young people safe on the project. (500 Words max) | 15%<br>**Please note – organisations must achieve an average threshold score of 9% or above on their safeguarding quality question to be eligible for funding.** |
| | | • BUDGET: Set out how much your project will cost in a budget, including the costs in Year 1 and 2. **A budget template will be provided on our website and must be used**. | 10% |