NextGen Grants Round 1 Information Session

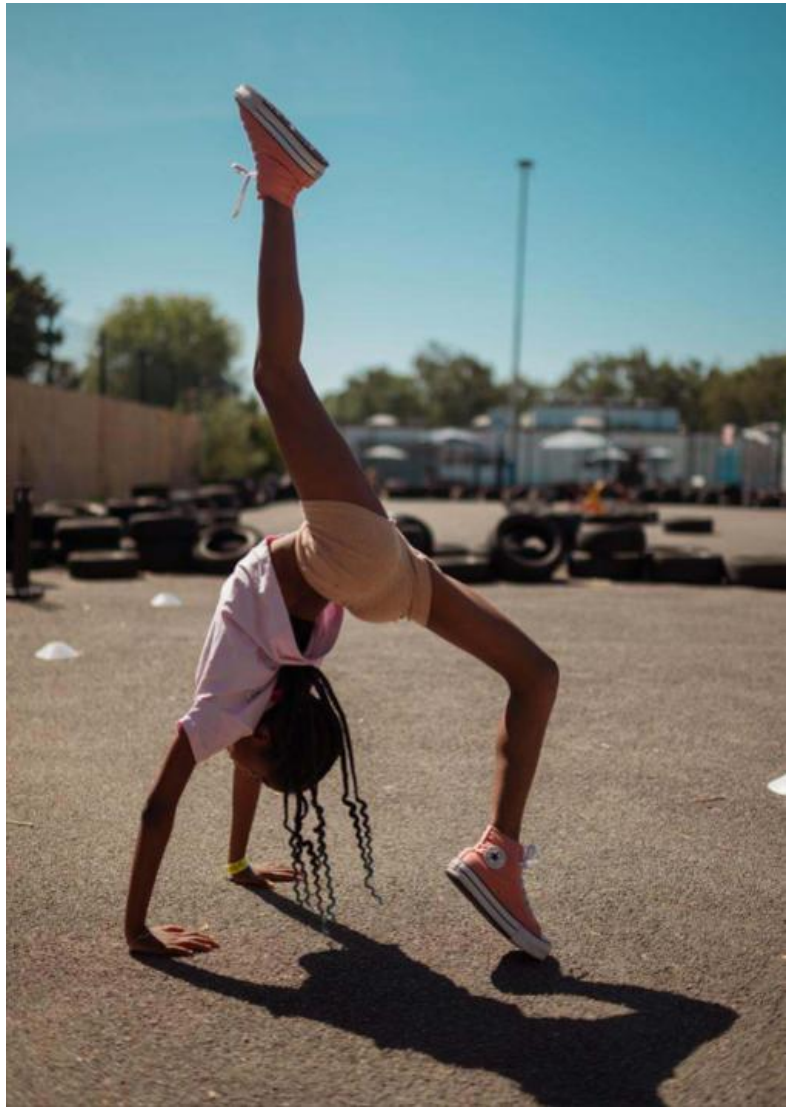
November 2026



ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

Agenda

- Welcome
- NextGen Greenwich
- NextGen Grants
- Who can apply
- How to apply
- Documents you need
- Application form
- Top tips
- Key dates
- Next steps and support
- Questions

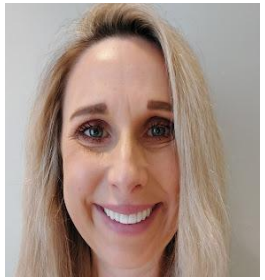


Welcome

- Name and organisation
- Questions in the chat during presentation
- Question session at end
- Slides can be found here:



NEXTGEN GREENWICH: *Team*



Dot Hodgson, Strategic Partnerships & Grants Lead



Max Whitehurst, Strategic Commissioning & Systems Development Lead



Nicole Allwood, Acting Associate Director, Integrated Commissioning Partnership (Children's)

Supported by...

Youth Partnership Board

And from April 2027

Senior Grants and Commissioning Officer

Youth Voice Apprentice

2 x Young Advisors

Email: NextGen-Greenwich@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

NextGen Greenwich



ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

Re-imagining Young Greenwich

A quick recap on what we heard

Round 1: Listening and Discovery

We heard that:

- **Young people want more say** in the delivery and design of services
- There is a need for **greater join up** across all areas
- People wanted more **whole-family services** under one roof
- There was a lack of understanding of what School Nursing offers
- A more **modern online and social media presence**
- Greater focus on help for young people in **preparing for adulthood**
- We could use more offers of resource and **support from external organisations.**

Round 2: Market Engagement

We heard that:

- **Responsiveness and relevance** of services to residents is key
- We need to **work together with young people**
- Importance of **understanding the universal and targeted approach**
- We need to create **meaningful outcomes and shared accountability**, developed and maintained in partnership with young people and across the sector

Round 3: Formal Consultation

We heard that:

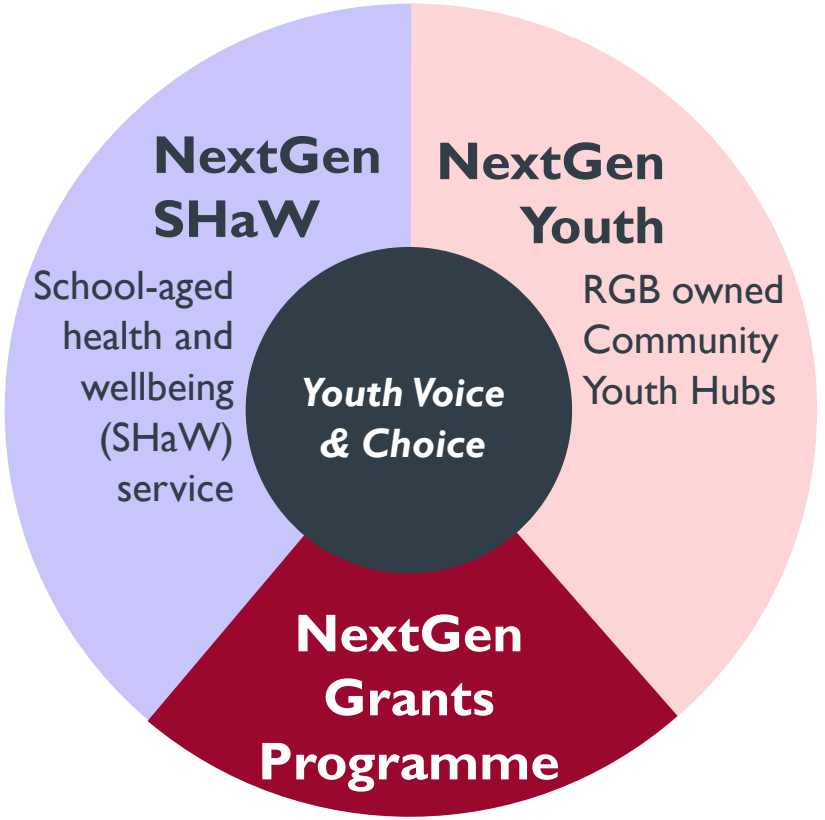
Overall, **people felt positively** about our proposals – with some tweaks to ensure youth voice stays at the centre.

We took our **final proposed model, NextGen Greenwich, to Cabinet on 28 Jan '26.**

This model was approved, and we are now in the process of implementing it.

Our New Model:

NextGen Greenwich



NextGen Grants



ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Quick Overview*

- **What?** Part of Greenwich's **new three strand youth offer**
- **Grant size?** Youth Innovate / Respond (£2-£5k) Launch (£5-30k) or Grow (>£30-130k)
- **How much? £400k per year** C.£700k to be allocated. C.18 grants (12 Launch and 6 Grow)
- **Duration?** 2 year duration from April 2027-March 2029,
- **Allocation?** Quality and safety, equity, youth-voice and geographical spread
- **Youth voice?** Young assessors and Youth Partnership Board
- **Age range?** 5-18 and up to 25 with SEND or care leavers
- **Location?** Cyp that live or attend school in Greenwich.

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Values*



Youth-led

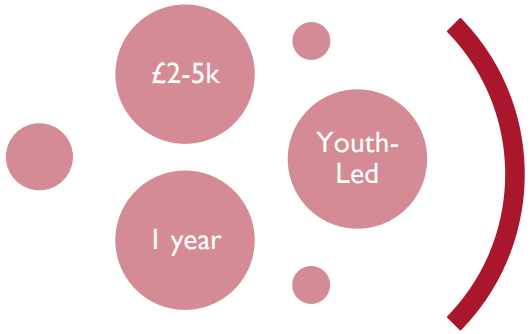
Imaginative

Authentic

Community

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Grant Types*

Mission 4: Children and young people reach their full potential
Mission 14: The VCS in Greenwich are strengthened and able to provide more support to the most in need



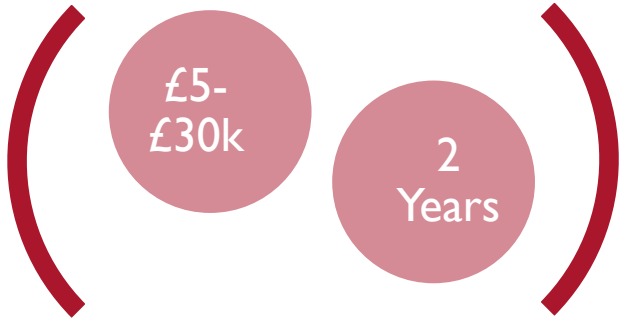
Youth Innovate

>£2-5k
1 year
Youth-led projects

Respond

>£2-5k

Time/ Location Specific
Response Fund – as needed



Launch

£5-30k

2 years

Project funding

Supported by:
Capacity building support from local organisations and RBG



Grow

£>30-£130k

2 years

Project funding

Supported by:
Capacity building support from local organisations and RBG

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *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

Our Voice





Our Support

Our Health





Our Safety

Our Relationships



NEXT GEN GRANTS: *Priorities and Activities*



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.

What we heard from young people:
Ideas for NextGen Grants from our engagement

OUR RELATIONSHIPS

- Boys being able to express their feelings in a healthy and sustainable way
- Building confidence and healthy relationships, relationship advice
- Intergenerational learning, yp and aged care
- Trans and LGBTQ inclusion
- YP developing skills in socialising
- Different ways for YP to express themselves in ways they might not always be able to at school

OUR SAFETY

- Spaces to discuss concerns like cyberbullying
- Work needs to happen with schools to better meet needs of LGBTQIA+ yp

OUR PRESENT & FUTURE

- Environmental issues
- Financial and decision-making skills
- Independence skills, like travel and earning money, cooking
- Digital tools can be important for send accessibility but need someone to support use

Ideas for activities:

- Practical skills like making things, fixing toys
- Holiday activities, trips to farms and sea
- Arts, pottery
- Gardening

OUR SUPPORT

- Consistency
- Working with SEND young people: Fidgeting hands that want to draw
- Smaller groups for YP anxious about attending
- YP prefer someone outside of school to talk to re: mental health
- Support for those waiting for support (EHCP, CAHMS) or who don't meet threshold
- Wellbeing of YP beyond educational attainment

OUR HEALTH

- Culturally relevant spaces for exercise and food
- Health promotion
- Swimming, Physical and outdoor activities, gym memberships
- All services would benefit from having discussions around weight
- Food and food avoidance

OUR VOICE

- Young people want to be seen as a person
- Board of different young people to come together and learn from one another
- Spaces for people to share & learn their own languages and cultural practices
- Parents might trust school settings but young people don't necessarily

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Theory of Change*

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
NextGen Grant Funding: Youth Innovate Respond Launch Grow	**Present & Future** **Support** **Safety** **Voice** **Health** **Relationships** **VCFS Strength** **VCFS Services**	Determined by activities delivered E.g. X cyp access to activities X workshops delivered X sessions provided X 1:1s provided X events delivered	CYP have **improved life skills / understanding of opportunities & feel more prepared for the future** CYP feel **more supported** and have **improved knowledge of support available** and how to access it. CYP **feel safer at home, in the community and online**. CYP **feel more empowered and are heard**, influencing decisions / change. CYP have **improved physical & mental health** and understand how to access help when needed. CYP have **improved positive relationships** that make them feel supported. **Greenwich VCFS organisations are strengthened** – providing quality sustainable services. **Greenwich VCFS organisations are able to provide more support** to the most in need.	Children and young people reach their full potential The VCFS in Greenwich is strengthene & able to provide more support to the most in need

Round 1 – Key Information



ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Round 1 – Key Information*

ROUND1 – November 2026

Grants available: Launch (£5-30k) or Grow (>£30-130k)

Total fund: c. £700k to be allocated for 2 year delivery

Grant duration: April 2027 – March 2029

Apply by: Extended to **4pm on Friday 4th December**

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Who Can Apply?*

- ✓ 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

- × 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.

Organisations in Greenwich <u>and beyond</u> can apply, as long as activity is based in Greenwich for Greenwich CYP.

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *How to Apply*

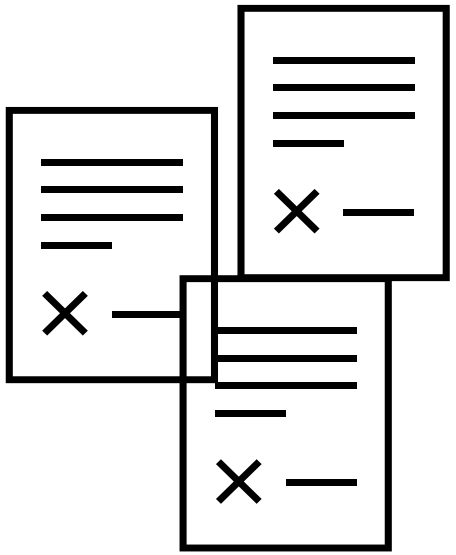
- Download the application documents from our website
  - *Prospectus*
  - *Data pack*
  - *Budget*
- Click the 'apply' link
- Register on Plinth
- Read through the application form
- Read the prospectus and data pack
- Plan your project
- Gather the documents you need
- Complete the application form on Plinth and upload documents



NextGen Greenwich | Royal Borough of Greenwich

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Documents You Need*

Gather documents before you start the form to ensure you are ready to apply.



- 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)

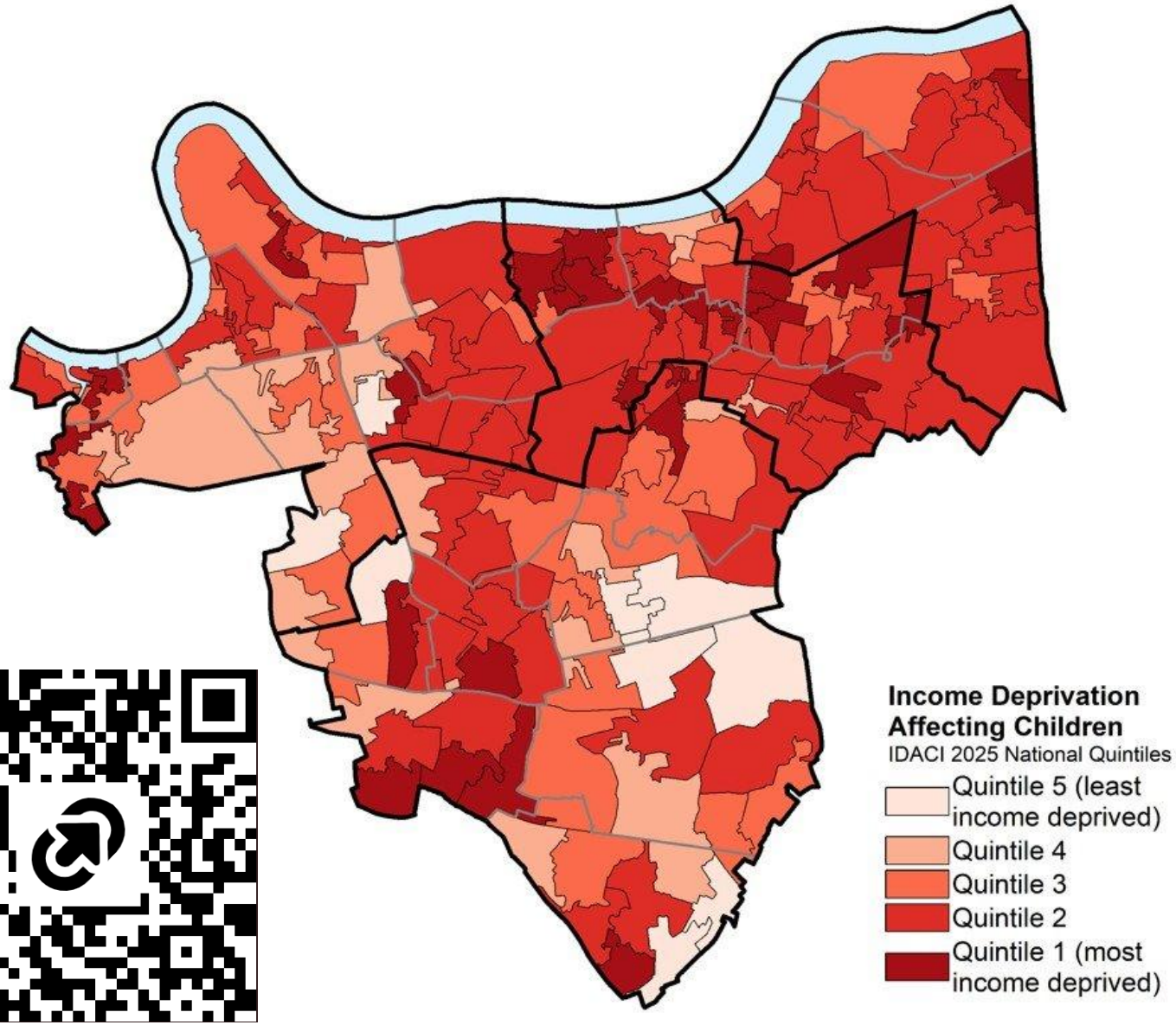
- **A completed budget** for your project

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

Please note that all policies should be reviewed within the last year with date of last review and date of next review clearly specified.

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Data Pack*

- **What?** A collection of key data related to children and young people's experiences in Greenwich.
- **Why?** To help applicants plan projects that are targeted at the needs of our children and young people.
- **Where?** Download from our website
- **Note:** You do not have to use the Data Pack. We also value wider research and your local knowledge and insights.



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NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Application Form*

Section	Focus		
1	Organisational Information	Key info about who you are, your organisation, when it was set up and what type of organisation it is	Not scored
2	Due Diligence and Compliance	Any prior governance or performance issues The documents listed.	RAG rated **RED rated organisations cannot be funded**
3	Financial Due Diligence	Overview of turnover, reserves and uploading your accounts.	RAG rated
4	References	Two referenced needed. Taken up only if recommended.	Not scored
5	Key Project Information	Essential details about what you want to deliver, where, to whom, when, to how many, what it will cost. ***You need to plan your project and do your budget to complete this effectively.***	Not scored
6	Quality Questions	1. Who? 10% (300 words) 2. What? 15% (400 words) 3. Why? 15% (400 words) 4. Where? 10% (300 words) 5. Youth voice 10% (300 words) 6. Inclusion 5% (300 words) 7. Social value 5% (300 words) 8. Capacity 5% (300 words) 9. Safeguarding 15% (500 words) 10. Budget 10% (form to complete)	Scored by assessors and young assessors **Must score 9% out of15% on safeguarding to be awarded.**

https://app.plinth.org.uk/application/fund/0oGh26gkc6RIcdh9I7pR



I aim to optimize youth engagement within the Royal Borough of Greenwich through a high-impact, community-driven initiative: **Project Pulse Greenwich**.
By deploying structured workshops in digital literacy, creative media, and collaborative problem-solving, this program is engineered to scale local talent, bridge the digital divide, and catalyze social mobility for young residents aged 12 to 18. Integrating peer-to-peer mentorship with real-world skill synthesis, Project Pulse Greenwich continuously adapts to local needs—transforming community centers into dynamic hubs where youth can synthesize new ideas, build confidence, and output positive change across their neighborhood.



Really…?



AI can help draft and structure responses, but assessors want to hear about your organisation, your community and your experience.

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *AI*



- We appreciate that AI is a handy tool that might be able to save time but…
- 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 **your voice** in **your application**.

Next Steps and Support



ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

NEXTGEN GRANTS: *Round 1 Timeline*

Stage	Timeline – 26/27
FUND LAUNCH DATE	**Tues 3rd November**
Information sessions	**Tues 3rd and Thurs 5th November**
Application period Deadline for clarification questions Drop in support sessions	Tues 3rd November – ~~**Fri 27th November 16:00pm**~~ **4pm on Friday 4th December** ~~Weds 25th Nov at 4pm~~ **Wednesday 2nd December at 4pm** Tuesdays at 4-5pm
Assessment	December 2026 and January 2027
Decisions	January 2027
Governance	February 2027
Mobilisation	March 2027
DELIVERY GO LIVE	**April 2027**

NEXTGEN GREENWICH: *Support*

Apply here

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

Drop in sessions- Tuesdays from 4-5pm during the application window.
Join Teams here:
https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/342967872006848?p=g81HG8a83LhsCflzSp

NextGen Greenwich grants | How to apply for a NextGen grant | Royal Borough of Greenwich

Email: NextGen-Greenwich@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Questions



ROYAL borough of GREENWICH