

National Youth Work Strategy 2020-25: Local and Thematic Events Fund Guidance

Following the announcement of the Scottish Government's commitment to the development of a refreshed national youth work strategy (2020-25), YouthLink Scotland would like to invite applications to the Local and Thematic Event Fund

1. Background

The National Youth Work Strategy 2020-25 will be co-produced in partnership with youth work stakeholders from across Scotland, including (but not limited to): young people who currently or may in the future access youth work provision; the youth work workforce, those involved in the training of the youth work workforce; those who fund youth work; those who research youth work; and those who develop policy related to youth work.

The aim of the co-production process is to ensure that the priorities and commitments of the new youth work strategy reflect the interests, knowledge, experiences, expertise and skills of all youth work stakeholders and contributes to a meaningful legacy of the Year of Young People 2018 by continuing the commitment to young people's empowerment and leadership opportunities.

There are at least 385,000 young people engaging in youth work opportunities every week, taking place in communities the length and breadth of Scotland; supported by a workforce of 80,000 including 70,000 volunteers. It is key to the development of a truly shared national youth work strategy that all stakeholder voices are heard, not just that of those who are easiest to reach, and that the strategy is informed by, and reflects the realities of Scotland's geography and diverse communities.

The co-production process will involve a series of both local and national consultation events which will inform the priorities and commitments of the new national youth work strategy for Scotland.

2. Local and Thematic Events Fund

The fund will enable local authorities and third sector youth work organisations to support the involvement of communities of geography and interest in the co-production process, with a particular emphasis on groups that may experience disadvantage and barriers to participation.

3. Fund Guidance

Who can apply?

Youth work organisations (local authority and voluntary sector) and young people (sponsored by a youth work organisation) can apply to the fund to meet the costs of running any of the following events:

- Co-production events exclusively with young people
- Co-production events exclusively with youth work practitioners/volunteers
- Co-production with both youth work practitioners/volunteers and young people

How much is available?

- The total amount available (whole fund) is £18,000
- Organisations and/or young people (sponsored by a youth work organisation) can apply for costs of between £250 - £1,000 per event
- Costs are capped at £25 per person (attending the event)
- A minimum of 10 people must be in attendance at each event

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Eligibility (youth work organisations/young people sponsored by youth work organisations)
- Geographical spread (ensuring we reach and support stakeholders from across Scotland)
- Diversity of stakeholder groups (ensuring we support the involvement of as many different stakeholder groups as possible)
- Diversity of interests (mix of events which bring together geographical communities and communities of interest)
- Ensuring the participation of groups that may experience disadvantage and barriers to participation (e.g. looked after and care experienced young people, young carers)

5. Timeline

Application process:

- The fund will open for applications on Monday 17th of June and close on the 15th of July
- Assessment of application will take place between the 16th and 19th of July
- Awards will be announced on Monday 22nd July
- Awards will be processed between the 23rd and 26th of July

Events:

Events must take place between 1st August and 21st October 2019

Reporting:

Reports must be submitted by Monday 28th October 2019

6. Event Guidance

The purpose of the local and thematic events is to ensure that a new national youth work strategy is informed, from the outset, by the experience, knowledge and aspirations of all youth work stakeholders. Following the input of stakeholders groups at these events (and a series of national events hosted by YouthLink Scotland), a draft strategy will be produced and a consultation process will take place.

The purpose of the events is not to review the current youth work strategy, but you should ensure that you are familiar with the current strategy and progress to date. You can view the strategy, the interim report and the 207/19 work plan here:

- In the spirit of co-production there is no prescribed format or agenda for the events (other than the output must contribute to identifying the priorities and commitments of a new national youth work strategy) but it might be helpful to consider the following:
- What is your vision and what are your aspirations for youth work and for the young people that youth work services support?

- How is this informed by the experience and diversity of your local communities?
- How might this be reflected in a new youth work strategy?
- What is the particular area of interest of your stakeholder group, are you hosting a thematic event, for example will you consider priorities and commitments in relation to equalities issues?

Further guidance to help your record and report feedback from your event will be issued soon.

7. How to apply

The application form can be accessed on [our website](#).

To discuss any aspect of your proposal please contact Jane Dailly (National Grants Manager) on 0131 313 2488 or jdailly@youthlinkscotland.org