

Youth Work Social Isolation and Loneliness Fund 2023

Guidance for Applicants

Overview:

The wellbeing of young people is a shared national concern and it has never been a more pressing concern. We know from recent research that young people are the age group most likely to report that they are experiencing isolation and loneliness.

As part of the Scottish Government's commitment to addressing social isolation and loneliness, YouthLink Scotland has received £150,000 to allocate small grants to youth work groups and organisations to help them support young people most affected by social isolation and loneliness.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to eligible organisations.

Fund criteria:

We welcome proposals for the delivery of targeted youth work programmes which:

1. Enable the youth work sector to respond directly and at local level to the immediate and longer-term impact of Covid-19 and the cost of living crisis on vulnerable young people
2. Contribute to addressing child poverty in Scotland in-line with Scottish Government policy and the 'Every Child, Every Chance: tackling child poverty delivery plan'.
3. Support youth work organisations to establish, develop and/or maintain contact and support for young people judged to be at particular risk of social isolation and/or loneliness from one or more of the following groups:
 - Black, Asian and minority ethnic young people
 - Care experienced young people
 - Homeless young people
 - LGBTI young people
 - Rurally isolated young people
 - Young carers
 - Young parents
 - Young people affected by substance misuse
 - Young people living in high SIMD areas
 - Young people not in education, employment or training
 - Young people with additional learning support needs
 - Young people with disabilities
4. Achieve at least two of the following outcomes for young people:
 - Reduced feelings of isolation and loneliness
 - Improved connection with community
 - Improved mental health and wellbeing
 - Improved confidence and self-esteem
5. Can be delivered between **6th February 2023 – 16th April 2023**

Fund timeline:

Opens for applications: **1st February 2023**

Closes for applications: **28th February 2023 (5pm)**

Project delivery: **6th February 2023 – 16th April 2023**

End of project reports due: **30th April 2023**

Assessment/Awards:

Awards will be made available to eligible organisations proposing eligible activity on a rolling basis. We will assess applications as we receive them between the 6th & 28th February or until the fund is allocated. As we work through the assessment process it may be necessary to prioritise work with young people with specific protected characteristics if there seems that any of the target groups may be under represented.

How to apply:

Youth work organisations should apply using the following link:

[Click here to Apply](#)

Pre-application support:

We are holding two online applicants support sessions;

Thursday 9th February 14.30 – 15.30

Friday 10th February 11.00 – 12.00

These sessions will provide more in-depth support in relation to fund criteria and illustrative examples of proposals/models that would meet fund objectives. If you wish to attend either of these sessions **please email Donna Tobin to book a place.**

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