



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Got2B Community Interest Company		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	[REDACTED]		
Website	Got2b.org.uk	Telephone	[REDACTED]
Facebook/Twitter	@got2bcic @got2b_youthwork	Email	natasha@got2b.org.uk
Contact Name	Natasha Harris		
Position in Organisation	Youth & Community Development Manager (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO NO	Registration Number	Company Reg No: 12084416
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>GOT2B AIMS TO SUPPORT ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IN WEST OXFORDSHIRE THROUGH THEIR TEENAGE YEARS BY:</p> <p>Providing an inclusive &amp; consistent trusted adult/ youth worker who can be accessed at youth work sessions out of school time and who is available for a young person to talk to in confidence.</p> <p>Providing a safe space for Young People by offering youth club sessions AND activities that are fun and that offer a chance for growth through Informal education.</p> <p>Giving Young People a voice through consultations, young person-led activities, planning of youth work and encouraging them to be active and heard in their wider community.</p> <p>Celebrating Young People at every opportunity by sharing their amazing achievements with the wider community and encouraging Young People to be proud of their achievements, and of who they are.</p>			

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	As an open access provision, we don't have members as such. However, in last 12 months we have made 2,304 contacts with Young People through our projects.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Of these 2,304 Young People seen between 1/7/21 - 31/7/22, 1,442 were in Witney - 62.5% of the total.
Is membership restricted in any way?	Restricted by age only – 12/13 (school yr 8) to 17 years
What is your annual subscription, if any?	Youth Club Sessions are free to attend
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Yes, we are affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth. We also follow guidance of the National Youth Agency
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Due to there being no dedicated Youth Space in Witney, these are Ad-Hoc rented spaces. We are still seeking more permanent premises.
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>On October 1st this year we will have used-up the 2 year funding awarded by the Youth Opportunities Fund for one term time only Witney youth session.</p> <p>Over the past two years the Town Council have awarded us funding to be able to offer two weekly youth sessions for the whole year, along with money towards working on a project within school. This project highlighted the need for a LGBTQ+ youth group which has now been set up and attracts a regular attendance of Young People in need of a 'safe space'.</p> <p>We are now asking the Town Council to fund the two weekly Witney youth sessions and continue to contribute towards the running of the LGBTQ+ Group.</p> <p>As there are no dedicated Youth Spaces available in central Witney for a regular Youth Club - and the need for one has been amply demonstrated by the attendance of up to 70 Young People at the youth sessions we held in the High Street Methodist Church (which we had to vacate due to the number of young people attending &amp; the fact that the building did not meet their safe-guarding needs) - we have had to resort to hiring a large, suitable, central venue.</p> <p>As of September we have committed to hiring the Langdale Hall in Witney on Tuesdays between 4.30 - 7.30pm - at a cost of £60 per week (£20 per hour). This cost is in addition to the experienced &amp; trained staff required to run the Youth Club.</p> <p>Until the weather deteriorates and the nights draw in, our second session in Witney will involve detached work around the town - taking in areas such as The Buttercross, Church Green, The Leys, Burwell Shops, Burwell Rec, Smiths Estate Shops, Wes Witney Sports &amp; Social Ground, Deer Park Shops, Deer Park Rec, Madley Park Shops, Madley Park Rec &amp; Cogges.</p> <p>We will continue to seek a suitable venue to move our work inside during the Winter months.</p> <p>We are also hosting the West Oxfordshire Youth Awards in Witney in November, a celebration of young peoples' achievements over the past year or so.</p> <p>The funding also allows some flexibility in worker time to be able to continue building networks in the Community with a view to securing premises, meet with the Neighbourhood police team, run the social media pages and manage staff and volunteers.</p>	

Amount of grant applied for	£32,000 this includes rent of Langdale Hall at £3000	
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES/NO YES	
If YES, please give details	We were awarded £15,210 two years ago and £18,693 last year	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	YES/NO	
If YES, please give details	Previous projects have been funded from Youth Opportunities Fund, Bartlet Taylor Trust WODC and Councillor Priority Funds for Youth projects in Witney and Carterton, Witney Town Council, Carterton Town Council & Chipping Norton Town Council, Witney Lions & Carterton Lions	
<b>Financial</b>		
Please enclose a copy of your latest audited accounts, a financial projection for the period following the balance sheet or a Business Plan if a new organisation.		
<b>Fundraising</b>		
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>Witney Family Prize Bingo (6 x a year)  Witney Pride Day  Carterton Carnival  The West Oxfordshire Youth Awards  WOYA Roadshow  Family Open Mic &amp; Karaoke Night  Family Race Evening  Family Quiz Night  Christmas Market Coach Trips  Witney Christmas Lights  Carterton Christmas Lights  Carterton May Day  Witney Carnival  Witney Youth Festival - a project in conjunction with Oxmat  Carterton Celebrates</p> <p>The plans for 2023 are to increase the number and variety of fun family fundraising events offered in Witney, Carterton &amp; Chipping Norton</p>		

**General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

We are all aware of the negative effect the past few years has had on the nation's mental health, with reported numbers of people requesting assistance for low mood and poor mental health at an all time high - this includes young people. The current waiting list for CAMHS in our area is 3 years long. Now more than ever, young people in West Oxfordshire are vulnerable to exploitation and exposed to risks from alcohol, drugs and sex.

Reports from Thames Valley Police indicate that Young People are most vulnerable during the period after school and when they need to be home for dinner. This is the time when most parents are still at work and young people are left to their own devices. Many young people do not have much disposable income, and with nowhere to go and socialise with their friends, many end up hanging around the streets - where they are vulnerable to exploitation. Adding to these pressures is the cost of living crisis, we are already beginning to see more young people hungry.

While Got2B staff are able to do detached work - approaching groups of young people where they hang out - there is a limit to the type and amount of real Youth work we can do on the streets. For example, we cannot do C-card (Contraception) demonstrations or demonstrate the drug awareness packs or how to check your breasts or testicles for Cancer in the streets /parks where it would be inappropriate in front of young families and other people. Youth work is about providing a regular safe space with trusted adults where young people can regularly attend for free, providing opportunities for informal education, and space to talk to experienced, trained, trusted adults about any concerns they may have. Until we have a dedicated, central Youth Centre in Witney, we will need to keep hiring premises to do our work.

I certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am authorised to make this application for Grant-aid.

Signed: 

Date: 30/08/22

*If posting, please return your completed application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK*