

Meeting	Trustee Board meeting
Date	22 June 2023
Title	Young Offenders Grants Application Shortlisting
Agenda item	7
Paper by	Victoria Southwell

1.0 Purpose of paper

To provide a clear understanding of the shortlisting process to enable fair and consistent shortlisting of Young Offender Grant Applications to be undertaken by Trustees.

2.0 Overview

This is the first round of young offender grants under the new strategy.

A total of 31 applications were received from organisations supporting young offenders. As this is the first time that we have run this funding opportunity with this focus we cannot compare the number of applications to previous rounds. However, the last round we ran with a young offender and employment focus received over 70 applications. It should be remembered though that the current Sport 4 Development focus is deliberately niche, and we received a strong enough group of applications to consider a wide range of applications.

We received applications from 3 nations with 2 applications coming from Northern Ireland, 1 from Scotland and the remaining 28 coming from England. No applications were received from Wales.

22 applications were from organisations that had never applied to Triangle Trust for funding previously which shows that we had had some success advertising the funding opportunity to organisations not previously known to us.

With regards to types of organisations making applications, 17 had charity status, 10 were solely Community Interest Companies and 4 were just social enterprises or had another status.

There were 4 applications (13%) that did not fit the criteria, which is a lower percentage than in previous young offender funding rounds. The information on the website was significantly updated and the eligibility quiz also revised which has hopefully strengthened the information that is available prior to applying. It was noticeable though that during the application window the number of enquiries via email and phone was significantly higher than in previous rounds. This obviously has an impact on staff time during this period but has potentially impacted the quality of applications positively.

The applications have been assessed and divided into the following groups:

- *0 applications – withdrawn by the organisation after submission.*
- *4 applications – instantly rejected as they were either not focused on employment outcomes or not working solely with young offenders or ineligible to apply.*
- *21 applications – recommended for rejection after review by the Director and Grants Assistant due to quality.*
- *10 applications – longlisted to be reviewed by Trustees.*

The purpose of the discussion at the meeting on 22nd June is for Trustees to shortlist applications worthy of being assessed by the Director, who will conduct a thorough review (either by Zoom or in person) prior to the selection of successful applications at the October 2023 meeting.

The grant budget allows a total value of £400,000 of new young offender grants to be awarded. This will equate to a minimum of 5 applications being funded if they are all requesting the maximum grant amount of £80,000 over two years. However, the grant amounts requested vary quite considerably so depending on Trustee scoring up to eight could be shortlisted for assessment with around seven ultimately being supported.

The summary details of the 21 rejected applications are attached as Appendix 2.

Electronic copies of the 10 applications to be reviewed are attached along with details of the allocated Trustee reviewers.

3.0 Trustee review process

Each application selected for Trustee review has been allocated to three Trustees to undertake a detailed review against the following criteria:

- Does the organisation have existing expertise working with young offenders?
- Does the organisation understand the challenges of working with young people who have been through the criminal justice system?
- Will the grant make a difference to contributing to reducing reoffending rates for young offenders supported by the project?
- Is the applicant able to explain how they will track the impact that the project is having on beneficiaries and other stakeholders?
- Does the organisation have existing expertise using a Sport 4 Development approach?
- Are the costs covered by the grant reasonable?
- Are any of our target groups prioritised? (young women, young people who have been 'looked after' and young people from BME communities)

The first filter undertaken by the Director and Grants Assistant has identified 10 applications that align well with the criteria and the aims of our strategy. As well as considering the points above you may also want to consider if there is anything additional that sets an application you read apart – this might be geography, or the planned work being focused on a specific group. (e.g., supporting young people affected by gangs, mental ill health, or addiction issues) or wanting to pilot a new and innovative approach.

We have already agreed that we will prioritise applications focusing solely on either young women, looked after young people and young people from BME communities.

However, you may want to also note any applications that whilst not solely targeting these groups will be planning to work with high numbers of young people from them.

Details of the full published criteria for applicants are within Appendix 1.

Trustees should score each allocated application (see spreadsheet) either 1, 2, 3 or 4 using the scale below. Whilst there is no specific definition about what in your opinion constitutes a 1, 2, 3 or 4 (as this is subjective and may not be the same as other Trustees) the crucial thing is that you apply consistent scoring across all of the applications that you read. **Half scores are not permitted.** Please note that the scoring changed for the last round after Trustee feedback making an extra point available. We have decided to stick with this for this round and will review again after the shortlisting meeting.

Excellent should definitely be shortlisted	4
Strong application that should be shortlisted if funds permit	3
Good application that could be shortlisted if funds permit but some concerns and weaknesses	2
Several issues and weaknesses identified making the application not worth considering further	1

The extra point available hopefully helps to separate the applications that you score and make finalising a shortlist easier. If you have scored your applications similarly then you may want to additionally decide which you would prioritise if they could not all be funded – if you have primarily awarded a 3 then please assign a priority application a 4. Please also make some comments about what you liked about an application, what the strengths were and also where you thought applications had weaknesses. This may need to be considered during the shortlisting discussion if there are a large number of applications achieving a similar total.

When the Trustee scores are collated, each application will have a score between 4 and 12. The approximate implications of these scores are below; these may be adjusted slightly to ensure the number of applications discussed at the meeting is manageable.

4 to 6	Rejected without discussion at the meeting
7 to 9	Discussed at the meeting
10 to 12	Shortlisted for a Director visit without discussion at the meeting

Please return your scores and comments to Fran by **10.00am** on **19th June** by emailing info@triangletrust.org.uk. The collated scores will then be circulated prior to the meeting.

4.0 Salesforce

The supporting documentation for each application can be viewed on Salesforce, the online grants database. Salesforce also has a direct link to the applicants' website and charity commission website entry (where relevant).

Visit the following to log onto Salesforce: <https://login.salesforce.com/>

The username is your email address and the password you will have set yourself. **(We can reset your password if you have forgotten it.)**

When logged on:

- a. Click on the Triangle Trust logo on the top right and select 'switch to Salesforce Classic'. If there is no logo there, you will already have loaded Salesforce Classic.
- b. Select "requests" in the menu across the top of the page
- c. Just below the menu on the left hand side you will see the word "view" with a dropdown list next to it. Select "Request Received" at the bottom of the list and then click on the "Go" button next to it.
- d. You should now have a list of all the applications received for this grant round. To view the application click on the "Opportunity Name" and you will be able to see all the details.
- e. To access the annual accounts submitted with the application scroll to the very bottom of the submission and look in the "Notes & Attachments" section.
- f. You will also see that within the application there is a direct link to the charity commission listing for the applicant (where relevant).
- g. You can click to the applicant website either from within the application or from the list at the start.

Appendix 1: Published Development Grant Details and Criteria

Young Offenders criteria for grant aid

The issue

Despite falling numbers of children and young people in youth custody, outcomes for those sent to *Young Offender Institutions* and prison have got worse.

Young people with criminal convictions can struggle to access the support they need to rebuild their lives in a positive way.

Over two thirds of young people released from secure institutions reoffend within 12 months of release *and the reoffending rate for young offenders is higher than that for adults and only starts to drop once offenders reach their late 30's.*

Support services are stretched but organisations working with social purposes can play a vital role in working with young people to forge a positive future. Many young people in the criminal justice system have experienced trauma, violence and inequality dating back to early childhood and are navigating complex and unstable lives. But they can thrive and rebuild if they have in-depth support, training and holistic help from expert organisations that understand their needs.

Funding

We want to fund projects that use a Sport 4 Development approach to work with young people with criminal convictions (from ages 11-25) to help them move away from reoffending and break the cycle of a return to prison.

Sport 4 Development interventions have proved to be effective in engaging with hard to reach and vulnerable young people and helping them to achieve specific social development objectives. These projects differ from those that play sport for fun as learning is built into the project activity.

For the purpose of explaining the kind of projects we are looking to support we think that the definition below developed by [InFocus](#) is really useful.

A Sport 4 Development intervention is one that is **intentional** in its use of sport and physical activity to **attain specific social development objectives**.

A S4D intervention aims to effect a series of changes for an **intended target audience** (outcomes) and employs a particular approach to the design and delivery of a sport and physical activity intervention that helps **leverage the positive attributes of sport** to optimise the social objectives achieved.

We welcome applications that:

- Have specific outcomes and targets related to the following key social impact areas; individual development, health and well-being, employability, education, and social cohesion. The proposed project has to work with young people who

have a criminal conviction and be able to demonstrate how it will lead to a reduction in reoffending.

- Show a track record of either current or previous work that has used a Sport 4 Development approach.
- Demonstrate that they understand the wide range of challenges and issues that will need to be addressed to help a young person succeed after being released from a Young Offenders Institution or prison.
- Show existing work with young people who have been in the criminal justice system is already taking place and can evidence a track record of helping them to achieve positive outcomes. Clear referral pathways from key partners should be highlighted as part of this.

Funding can only be used to work with young people who have been in the criminal justice system, even if your organisation works with young people more broadly. We cannot accept applications where young offenders only make up some of the cohort of young people on your project.

We recognise that some young people with criminal records are particularly disadvantaged by intersecting inequality related to their race, gender, and experiences of the care system. As such we will prioritise proposals that provide specialist support to target:

- Young people who are from Black or minoritised/racialised communities (often referred to as Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities),
- Young women and girls, and
- Young people who have experienced the care system

If you already work specifically with adults who have criminal convictions around employment you will need to show us in your application that you understand the unique challenges faced by young people and that your project will offer support that is appropriate and effective for their needs. This might be through working with another organisation who have this specific expertise of working with young people.

Applicant criteria

- Applicants must be a registered charity, not-for-profit social enterprise or community interest company working within the UK with a UK office.
- Social enterprise and community interest companies must have a governing document which shows the name, aim/purpose, objects of the group, including a dissolution clause - what happens if your group ceases to function. This clause should show that you are a not-for-profit group by confirming that any assets remaining after all debts are paid will be given to another voluntary group with similar aims. This document should also include details of your Trustees or management committee.
- Applicants must demonstrate in their application how they have expertise and a history of working with young offenders.
- Applicants' average annual income over the past 3 years must be less than £1,500,000.
- Applicants must have their annual accounts independently examined or audited.
- Applicants already in receipt of a Development Grant can apply for further funding as this is for a completely different project.

Grant details

- Grants are available from £10,000 up to £80,000 for a duration of 12 months to 2 years. The amount of funding requested must be proportional to the project that will be undertaken.
- A maximum of £40,000 per year can be requested.

Appendix 2: Applications Recommended for Rejection

Rejected after reviewing due to quality

Ref Code	Organisation Name	Website	Request Amount	Income
2023-05-YO02	Antz Junction	antzjunction.com	£74,200	£284,853
2023-05-YO03	BEING THE CURE	WWW.BEINGTHECURE.ORG	£21,988	£16,095
2023-05-YO04	Boxing Saves Lives CIC	www.boxingsaveslives.org	£62,880	£67,630
2023-05-YO05	Coffee Afrik CIC		£80,000	£184,178
2023-05-YO08	Gloves Not Gunz	https://www.glovesnotgunz.org	£62,500	£38,174
2023-05-YO10	Kent Sports		£35,000	£29,000
2023-05-YO12	Kirkby Amateur Boxing Club	www.brownscommunityservices.co.uk	£27,566	£80,000
2023-05-YO14	Longtower Youth Club	https://longtoweryc.org/	£38,214	£588,438
2023-05-YO16	Oldham Boxing & Personal Development Centre	www.oldhamboxing.co.uk	£80,000	£46,391
2023-05-YO18	Pitch 2 Progress CIC	www.pitch2progress.co.uk	£52,400	£254,518
2023-05-YO19	PrismStart Communities Limited	www.prismstart.org	£79,998	£14,439
2023-05-YO23	Sports Connect Community CIC	www.sportsconnect.uk	£70,412	£23,809
2023-05-YO25	Steps to Freedom CIC	www.stepstofreedom.co.uk	£59,430	£36,929
2023-05-YO26	SWB Your Trust Charity		£54,000	£1,687,000
2023-05-YO27	The Reanella Trust	www.reanellatrust.org	£10,000	£64,000
2022-11-YO28	Think Outside The BLOX CIC/Hackney Wick FC	www.thinkoitsidetheblox.co.uk	£60,000	£0
2022-11-YO30	Yoga Nation Wellbeing Hub CIC	https://www.yoganation.co.uk/	£78,408	£122,592

Rejected after reviewing for not meeting the criteria

Ref Code	Organisation Name	Website	Request Amount	Income
2023-05-YO06	DIMOBI CHILDREN DISABILITY TRUST	http://www.dimobitrust.org.uk/	£80,000	£280,824
2023-05-YO13	Lochend Football Academy	https://en-gb.facebook.com/lochendfootballacademy/	£70,000	£168,957
2023-05-YO15	MIGHTY SPORTS MANAGEMENT LTD	FOOTBALLAGENTUK.COM	£80,000	£80,000
2023-05-YO22	Scunthorpe United FC Community Sports and Education Trust	https://www.freshstartcommunityhousing.org.uk/	£80,000	£569,978