

About the Development Grant

London Youth is a network of 300 community youth organisations right across the capital. We exist to support young people to be the best they can be.

As London changes, so do the challenges and opportunities that our members, and the young people that they work with, face. We want to support our members to be well equipped to respond to this, and to develop and share good practice for the benefit of all young Londoners.

The development grant will enable up to six organisations to access support to develop their work in the area of **wellbeing and mental health**. This topic has been identified time and again by our members as an area of increased need for young Londoners.

We are looking to support work that will not only benefit individual organisations, but that can also be shared with youth organisations across London.

What you will get:

- Up to £2,500 of financial support
- Project development and evaluation support
- Opportunities to showcase your work

What we ask for in return:

- Willingness and commitment to sharing learning with London Youth and our network. We are as interested in what hasn't worked as well as what has.
- Attendance at Wellbeing & Mental Health Network meetings on the following dates:
 - **Thursday 26th April, 2pm-4pm** (This will act as the project kick off meeting for the Development Grant)
 - **Friday 29th June, 10:30am-12:30pm**
 - **Thursday 4th October, 10am-12pm**
 - **Friday 7th December, Time TBC** (but will be in the morning)
- Capacity to be able to undertake the project in the specified time period (May 2018 to September 2018).

We would like to work with members to help them develop their ideas for how they can best respond to the wellbeing and mental health needs of the young people they are working with and we will be holding a workshop on **Monday 26th March 2018 (10am-12pm)** to facilitate this process. We would strongly encourage all those wishing to make an application to attend this meeting.

Applications will then open on our website on **Tuesday 27th March 2018**.

Who is eligible to apply for a development grant?

Organisations applying for a development grant must be a **member of London Youth**. Preference will be given to organisations holding an up-to-date bronze quality mark or higher.

What type of projects are you looking to support?

We are looking to support projects that will help organisations respond more effectively to the wellbeing and mental health needs of the young people they are working with.

This could involve further development of an existing model or approach that you or another organisation have used before, or testing out something new. The important thing is that it is based on the needs of the young people you are working with, and that you are clear on what you would like to achieve through the project.

Do projects need to involve direct delivery with young people?

No, projects do not need to involve direct delivery with young people. However, where young people are not the direct beneficiary, please make it clear in your application how the project will benefit young people indirectly or in the longer term.

How will decisions be made?

We are holding a network meeting on **Monday 26th March 2018 (10am-12pm)** where you will have an opportunity to share ideas for your project with London Youth staff and with your peers, and get feedback to help develop them further. Whilst this is not part of the formal application process, it will help us get a better understanding of your project and we would strongly encourage you to attend this meeting.

Once submitted, formal applications will be reviewed by a panel of London Youth staff and specialists from the field of mental health and wellbeing who will then make the final decision about which projects will receive funding.

Please note that only applications from eligible organisations that are received by the deadline and that are completed in full will be considered as part of this process.

Decisions will be based on the following criteria:

- Evidence of need
- The strength of the proposed model/approach
- The potential for sharing and applying learning elsewhere in the youth sector
- Suitability of the project for this funding opportunity
- Alignment with London Youth's values of supporting high quality youth work in the community

How many grants are available?

We are planning to award six development grants of up to £2,500 each.

Can more than one organisation apply for a joint project?

Yes. If you are applying for a grant in partnership with another organisation(s), please provide details of each organisation in the application. Please note that the lead organisation **must** be a member of London Youth.

What can the grant be spent on?

The grant can be spent on any costs or expenditure associated with the project. This can include staff time, direct project costs, as well as a reasonable contribution to overheads.

What other (non-financial) support will I receive?

London Youth will support you to develop and evaluate your project and share the learning within our network. This support will take the form of either 1:1 or workshop support, depending on the nature of your project.

How will you share the learning from these projects?

We will be producing a written report and hosting a network meeting to share learning from all the projects we have supported. The network meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 7th December

How do I apply?

Applications should be made online through our website [here](#).

Please note: Applications will open on Tuesday 27th March and close on Friday 13th April 2018 at 5pm. This link will not work before or after these dates.

When will I know if I've been successful?

We intend to let applicants know of the outcome no later than Friday 20th April 2018.

When will the work begin?

We anticipate projects commencing in May 2018 and will be in contact with successful applicants to arrange project start dates.

How can I find out more?

We would encourage you to read these before submitting your application. If you have further questions, not covered in this document, please contact: Laura Fisher (laura.fisher@londonyouth.org or on 0207 549 8842).