



Targeted projects
Application guidance

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About us

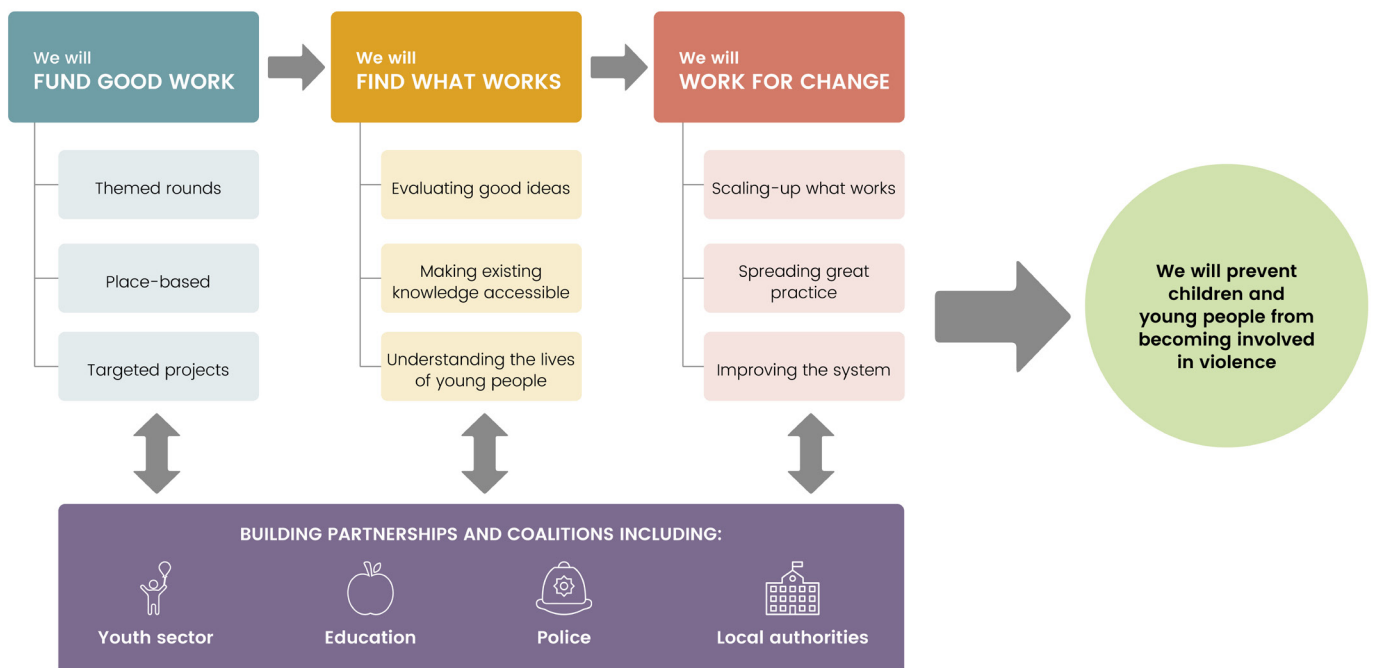
The Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) is a charity with a mission that matters. We exist to prevent children and young people becoming involved in violence. We do this by finding out what works and building a movement to put this knowledge into practice.

Children and young people at risk of becoming involved in violence deserve services that give them the best chance of a positive future. To make sure that happens, we'll fund promising projects and then use the very best evaluation to find out what works. Just as we benefit from robust trials in medicine, young people deserve support grounded in the evidence. We'll build that knowledge through our various grant rounds and funding activity.

And just as important is understanding children and young people's lives. Through our Youth Advisory Board and national network of peer researchers, we'll ensure they influence our work and we understand and are addressing their needs.

But none of this will make a difference if all we do is produce reports that stay on a shelf. Together we need to look at the evidence and agree what works, then build a movement to make sure that young people get the very best support possible.

Our strategy sets out how we'll do it. At its heart it says that we will fund good work, find what works and work for change. You can read it [here](#).



Targeted Projects

Our targeted projects funding will enable us to fund and evaluate widely used or promising interventions. Our aim is to build our understanding of what works, then work for change by helping effective programmes to scale and sharing best practice.

Organisations can apply for targeted projects funding against two strands of activity:

1

Strand One: To fund and evaluate popular and commonly used interventions and approaches to better understand their effectiveness.

2

Strand Two: To fund and evaluate promising interventions and approaches that draw on good evidence and have the potential for impact at scale.

Before you progress through our detailed application form, it is vital that you have read our **Programme Guidance**, taken our **eligibility checker** and submitted an **initial proposal**. If you still have questions before you start your application you can always reach out to us on targetedprojects@youthendowmentfund.org.uk.

What we'll invest in

We'll aim to identify around five projects a year that are ready for robust impact evaluation or could be supported to reach this point within two years. Whilst there is no minimum or maximum grant amount, **we are unlikely to fund projects which have a total value of less than £500,000.**

Details of our application process

Overview:

There are three parts to our application.

1. The first part is an **eligibility checker** to make sure this funding is right for you. We recognise that organisations invest a lot into developing proposals and applying for funding. It's therefore important to us that we spend time checking you meet all the eligibility criteria before you can access the full application.

If you're going through this section and are unable to move forward because it states you are not eligible for funding, but you feel like this is a mistake, you can email targetedprojects@youthendowmentfund.org.uk to ask a question about your eligibility.

2. The second part is a **one to two-page initial proposal** setting out which strand you are applying for, your funding request, the intervention you want to deliver and the change you think it will make, including the journey that a young person would take, a proposed timeline of implementation and activity and how you meet the programme assessment criteria to targetedprojects@youthendowmentfund.org.uk. Please also link to or attach any existing evidence that you have for your intervention.
3. The third part is the **full application**.
 - There are seven sections to the application.
 - Some sections help us to understand more about you as the applicant (such as details of your organisation and any organisations you're applying with), while other sections provide information that will help us to assess the strength of your application.
 - In this guidance we will be clear which sections we are using to help us assess your application, what we will be assessing you on and what information we are looking for you to provide in response to each question.



Part one: eligibility checker

In this section, we want to make sure that you meet all the eligibility requirements associated with funding. You can read about our eligibility requirements in our [targeted projects programme guidance](#) and take the eligibility checker via our [website here](#).

If you have questions about your eligibility you can reach out to targetedprojects@youthendowmentfund.org.uk. Otherwise, please refer to our [prospectus](#) or [sign up to our newsletter](#) to look out for future opportunities with the Youth Endowment Fund that might be right for you.

Questions:

1 – 4. About you and your organisation: we want to know about your role as the person submitting the application on behalf of your organisation, the type of organisation you are, if you are working in partnership and who those partners are.

- This section is for our information only and is not used to assess the strength of your application.

5. Is your organisation registered? For example, are you a registered charity, company, statutory body or CIC?

- You must be registered to receive funding from the Youth Endowment Fund. We are not accepting applications from individuals or unregistered groups.

6. Are you requesting funding for work in England and /or Wales?

- At the Youth Endowment Fund, we only provide grants to organisations operating in England and Wales. We cannot provide funding for an organisation or any activity occurring outside of England and Wales.

7. Are you the lead organisation making a grant application to the YEF?

- To ensure we don't receive multiple applications for the same project, we only accept applications from the lead organisation in your consortium.
- If you are applying as a consortium or partners, the lead organisation is the one who will be responsible for signing the agreement with YEF and for reporting to us on a regular basis.
- If you are applying as part of a consortium, but are not the lead organisation, please coordinate with your lead who will be submitting on your behalf.
- Applying in partnership with other organisations will not mean you are more or less likely to be awarded a grant. What is most important is that you are able to provide evidence to demonstrate why your partnership would be effective.

8. Do you believe your work reduces the likelihood of young people committing an act of violence later in life?

- The mission of the Youth Endowment Fund is to prevent children and young people becoming involved in violence, it's critical that you believe that your project will help us to achieve this ultimate aim.

9. Will all of the children you plan to work with in this proposal be aged between 6 and 18?

- The YEF's core focus is on children aged between 10 and 14, however we will also consider strong proposals focused on children outside of this age range, from ages 6 to 18, though we are unlikely to fund projects that have a very broad age range, as they are difficult to evaluate. We cannot fund work that is delivered to children or young people outside of this range .

10. The Youth Endowment Fund independently evaluates every project it funds to help us learn more about what does and doesn't work to prevent young people becoming involved in violence. You will need to work with an evaluation partner throughout this project.

Are you happy to apply on that basis?

- Please read more about what it means to be a YEF-funded grantee and to work with an evaluator in section 4 of our [prospectus](#). You can also view [our video introduction to evaluation at YEF](#). Being a YEF partner is a big commitment; to help us achieve our mission to find out what works, you'll need to work closely with your evaluator. If you aren't willing to be independently evaluated, our funding isn't right for you.

11. The Youth Endowment Fund exists to find out what works best to help young people. We are committed to giving vulnerable young people the very best research. This requires us to work in a particular way. One of the things we need to be able to do in our evaluations is have a 'control group' of young people who don't take part in the activity. In many cases, it is necessary to allocate young people to this 'control group' randomly, otherwise it is impossible to know if something really works.

Please select yes to confirm that you understand that this is how we work or no if you don't want to help us do this.

- Please read more about why we are committed to rigorous evaluations that include a control group in section 4 of our [prospectus](#).
- We want to fund robust evaluations, like randomised control trials. In these evaluations, one group takes part in a project while the other group doesn't
- By looking at both groups before and after you work to support young people, we can see the impact of your project. If you aren't willing to take part in an evaluation that includes a randomised control group, our funding isn't right for you.

12. The Youth Endowment Fund exists to find out what works best to help young people. We are committed to giving vulnerable young people the very best research. This requires us to work in a particular way. One of the things we need to be able to do is either to collect data on children's names and addresses or their National Pupil Database number (which their school has). This makes it possible for us to track the long-term impact of the work rather than just the short-term impact.

Please select yes to confirm that you understand that this is how we work or no if you don't want to help us do this.

- Only approved researchers will have access to this data and there are many

safeguards in place to protect it and to ensure the identities of the children won't be known to those using it.

- For more information on how this will work, please see our [guidance for participants](#) and our [FAQs](#).
- You can also find our more detailed [guidance for evaluators](#).
- As a YEF grantee, you will be required to support in all aspects of our evaluation, including in the archiving of the data collected from the project.
- The evaluator will be responsible for making sure the data is effectively archived, but you'll need to support. If you are not willing to support us in our aim then unfortunately YEF funding is not for you.

13. To receive Targeted Projects Funding, you will need to have secured match funding.

This can include in-kind contributions or previously secured grant funding, for example if project staff time is already paid for – by you, a partner or other funder – those staff costs will count as match funding. We are also open to applications from organisations that have secured all delivery costs, and are only seeking YEF support to cover the evaluation. In this instance, all delivery costs will count as match funding.

Have you secured or are you confident that you can secure matched fund for your project?

- Match funding is important for two reasons:
 1. It helps us to maximise the impact of our endowment in delivering our mission to prevent children from becoming involved in violence.
 2. It shows there is wider support of your programme and increases the likelihood your project will continue beyond our funding if it's found to be successful.

14. Have you read the accompanying YEF guidance documents?

- Our guidance documents are meant to help you make the best decision about whether funding from the Youth Endowment Fund is right for you
- Our aim is to be as communicative as possible about what to expect as one of our grantees, so there are no surprises throughout our process and we remain focussed on finding what works to prevent young people from becoming involved in violence.
- Therefore, it's important for us to confirm that you've read these guidance documents before you fill out the full application for funding.
- You can find the targeted projects programme guidance [here](#).

Part two: the initial proposal

If you pass our [eligibility checker](#), you will be invited to submit an initial one or two page proposal via email. This will help us to get a good understanding of your project without you having to fill out the extensive application. If we approve your proposal we will invite you to fill out a full application form.

In your initial proposal please set out which strand you are applying for, your funding request, the intervention you want to deliver and the change you think it will make, including the journey that a young person would take, a proposed timeline of implementation and activity and how you meet the programme assessment criteria to targetedprojects@youthendowmentfund.org.uk. Please also link to or attach any existing evidence that you have for your intervention.

Part three: the full application

Our full application has the following seven sections:

1. Your organisation:

We want to know about your role as the person submitting the application on behalf of your organisation, the type of organisation you are, if you are working in partnership and who those partners are. This section is for our information only and is not used to assess the strength of your application. As a reminder, if you are applying in partnership then the lead organisation should fill out the form.

2. Improving the diversity of the organisations we fund:

At the Youth Endowment Fund, we are committed to being a diverse and inclusive funder. We believe that diversity drives innovation, increases diversity of thought and experience and helps us represent and best serve the young people that we are seeking to support. This section asks you to share with us information about the size of your organisation, the diversity of your leadership team, the diversity, age and gender of the young people you hope to work with and the location of your work. This information is not used to assess the quality of your application nor likelihood for impact of your project. Our assessors will not see this information when they are reviewing your proposal. This information is to help the Youth Endowment Fund learn more about the organisations that apply for funding and are awarded grants and will help us to improve our practices moving forward about how to reach a diverse set of organisations for funding.

3. Understanding the activity:

In this section we are trying to understand exactly what it is you're hoping to do with this project: what are the activities you plan to conduct, how long those activities take, where you're planning to do them and, critically, what outcome you are hoping to achieve through this work.

4. Confidence of activity:

In this section we are trying to understand how likely your project is to succeed and how likely it is that your activity will lead to its intended change. In our Targeted projects we will be looking for projects that have a strong theory of change, if you are applying under strand two, promising interventions, we will be looking for you to draw on existing evidence in this section.

5. Risk:

All projects come with risks. In this section we want to make sure you've clearly thought through the risks to your delivery and have thought about how you may mitigate them. We'll ask you about risks to reaching the young people you intend to work with, risks associated with working in your location, delivery risks and project management risks. We'll also want to understand your experience delivering this type of activity in the past and experience working with the same type of young person you're trying to reach.

6. The young people you will be working with:

In this section we're trying to develop a deep understanding of the type of young person you're hoping to work with and the number of young people you're planning to work with. It's important that we fund organisations that are ready for a rigorous evaluation of their work or will be ready for that within two years. For that reason, we do look carefully at the number of people you think you can reach due to the importance of reaching a large enough sample size for evaluation.

7. Budget:

In this section, we ask you to provide a summary of what you intend to spend on this project. At this point we are requesting information at a high level, by year (four categories of project costs, overhead costs, staff costs and equipment costs). We do not need you to include evaluation costs at this stage. The application process with the Youth Endowment Fund is an iterative process. If you progress to the next phase of the application you will be paired with an evaluator and the two of you will work together on a final project design that is able to be successfully evaluated. We recognise this may change your budget. For that reason, a detailed budget is not submitted until that co-design phase of the application process.

For more detail on exactly what we're looking for in response to each question in the sections above, see the detailed guidance section below.

Targeted projects: assessment criteria

When reviewing the sections of your application above, our team will be assessing your application against the following ten criteria:

1. Strong fit with programme aims:

We will be trying to assess how well you fit our targeted project eligibility criteria in the strand that you are applying under.

2. A worthwhile outcome:

We are trying to assess, if you deliver your project well, whether the outcome you are hoping to achieve will lead to a reduction in youth violence. We are primarily reviewing the 'Understanding the activity' section when making this assessment.

3. If delivered well, how likely the project is to achieve the outcome:

We are trying to assess, if you deliver your project well, how likely you are to achieve your intended outcomes. To make that assessment we are asking ourselves two main things:

- Have you clearly explained what your project involves and how it leads to the change you want to see for the children you work with? This is sometimes called a theory of change, which is a method to help you describe your long-term goals and maps backwards to explain how your intervention will get you there. We are interested in understanding what the existing evidence says about how successful your chosen activities are likely to be, how clearly we can understand your planned activities, and whether the length of time you're planning to run your activities seems reasonable.
- What evidence has already been generated to support the potential effectiveness of your project? This doesn't need to be a large trial – our funding is here to develop that level of evidence. What we would like to see is some evidence that your project can be successfully implemented, and that it leads to positive outcomes for children and young people. This is particularly important for applications that sit under Strand Two – 'promising with potential'.

We are primarily reviewing the 'Understanding the activity' and 'Confidence of activity' sections when making this assessment.

4. Aiming to reach the right type of young people:

We are trying to assess if the type of children you are planning to work with meets the aims of the YEF. We are primarily looking at question 26 in the 'Confidence of activity' section when making this assessment.

5. Likely to lead to future change:

A core part of YEF's strategy is, when we find something works, we want to scale it and spread it. We are therefore trying to assess whether, if your activity was proven to work, it would be possible to spread the activity to new areas, to persuade other organisations to take up learning from your work, or to influence others to change how they work in order to benefit young people. We will primarily be looking at your answer to question 42 to 44 in the 'Young people you will be working with' section when making this assessment.

6. Likely to reach the right type of young people:

We are trying to assess if you have got the experience of reaching the type of young people you're hoping to work with and if you have got plausible and realistic methods for reaching those young people. We are primarily looking at the 'Risks' section when making this assessment.

7. Able to deliver:

We are trying to assess how successful you are likely to be in conducting your activities and achieving your intended outcome. To do this we are looking at your previous experience, the support, training and supervision you provide to delivery staff, and your understandings of the various risks and how to mitigate them. We are primarily looking at the 'Risks' section when making this assessment.

8. Able to deliver at required the scale:

We are trying to assess whether or not you have a plan in place that will mean you can work with a sufficient number of young people to be able to conduct a rigorous evaluation of the activity you plan to do. We will primarily be looking at the 'Young people you will be working with' section when making this assessment.

9. Evaluable:

We are trying to assess whether or not we can evaluate what you do. This is partly about ensuring that by the end of two years of funding, you will be able to reach and engage a large enough group of young people that will allow us to evaluate the project through rigorous evaluation methods. We will primarily be looking at the 'Young people you will be working with' section when making this assessment.

10. You have funding or in-kind support committed:

We are looking to understand the level and source of match funding that you have secured for this project. Unlike with our themed grant rounds, the level of match funding that you have secured will form part of our assessment of your application.

How to apply: using our application form

Once you have taken our eligibility checker and had your initial proposal approved, you will be invited to fill out our full application form.

[You can find our application form here.](#)

- You will notice that we are using SurveyMonkey to collate your applications, our aspiration is to improve your application experience in the future and use our own application platform. In the meantime, please do get in touch if you have any issues or questions during the application process: targetedprojects@youthendowmentfund.org.uk.
- Should you wish to understand how we store and use your form data, and our legal commitments to protecting your privacy, a link to our privacy policy is available on our website, [here](#).
- You will be able to save your work on the form and return to an unsubmitted application at any time, providing you use the same device.
- Once you have submitted your application, you will no longer be able to edit it.
- Please note, your answers are only saved when you click 'Next' at the bottom of each page. Please don't use the forward and back buttons on your browser, as you may lose your form data if you do. Instead use the Next and Previous buttons to move through the form.
- Please remember to use the Submit button at the end of the form, or the form data will not arrive to us! You will see a confirmation message from SurveyMonkey when your application has been successfully submitted.
- Please note that to help you navigate the form we have not made all questions compulsory. However, it is necessary that you answer every question in order to be considered for funding.

Full application form: detailed question guidance

Questions 1 to 16 help us double check whether you are eligible for funding and help us to understand more about your organisation, these questions are not scored as part of our assessment of your application.

Understanding the activity

17. Please select the outcomes for young people the project seeks to influence (e.g. reduction in offending, reduction in behavioural problems, increase in self-esteem)

- You will be given a list of common outcomes associated with successfully preventing children from becoming involved in violence.
- You can pick more than one item on the list.
- Please only pick the outcomes that apply. Picking all options may suggest that you are not sure of the purpose of your work.

18. If you felt constrained by the list above, please describe the change you believe your activity makes to young people that makes them less likely to commit an act of violence later in life? [Max 100 words]

- If your outcome was not listed in the above list, you can describe the change here in free text form.
- If possible, summarise that change as an outcome of 1-3 words to help us really understand what you are trying to achieve.
- The YEF aims to reduce youth crime and violence and is therefore interested in projects targeting those outcomes, or upstream outcomes that are associated with youth crime and violence. For more information on factors associated with increased risk of or protection from involvement in violence, you can read our [What Works briefing](#).

19. Please describe the activity you plan to deliver. What exactly is the experience of the child and the timeline of activities from their point of view? We are asking this question to assess whether what you are planning to do is likely to achieve the outcome you have in mind, so do describe as clearly as possible what you do with the children and young people you work with. [Max 500 words]

- Please be as clear and detailed as possible. This is a very important part of your application.
- Please give us a description of all activities you plan to do, who is delivering those activities, who is taking part in those activities, how long each activity will take place for, and how often a young person will do the activity. We are particularly interested in understanding the experience and the timeline from the child's point of view. Therefore we encourage you to be as detailed as possible about the journey most young people will go through when taking part in your activities.
- If helpful for you to divide up your activities in phases for ease of understanding please do so (mobilisation phase, delivery phase, close out phase, for example).

20. In what setting are the activities mainly delivered?

- You will be given a list of settings where your activity could be delivered.
- You are free to choose more than one setting.
- If you choose more than one setting, please explain why in the free text section.

21. On average, how long do you work with an individual child to deliver this activity? Please enter the number of months.

- Please answer this from the perspective of the young person engaging with your activity, not the amount of time it takes you to do the activity.
- For example, if a mentoring activity is running for a period of 10 months (your staff are doing it for this period of time) but a single young person will be receiving their mentoring for a 2 month window within this activity period, enter 2 months.

Confidence of activity

22-24. You have now told us what your activity is, please clearly explain the difference you think your activity will make and how you think it will make this difference (your theory of change). [Max 500 words]

Please include a link/reference to any supporting evidence cited (e.g. a theory of change and/or logic model or evidence that your chosen model/practice is effective).

How confident are you that your activity will lead to this change? What makes you pick this option?

- Use this section to clearly explain how you think your project will lead to the outcomes that you hope it will for the children involved. This is sometimes called a theory of change, which is a method to help you describe your long-term goals and maps backwards to explain how your intervention will get you there.
- You will be asked to select either high, medium or low to indicate how confident you are that your activity will lead to change. You will then be asked to fill out a free text box providing an explanation for why you gave the rating that you did. We are interested in understanding why you have given the rating you have given, so please aim to give an honest reflection based on what is already known about the impact of your project. For any evidence or sources referenced, please include a link/reference.

25. If you would like to include any publicly available evaluations of your project please include this here along with a link/reference.

- If your project has previously gone through an independent evaluation and a report is available, please upload it.
- While this is not a requirement, it will strengthen your proposal.

26. We are looking for applications that particularly reach children who are at high risk of becoming involved in violence. Please tell us about the type of young people you plan to work with. Include here how you will engage the young people or/and how they are referred to your organisation. [Max 100 words]

- Provide as much detail as you can about the young people you are hoping to work with, for example you could tell us about their risk and vulnerability factors, what – if any – experience of the criminal justice system they have and any pertinent information about the demographics of your target group.
- Please tell us how the young people you will work with will be either referred to you or identified by you.

Risk

27–28. Often organisations struggle to reach the young people that they want to work with. What risk is there that you won't be able to successfully reach the type of children that you are trying to reach? What makes you pick this option? (Help us understand how you will reach these children and how you will avoid other types of children accessing the activity instead). [Max 500 words].

- We are specifically asking you to respond to the risk of being able to reach, engage, and retain children and young people. Recruiting young people into projects is always a difficult task, so we expect there to be some risks to you being able to do this effectively and we want to make sure you've thought about these and have mitigated them in the past.
- You will have to choose one of five ratings (very high, high, quite high, moderate, low) and then provide an explanation as to why you gave that rating.
- In your free text section, please include what you would do to mitigate this risk if you already have a plan in place for this.

29–30. Often organisations struggle to deliver the activity they have applied to deliver. What risk is there that you won't be able to successfully deliver this intervention? What makes you pick this option? [Max 500 words]

- We are looking for you to respond with general risks to project implementation. This could include risks like the ability to recruit the right staff members, being able to mobilise your project in a timely way, risks of continued social distancing measures, etc.
- You will first be asked to choose one of five ratings from a list of options (very high, high, quite high, moderate, low). You will then be asked to fill out a free text box providing an explanation for why you gave the rating that you did.
- In your free text section, please include what you would do to mitigate this risk if you already have a plan in place for this.

31. What experience have you got of delivering this activity to this type of children? [Max 100 words]

- Make sure to answer both parts of the question:
 - Part one: What experience do you have with this type of activity?
 - Part two: What experience do you have with this type of young person?
- It may be that you have experience with one and not the other. That's OK, just be sure to explain.

32. We are interested in the level of experience of the people delivering the activities. Could you tell us a bit about who these people are (volunteers or paid staff), their average level of experience, any training or professional qualifications they would have and any ongoing support, supervision or CPD they are required to receive as part of the role? [Max 500 words]

- Please make sure that through your answer we have a clear understanding of the:
 - qualification and experience of your staff.
 - the training needed before delivery can start.
 - the ongoing support, training and supervision you will provide to the staff delivering activities.

33–34. Often organisations struggle to deliver the activity in the location that they have in mind. What risk is there that you won't be able to successfully deliver this intervention in this location? What makes you pick this option? [Max 250 words]

- We are specifically asking you to respond to the risks associate with your location(s). Please refer to geographic locations as well as to setting(s) when responding to this question.
- You will first be asked to choose one of five ratings from a list of options (very high, high, quite high, moderate, low). You will then be asked to fill out a free text box providing an explanation for why you gave the rating that you did.
- In your free text section, please also include what you would do to mitigate this risk if you already have a plan in place for this.

35–37. Often organisations struggle to deliver the activity as they haven't spotted why things would go wrong. Aside from things you have already mentioned, what is the main risk to you not being able to deliver this intervention? [Max 20 words] How likely is this? Why do you say this level of risk? [Max 250 words]

- This is your opportunity to include any more information about a risk you see to your project that did not fall within one of the above categories.
- Please use this section to highlight any risks which are unique to your project or delivery context.
- You will be asked to choose one of five ratings from a list of options (very high, high, quite high, moderate, low). Finally, you will then be asked to fill out a free text box providing an explanation for why you gave the rating that you did.

Young people you will be working with

38. With targeted projects funding, the YEF is looking to work with organisations that are already actively reaching hundreds of children each year in England and/or Wales (strand one) or are willing and likely to reach hundreds of children each year within two years (strand two).

What is the minimum and maximum number of children and young people you could deliver activities to in the final year of funding? We would need you to work with hundreds of young people during the final year of the funded project to be eligible for this funding.

- Make sure to answer the question for the final year.
- The reason we ask this question in this way is because we recognise it takes some time to recruit. At the same time, you must be delivering to a sufficient number of young people in your project for us to be confident that we can conduct a rigorous evaluation of your work.

39–41. We need you to be able to work with hundreds of young people by the final year of our funding.

a) How many young people did you deliver this project to this year?

b) How many would you seek to deliver to in the first year?

c) How many would you seek to deliver to in the second year?

d) How many would you seek to deliver to in the third year? (if applying for three years)

e) How high is the risk that you won't be able to scale up like this, assuming we provide the funding?

f) Why do you say this level of risk? [Max 250 words]

- Please be sure to distinguish the number of young people you will reach by year.
- We will have a bias towards proposals which reach more children. Please make your proposal realistic but – as long as you can maintain the quality – please aim for a higher rather than a lower number.
- You will be asked to choose one of five ratings from a list of options (very high, high, quite high, moderate, low) to respond to how high the risk is that you won't be able to scale up your project to reach this number of young people as planned. You will then be asked to fill out a free text box providing an explanation for why you have listed the rating that you did. In this section, please be sure to also state what measures you have in place to ensure children remain engaged for the duration of your project (i.e. don't drop out of the project before it is completed).
- This is important for us to be able to see that you have a realistic plan for scaling up your project to be able to conduct a successful evaluation of your work.

42–44. If we found that what you do works brilliantly, we would want to take it across England and Wales. If we wanted to make that happen, which would be the easiest way to do it do you think? [Select from the answers]. How hard do you think this would be? What makes you choose this option?

- You will first be asked to select which of the below three options would be easiest for you to make happen. You will then be asked to choose one of four ratings from a list of options (impossible, hard, moderate, easy) to respond to how hard you think your chosen option will be to execute. Finally, you'll be asked to fill out a free text box providing an explanation for why you have listed the rating that you did.
- **You become a larger organisation with a national reach:**
In your free text section explain your rating for how hard this would be to achieve and what you would require to be able to successfully scale up to a larger organisation.
- **Others are trained to deliver what you are doing:**
In your free text section, explain how you think this could work and how likely it would be that other organisations could take up learning from your work. Is this work so unique to you that you would find it hard for other organisations to replicate or adapt to your learning? Or is this something that could spread?
- **A change to policy leading to this becoming mainstream activity:**
In your free text section, explain your rating and what you think it would take to achieve a policy change in this area?

Budget

45. What is the total budget value for this project?

- Input the total value of the project from start date to end date, regardless of who is providing the funding. This does not need to include the cost of your evaluation as we will work with you to establish that as part of the co-design phase.
- To be eligible for targeted projects funding you must have secured significant match funding. This can include in-kind contributions such as staff costs that you will cover or previously secured grant funding. You should include all of these secured contributions in your total project value.

46. How much of the total budget for your proposed activity are you requesting from us?

- Input the amount of the total budget above that you are requesting from YEF.

47. How much of the total budget for your proposed activity is coming from other sources?

- What is the £ value of the amount that is being provided by other sources, including any in-kind contributions that your or other organisations will make, such as staff time.
- The answer to question 46 and 47, added together, should equal the answer to question 45.

48. Please tell us about any funding or in-kind support already committed to your programme, including how much you have already raised and where the other funding is coming from.

- Please list the sources and amount of other funding, whether it has been secured and any conditions associated with it.

49. Please complete the list below to tell us how much your project will cost. We have asked you to split your amounts into 4 types:

- 1. Project Costs**
- 2. Overhead Costs (e.g. your office costs)**
- 3. Staff costs**
- 4. Equipment costs**

You can apply for up to 3 years of funding. If you are only applying for 1 or 2 years of funding, you only need to complete those parts of the list.

Definitions:

- 1. Project costs:** a direct cost associated with carrying out your activity (example: travel costs).
 - 2. Overhead costs:** these are costs that cannot be directly attributed to the activity itself, but are essential and used to support multiple activities in your organisation (example: office rent, the cost of which is distributed to different activities you run).
 - 3. Staff costs:** these are the costs associated with the staff who will be directly working on your activity. If it is a staff cost for a finance person or other back office staff member that supports your whole organisation, include their costs in the overhead section.
 - 4. Equipment costs:** if you are purchasing an item with a unit value of £1,000 or greater, include it in this section. If you are purchasing an item with a unit value of less than £1,000, include it in the projects costs section.
- Make sure to divide your costs by year (year one, year two, or year three)

What being a YEF partner means

The Youth Endowment Fund exists to prevent children and young people becoming involved in violence. We do this by finding out what works and building a movement to put this knowledge into practice. To do this, we not only need to find and fund great approaches, we also need to evaluate them as rigorously as possible.

In our targeted projects funding, we'll prioritise applications from projects that have significant match funding, are already delivering or have the potential to deliver at scale to hundreds of children, can draw on existing evidence and that will be ready for a robust type of evaluation (like a randomised control trial). This doesn't mean that we won't consider applications at an earlier stage of evaluation, but we will look for projects that would be ready for a robust trial within two years.



What happens next

- Once you submit your application, it will be sent to our team of trained assessors to review against the ten criteria described in our [‘Targeted projects: assessment criteria’](#) section. We will begin assessing applications as soon as they are received. We therefore encourage you to submit your application as soon as you are ready to do so.
- Our assessment team will be tasked with developing a shortlist of applications, which best fit our criteria and have a high likelihood to lead to change, these will be sent to our [Grants and Evaluation Committee](#) for review.
- Our Grants and Evaluation Committee are a group of independent experts in the fields of grant management, serious violence amongst young people, what works in reducing youth offending when taking an early intervention approach, and assessing the evidence base of interventions and the impact of projects. We ensure this Committee has diverse representation across age, gender, ethnicity, background and geographic location. It is up to our Grants and Evaluation Committee to make the final decisions on everything we fund and evaluate.
- The first job of our Grants and Evaluation Committee is to review the work of our assessors and confirm any applications to be brought to the second phase of our application process.
 - It is after this Committee review that we will contact you with the outcome of your application (either you are unsuccessful or you are moving to the next phase of the application). We expect this first communication to be within 3 months.
- Once we’ve decided which projects move to the next stage, we’ll match those applicants with an evaluator from our evaluator panel. This panel is made up of approximately 35 research organisations and universities that have the knowledge, skills, and expertise to conduct rigorous evaluations of the implementation and impact of the projects we fund. Each organisation will competitively bid to be partnered with you if you make it to this phase of the application. Evaluators will be matched to your project based on a range of considerations including the strength and quality of their bid, their skills and experience in the evaluation methods that are appropriate for your project, and subject specific knowledge. You can see a list of the organisations on the [evaluator panel](#) here.
- Once you are paired with an evaluator, you’ll enter a ‘co-design’ period where the applicant and the evaluator work together to design a final proposal and project design that has the best chance of achieving an effective evaluation. This means components of your original design and application could change. We will work with you to make sure this is done thoughtfully and strategically, and if this means that your budget or your timeline changes, we understand that and will support that. Our goal is to make sure this is done collaboratively and you are supported through whatever changes are made.

- Once you submit your final proposal, which has been co-designed with your evaluator, we will send it again to our Grant and Evaluation Committee who will make the final decision on whether or not to award the grant and the evaluation.
- The length of time this 'co-design' phase will last will depend on the type of evaluation your project requires. For projects that will require either a feasibility or pilot study, you can expect to hear the final decision on your proposal within approximately 2 months. For projects that are ready for an efficacy or effectiveness study, you can expect to hear the final decision on your proposal within 3-4 months.
- It's important to be aware that from the time you submit the first part of your application to the point you hear the final outcome (i.e. whether or not YEF will award the grant and the evaluation) is likely to be about 6 months. We believe that this amount of time working with our team and your paired evaluator is critical to making sure your project will be successful through its entire implementation period and we set a strong foundation for working together to learn what works to prevent youth violence through your project.



Application form:

[Click here to start or resume
your application.](#)



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[@YouthEndowFund](https://twitter.com/YouthEndowFund)

This document was last updated in **April 2021**.

We reserve the right to modify the specification and guidance at any time, without prior notice.

The Youth Endowment Fund Charitable Trust

Registered Charity Number: 1185413
