

Ref: CY2602

Dundee Partnership
Community Regeneration Fund

Grant Application
2026/27

Applicant Information	
Name of Applicant Group	MAXwell Centre & Garden
Activity Title	MAXYouth Work
Grant Requested (£)	£16,533

- The Youth Inclusion Fund is to provide financial assistance for community initiatives aimed at working with Children and Young People. Applications should be for an activity (or activities) focused on including children & young people in activities, diverting young people from an existing undesirable activity or preventing them joining in with such activity. This should reflect a need that children and young people have been consulted on.

- The Small Grants Fund is for other applications that contribute towards achievement of the Dundee City Plan / Local Community Plan, usually up to £5,000, but there may be lower local restrictions on the amount. Therefore, it is important to check with the relevant Community Worker as listed on page 8 for any local restrictions or other requirements.

This application should address needs in one of the below Wards within which the Dundee Partnership supports activity. If an activity covers more than one Ward then an application is required for each Forum, but it is essential that each application can stand on its own if agreed and that the application is not for a city-wide activity, but a local activity that is to take place in more than one Ward.

TICK THE WARD WHERE YOUR PROJECT WILL OPERATE
Coldside✓

PLEASE INDICATE WHICH TYPE OF GRANT YOU ARE APPLYING FOR
Small Grant

East End	Youth Inclusion ✓ Please note that communications regarding this application will be sent to you via email unless you indicate otherwise. All communication for this application should be made to dundee.partnership@dundeecity.gov.uk
Lochee	
Maryfield	
North East	
Strathmartine	

Checklist for the DP Community Regeneration Fund Application Form

Before submitting your application form to the Dundee Partnership Team, please use the below checklist to ensure that your form is as fully completed as possible. Please also note that submitting an incomplete form can cause delays in processing or rejection of your application.

Have you:

- Read the guidance sections of the form
- Fully completed the information on the front of the form
- Provided a response to all sections of the application form (including indicating a section as 'N/A' where relevant)
- Checked that your budget adds up properly?
- Checked that your start date is after the date at which funds could be available, (see page 6) and that your end date is within the financial year?
- Included appropriate, measurable outputs & outcomes?
- Provided your groups accounts, or other appropriate financial information?

Sourced and attached all relevant quotes?

(multiple quotes are required where >£5,000 is being applied for to ensure value for money is being considered)

Checked that the bank details or financial code are correct / complete?

Signed the form, given accurate contact details and ticked the GDPR box?

Who is the grant for? (Name of Applicant Group / Department)	MAXYouth Team		
Did you receive a Dundee Partnership grant during 2025-26? (If yes, list all grants below)			YES / NO
Title of project funded	Amount granted	When	Was it fully spent?
MAXYouth Work	£13,924.20	April 25	On-going
Cooker	£3,750.00	March 25	Yes
Cupboard Steward	£1,512.00	Sept 24	Yes
Please give a description of what you want this grant for - (please limit your answer to 500 words or less) The award will be used to part fund our youth workers for 2026/2027. They will plan, develop and manage all of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Garden workshops for our local primary schools and local nurseries. Weekly, we deliver 10 sessions over 4 days, with sessions focusing on outdoor educational activities. These support improved life chances for local young people by providing new learning experiences and opportunities to develop practical skills. Teachers consistently report positive impacts, including notable improvements in behaviour and engagement. In total, 1,643 different children benefited from these sessions including youth engagement from our local high schools.• Our hugely popular Holiday Garden Clubs will run during each school holiday period. Last year we had 78 young people attending in Spring, 109 in Summer, and 78 in Autumn. These sessions allow creativity to flourish,			

offering young people the chance to play games, explore the outdoors, and connect with others in a relaxed and fun environment. Activities include cooking lunch together, creating nature-inspired art, and free play in the garden, contributing to improved happiness, confidence, and wellbeing. Over the year, **more than 690 nutritious lunches** were served.

- Our After School Clubs will run **2** evenings a week and we currently support **32** different children from the local area. The club focuses on free play, creativity and being outdoors all year round – the clubs are very much led by our young people as they often choose and develop their own activities that our youth workers facilitate.
- We support youth volunteering. We currently have **14 youth volunteers**, all of whom demonstrate significant improvements in wellbeing while participating. These young people are empowered to take on leadership roles within the garden, becoming positive role models for younger participants while developing confidence, responsibility, and transferable skills.
- A weekly **Youth Cooking Group**, consisting of six young people, takes a fully youth led approach, from harvesting fresh produce to deciding what to cook. Each month, the group prepares and serves meals for **up to 20 local older residents** through our intergenerational ‘*Come Dine*’ sessions, fostering connection, pride, and mutual respect across generations.
- We also facilitate a **Youth Council of 10 local young people**, which meets weekly and is driven by their ideas and priorities. Members play an active role in shaping our garden, future projects, and wider community activities. They attend board meetings, participate in Local Community Planning Partnership meetings, and collaborate with local councillors, gaining valuable leadership experience and a meaningful voice in their community.

Which City Plan / Local Community Plan Outcome(s) will it address?

Our children will be safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected responsible and included.

People in Dundee will have improved physical health and mental well-being and will experience fewer health inequalities.

How many people will benefit from this project?

750

Will any specific groups benefit from this project? (male, female, age range or protected characteristic)

Local children aged 4-18 resident in the Coldside area.

Please say why the project is needed (please limit your answer to 500 words or less)

Many of the children and young people in our community do not have access to private gardens or safe green spaces, limiting their opportunities for outdoor play, physical activity, and positive social interaction. This lack of access has a direct impact on physical health, mental wellbeing, and confidence. Our garden project addresses this gap by providing a safe, inclusive, and nurturing outdoor environment where young people are free to play, learn, and express themselves.

Through long-standing relationships with young people and their families, we have seen first-hand the significant benefits the garden has on wellbeing. Activities promote healthy eating, mindfulness, and emotional stability, supporting young people to develop resilience and positive coping strategies. The garden provides a space where they can embrace their individuality, feel valued, and experience a sense of belonging.

The project also provides continuity and progression for young people. Many participants attend from early primary school and continue through to secondary school, where they can progress into youth volunteering roles. These opportunities help young people build leadership skills, confidence, and responsibility. This year, we are further strengthening this pathway by linking our Youth Cook Group to the Saltire Awards, allowing young people to gain formal recognition for their achievements and contributions.

Demand for the project continues to grow, with consistently high attendance and increasing requests for places. This demonstrates both the value of the project and the ongoing need to expand and adapt activities to ensure more young people can benefit.

In addition, the project plays a vital role in supporting social connection and transitions. Young people attending the After School and Garden Clubs form strong friendships that extend beyond sessions. Many have reported that reconnecting with familiar peers through the project when transitioning to high school has reduced anxiety and helped them feel more confident during this significant change.

What local consultation has taken place regarding this application?

(Please attach evidence summarising the results of any consultation)

At our strategy away day in November 2025, 8 Youth Council members attended and had huge input into visioning what the MAXwell Centre will look like in 2030. They also attend Board meetings and provide updates, ensuring that young people's voices directly influence strategic decisions. All our youth volunteers are also consulted regularly on project design, events, and programme development.

Consultation is central to the design, delivery, and development of all our youth activities and services. From the outset, young people are actively involved in shaping our work. Through regular group discussions, informal conversations, evaluations, and feedback activities, young people identify the issues and challenges they face and help determine the types of activities they feel would be most beneficial. We continuously review and adapt our provision in response to this feedback, and we actively encourage young people to suggest new ideas and approaches.

Local people are involved at every level of the organisation. This includes our Board of Trustees, who provide strategic oversight, as well as volunteers and staff who support the day-to-day delivery of activities. Young people themselves play a key role in decision-making across the centre, with youth groups contributing ideas not only for their own sessions but for wider centre activities and events.

To ensure our services continue to meet local needs, we also consult with partner organisations, including local schools and other youth services. Our youth worker regularly attends primary school assemblies to engage with pupils and promote our After School and Holiday Garden Clubs. These clubs provide opportunities for children to participate positively, make choices, and feel empowered to contribute to activities that matter to them.

What evidence do you hold that the local community supports this application?

(For example, was it proposed by members of a particular group? Does it directly address need identified by community members?)

There is strong evidence that the local community supports this application and values the impact of our project. Over the past several years, we have gathered extensive evidence through case studies, evaluations, staff observations, and feedback from parents, carers, and schools. This evidence consistently shows that children and young people who attend our groups feel happier, safer, and more confident as a direct result of taking part.

Support for the project is also expressed directly by young people themselves. Many regularly tell us how much they enjoy attending, and their enthusiasm is evident in high attendance levels, with young people often arriving early after school. This ongoing engagement demonstrates how valued and trusted the project is by participants.

Local schools and nurseries also strongly support the project and report significant benefits for pupils of all ages and backgrounds. We work closely with education partners to evaluate our provision and develop case studies highlighting improvements in wellbeing, engagement, and confidence. Schools consistently highlight the positive impact of garden based activities on pupils' learning and emotional wellbeing.

There is also clear evidence of the need and demand for youth provision in the local area. Our project is unique in Dundee in offering out-of-school, garden-based youth activities, and demand for places regularly exceeds availability. This demonstrates both strong community support and the importance of sustaining and developing the project to meet local need.

How will the project / activity tackle deprivation or benefit those experiencing deprivation? (Refer to Section 1 of the Guidance Notes)

Children and young people in our community experience high levels of deprivation, which results in outcomes for learning, health, and future employability that are significantly below the Scottish average. Our project works directly to tackle these inequalities by providing safe, supportive, and engaging out of school opportunities.

Through our garden and youth activities, children develop confidence, social skills, and wellbeing in a nurturing environment. Those who may be withdrawn or reluctant to engage in other settings often flourish in our sessions, forming friendships, participating actively, and experiencing a sense of achievement. Activities such as growing and cooking their own food also promote healthy lifestyles and practical life skills.

Feedback from schools, families, and partner organisations consistently highlights the positive impact of our work, demonstrating improvements in children's confidence, resilience, and engagement with learning. By providing these opportunities, we aim to reduce barriers caused by deprivation and support young people to reach their full potential.

We recognise that the large attainment gap our youths face will remain unless children have access to high-quality activities that build skills, confidence, and wellbeing. Addressing this need lies at the heart of our youth work, ensuring that all local children, regardless of background, have the opportunity to thrive.

What other sources of funding have you secured / tried to secure for this project?

• **If none, please state why this is the case**
 (Detail below, including applications that are pending or that have been turned down.
 We may ask for further evidence of an application for other funding)

Source of Funding (detail if this funding is for more than 1 year, if applicable)	£
Northwood	£7,750
Children in Need	£3,250

What are the costs of your activity and how much money is required? Please give specific details (expand list / use an additional sheet if required) and provide all quotes (good practice for applications for over £5,000 is to provide three quotes to ensure value for money is received, and we will require to see these where relevant).

Cost Heading	Full Costs (£)	DP Aid (£)
Youth Worker Term Time - 28 hours x's 42 weeks @ £14.75	17,346	9,596
Youth Worker Holiday Club: 10 Weeks x's 28 Hours x's £14.75	4,130	1,880
1 Holiday Club Sessional Youth Workers: 10 Weeks x's 20 Hours x's £13.40/Hour	2,680	1,680
Sessional youth worker Term Time 6 hours x 42 weeks £13.40	3,377	3,377
Totals	27,533	16,533

• **All applicants are required to submit a copy of the group's most recent annual accounts with this application. These will be used to help determine eligibility for funding, and WITHOUT THEM AN APPLICATION WILL NOT PROCEED**

- **If reserves held are less than three months operating expenses please confirm this below**

Note that if you have already submitted your accounts within this financial year, further copies may not be needed - please check with the Dundee Partnership Team if unsure

What other documents are you attaching to evidence the budget costs for this application? (e.g. quotes, estimates, projected income and expenditure)

We pay the real living wage for sessional staff £13.41

How do you intend to monitor the project Outputs and Outcomes?

In addition to monitoring attendance, we use a wide range of methods to evaluate the impact of our youth work. Our primary evaluation tools include structured observation, mood boards, and group evaluations, which allow young people to express their experiences and feelings in accessible and age-appropriate ways. Youth workers record detailed session notes outlining what was successful, feedback from children, and ideas for future activities. This reflective practice enables us to review delivery, identify what works well, and continuously improve our provision.

To further assess outcomes for children and young people, we work closely with local schools and value their feedback on changes in behaviour, confidence, engagement, and mental wellbeing. Our youth workers have developed strong, trusting relationships with young people and their families, enabling us to gather informal and formal feedback directly from parents about their child's progress and how we can best meet their individual needs.

We also work regularly with young people and families to develop individual case studies that demonstrate the positive impact our project has had on their lives. These qualitative insights, alongside our ongoing observations, allow us to evidence the day-to-day benefits of our youth activities and their contribution to improved wellbeing, confidence, and personal development.

<p>What is the planned start date of the event/activity?</p> <p>Please note turn around on applications is 6 - 10 weeks and funding cannot be retrospective (<i>see section 2 of the guidance notes</i>)</p>	<p>1st April 2026</p>
<p>What is the planned end date of the event/activity?</p>	<p>31st March 2027</p>

Outputs & Outcomes

It is expected that applicants will have evidence to support performance information when completing returns on the performance against target. Consideration of this should be given when outputs and outcomes are set out.

Applicants will usually refer to one [City Plan](#) / [Local Community Plan](#) Outcome, but the opportunity is given for up to two, if required. **Please refer to section 3 of the Guidance Notes** for examples of outputs and outcomes / indicators.

<p>City Plan / Local Community Plan Outcome:</p> <p>Our children will be safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected responsible and included.</p> <p>People in Dundee will have improved physical health and mental well-being and will experience fewer health inequalities.</p>	
<p>Purpose of activity / project within this Outcome:</p>	
	<p>Target 2026-27</p>
<p>Outputs</p>	
<p>10 sessions each week for local nursery, primary and high schools.(38 Weeks)</p>	<p>418 sessions</p>
<p>Day long sessions over the school holidays for up to 20 children per day.</p>	<p>40 sessions</p>

2 weekly afterschool sessions based in the garden for children from our local primaries during term time (38 weeks)	76 sessions
A weekly youth cook group during term time (38 weeks)	38 sessions
Weekly Youth Council meeting and events for 10 youths	38 sessions
Outcomes / Indicators:	
Our young people will feel empowered to face the daily challenges in their lives.	
The project encourages exercise and healthy eating which will lead to improvements in physical and mental health.	
Our young people feel safer within the community	
Young people report increased confidence.	