

Ref: MY2502

**Dundee Partnership**  
**Community Regeneration Fund**

**Grant Application**

**2025/26**

Applicant Information	
<b>Name of Applicant Group</b>	Stobswell Forum SCIO
<b>Activity Title</b>	Stobswell Dolly Parton Imagination Library
<b>Grant Requested (£)</b>	£3,900

- 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		PLEASE INDICATE WHICH TYPE OF GRANT YOU ARE APPLYING FOR	
Coldside		Small Grant	
East End			
Lochee		Youth Inclusion	X
Maryfield	X		

North East	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 <a href="mailto:dundee.partnership@dundeecity.gov.uk">dundee.partnership@dundeecity.gov.uk</a>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fully completed the information on the front of the form	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Provided a response to all sections of the application form

X

(including indicating a section as 'N/A' where relevant)

Checked that your budget adds up properly?

X

Checked that your start date is after the date at which funds could be available,

X

(see page 6) and that your end date is within the financial year?

Included appropriate, measurable outputs & outcomes?

X

Provided your groups accounts, or other appropriate financial information?

X

Sourced and attached all relevant quotes?

X

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

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

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

<b>Who is the grant for?</b>  (Name of Applicant Group / Department)	Stobswell Forum SCIO	
<b>Did you receive a Dundee Partnership grant during 2024-25?</b>  (If yes, list all grants below)		<b>YES</b>

Title of project funded	Amount granted	When	Was it fully spent?
Albert St Christmas Lights	£5,000	June 24	Yes
Stobswell LPP Consultants	£2,150	June 24	Yes
Stobswell Voice 2024/25	£4,164	Apr 24	Yes
Albert St Christmas Lights	£5,000	Apr 25	N/A
Stobswell Voice 2024/25	£4,164	Apr 25	N/A

**Please give a description of what you want this grant for - (please limit your answer to 500 words or less)**

The grant is being requested to enable the Stobswell Forum to run the Dolly Parton's imagination library book gifting service for children from birth to 5 years old in the central Stobswell area. The library will provide an opportunity for families to receive high quality books from Penguin publishers each month which are age and stage appropriate and will be sent directly to them.

Titles are published by Penguin and are selected by a panel of experts in early childhood development and reading.

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

- Reduce child poverty and inequalities in incomes, education and health.

<p><b>How many people will benefit from this project?</b></p>	<p>150</p>
<p>Will any specific groups benefit from this project? (male, female, age range or protected characteristic)</p> <p>The target group for the initiative will be children aged 0-5 year old. The area covered will be Stobswell West and Stobswell Central where the highest levels of deprivation as measured in the 2020 Scottish Government Index of Multiple Deprivation Report.</p> <p>The estimated the number of children aged 0-5 in the target areas to be 200 and we hope to have a 75 % take up giving us potentially 150 children participating.</p>	



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

Evidence shows us that reading books with children from birth not only supports the development of language and literacy but supports the bonding between caregivers and babies and can be correlated with improved academic outcomes at age 5.

The Stobswell Forum SCIO and the Arthurstone Community Library have partnered with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, to bring free books for children living in central Stobswell including Stobswell West. The aim is to enrol children between the ages of 0-5 into the program no matter their financial background and they will receive a free age-appropriate book in the post every month, it is expected that the children and families involved will also be encouraged to make use of the Arthurstone Community through a range of incentives.

At just over £2 per child per month, or £26 per year for 12 books, this is a cost-effective programme. The Dollywood Foundation UK subsidises the programme, and through economies of scale offers excellent value for the cost of books and delivery. Without this subsidy, delivery of the programme would cost an estimated £143 per child per year for 12 books.

According to the National Commission on Reading, the single most significant factor influencing a child's early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school. Reading can help with language acquisition, communication skills, social skills, and literacy skills.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library is spent directly on the costs of books for children in the local community; this means your funding will directly impact the lives of children and families in Stobswell West and Central Stobswell.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library has partnered up with Swansea University in 2021 to research the effects of this programme and amongst other they found 97%

of families said the books helped develop their child's speech and language and 88% of families read more often.

Other data tells us children are more likely to have reached the required standards at the end of EYFS and 84% of children who had received Imagination Library books met the expected standard in the phonics screening test, compared to 76% of children who were not registered. The Maryfield Community Regeneration Forum can make a real contribution to improving the wellbeing of deprived children and families in the Stobswell West and Central Stobswell.

Evidence for the project from other regions across Scotland highlights parents felt shared reading had a calming effect on their children leading to more relaxed bedtimes.

**What local consultation has taken place regarding this application?**

(Please attach evidence summarising the results of any consultation)

The Stobswell Forum have met with local primary schools and nurseries to canvas opinion and through the DDC Empowerment Team talked to a number of the participating agencies who contribute to the out of school family holiday provision with everyone contact being supportive and keen to be involved.

**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?)

The project proposal came after discussion with the Library Supervisor at Charleston Library and a number of local people who were all very supportive of the initiative. We have also held positive discussions with the team at Arthustone Library who are also very supportive of the project. The Scottish Book Trust run a very successful Imagination Library for children in care in Scotland, in Stobswell West and Central Stobswell we are looking to expand this to all children within this local area.

We have also asked for views through our social media channels which was overwhelmingly positive and encouraging with no negative comments, all comments received were positive.

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

The project will tackle deprivation through removing the cost barrier families may experience.

**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)	£

<p><b>What are the costs of your activity and how much money is required?</b> Please give specific details (expand list / use an additional sheet if required) and provide <u>all</u> 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).</p>		
Cost Heading	Full Costs (£)	DP Aid (£)
Annual book subscription per year for 150 children	£19,950	£3,900
(£26.00 per annum per child aged 0-5 x 150)		

<b>Totals</b>	£19,950	£3,900

- **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)

DP Imagination Library - General Booklet

Research & Evidence Review

Impact Report

Target Post Code Area

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

There will continuous online monitoring and ongoing engagement with all partners

**What is the planned start date of the event/activity?**

Please note turn around on applications is 6 - 10 weeks  
and funding cannot be retrospective (*see section 2 of the  
guidance notes*)

**What is the planned end date of the event/activity?**

Late Summer 2025



## 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.

<b>City Plan / Local Community Plan Outcome:</b>	
<b>Purpose of activity / project within this Outcome:</b>	
	<b>Target 2025-26</b>
Outputs	
To encourage reading of children aged 0-5 years old and families	
in Stobswell West and Central Stobswell	Summer 2025
Outcomes / Indicators:	
Improve literacy and numeracy in children aged 0-5 in Stobswell West	

and Central Stobswell	Summer 2025

<b>City Plan / Local Community Plan Outcome:</b>	
<b>Purpose of activity / project within this Outcome:</b>	
	<b>Target 2025-26</b>
Outputs. 150 Children to be registered for the service	Summer 2025
Outcomes / Indicators Children will have Improved	
Literacy, Speech and Numeracy	Summer 2025

