

Dundee Partnership
Community Regeneration Fund

Grant Application
2024/25

Applicant Information	
Name of Applicant Group	Bethany Christian Trust
Activity Title	Connect Cafe / Bridge to Freedom
Grant Requested (£)	£2080

- The Physical & Environmental Improvement Fund is to provide financial assistance for community initiatives aimed at improving the local area through Capital expenditure. Capital expenditure is something of a physical nature including the acquisition, improvement or structural enhancement of an asset valued at £6,000 or more.

- 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	Physical & Environmental Improvement
Lochee	Youth Inclusion
Maryfield	
North East	
Strathmartine	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

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
(including indicating a section as 'N/A' where relevant) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Checked that your budget adds up properly? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Included appropriate, measurable outputs & outcomes? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Provided your groups accounts, or other appropriate financial information? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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)			
Did you receive a Dundee Partnership grant during 2023-24? (If yes, list all grants below)			YES / NO
Title of project funded	Amount granted	When	Was it fully spent?
Connect Café	£1720	14/06/24	YES

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

The Connect Café

The Connect Café is a community initiative run in partnership with Menzieshill Parish Church, the Food Bank, Crossreach, and Bethany Christian Trust. Operated by dedicated volunteers, the café is designed to benefit the local community by providing a welcoming space for connection and support.

Our primary focus is to offer volunteering opportunities and assistance to individuals in recovery—whether from poor mental health, addiction, unemployment, or other life challenges.

The café serves free, healthy meals and provides a friendly social environment accessible to all Menzieshill residents. We operate alongside the food bank in the same venue, allowing us to connect with residents as they collect food parcels and offer them refreshments, referrals, or signposting to relevant support services.

The Connect Café Team

The café is coordinated by a dedicated community development worker responsible for ordering supplies, maintaining health and safety standards, ensuring food hygiene, and managing volunteers. To operate effectively, the café relies on a team of six volunteers each week.

Grant Application

We are seeking funding to continue providing meals and support to more people within the Lochee ward. Specifically, we are requesting assistance with monthly running costs for essential supplies, including:

- Margarine
- Cheese
- Onion
- Oil
- Milk
- Bread for toasties
- Sugar
- Coffee & tea
- Juice
- Napkins
- Cleaning spray
- Other necessary items not received through donations

This support will allow us to sustain and expand our efforts to serve the community.

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

Key Community Plan outcomes would be:

Reduce substance misuse,
Improve mental health and wellbeing,
Building Stronger Communities,
Close the jobs gap

Additional potential outcomes would be:

Community Safety and Justice
Reduce levels of crime,
Reduce levels of re-offending,
Reduce levels of antisocial behaviour

How many people will benefit from this project?

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

This group warmly welcomes everyone.

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

There is a growing need to offer support in the Lochee ward to those struggling with poverty, addiction, poor mental health, and isolation. The café is actively addressing these challenges, providing a positive volunteering opportunity while creating a welcoming and healthy social space.

The ongoing cost-of-living crisis has further impacted communities across Dundee, including those in the Lochee ward.

The Lochee ward faces significant socio-economic challenges, with 55.6% of its population living in areas ranked among the 5% most deprived in Scotland, according to the 2020 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Additionally, 60.2% of children aged 0-15 in Lochee reside in these highly deprived zones. As of 2022, Lochee's total population stands at 19,722, with Menzieshill, a key neighborhood within the ward, home to approximately 4,400 residents.

Last year, the café supported 174 individuals. Initiatives like the Connect Café play a crucial role in providing vital support, fostering community connections, and ensuring residents have access to essential services in an area where social and economic hardships are deeply felt. Continued investment in these efforts will help sustain and expand the café's impact, offering stability and hope to those most in need.

What local consultation has taken place regarding this application?

(Please attach evidence summarising the results of any consultation)

While there has been no formal, community-wide consultation specific to this application, the café operates as an ongoing project, consistently engaging with the community each week. Our annual survey, is due to be conducted during March. However ongoing conversations indicate that the café is having a positive impact on peoples life's.

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?)

Of 19 people who participated in a survey at the café in March 2024:

11 said that their physical health has improved since coming to the Cafe

17 said that their mental health has improved since coming to the Cafe

18 said that they have more positive relationships in their life since coming to the Cafe

14 said they make better use of their time since coming to the Cafe

19 said they feel that the Connect Cafe is a safe place and free of illicit substances

19 said they feel part of a community at the Cafe

Of the 19 surveyed they identified the following as support they had personally accessed at the cafe:

Housing	6
Benefits	12
Health Issues	4
Substance Use	2
Voluntary Work	6
Debt support	3
Spiritual Support	4
Keep Well Nurse	3
VoiceAbility Worker	5
Other	1

When asked what they liked about the cafe we received the following answers:

"The food. The company and its nice and warm. Friendly staff."

"Nice people. Good conversation"

"Everything. Get to speak to people. Get involved and keep busy."

"What's not to like!"

"Can come here and solve my problems"

"Talking to people and getting fed"

"Everyone is treated the same' and everyone is treated with respect"

"Friendly warm welcoming environment. Building relationships with the community. Great food, Great people."

"Helping people from the community and various advisors are available to help with health, applying for benefits and support for dealing with addictions"

We can provide more up to date survey data after March 2025

How will the project / activity tackle deprivation or benefit those experiencing deprivation?

(Refer to Section 1 of the Guidance Notes)

By providing a free hot Meal

Providing referrals to Dundee foodbank and signposting to local food hub.
 Debt advice referrals and signposting
 Support with Crisis grant applications
 Providing Free sanitary products through Partnering with the governments Period poverty scheme
 Providing volunteer opportunities helping people back into work.
 Providing drug recovery support through partnerships and our Bridge to Freedom recovery program and our recovery activities project.
 Provide Fuelbank vouchers to those in fuel crisis.
 Providing space for the community nurse to support people weekly.
 Providing space for the VoiceAbility worker to provide Advocacy with ADP applications and other benefits.
 Provide space for the health inclusion nurse to provide free health checks.
 Provide IT access.
 Promoting other local services.

For Physical & Environmental Improvements (which must be Capital worth at least £6,000 in value) the following questions must be answered:

Have all relevant permissions been agreed? (please state what these are)

How will the planned project be maintained? (please state who will be responsible for this)

What is the expected 'life' of the improvement? (e.g. before it will require replacement)

Could a plaque indicating the Community Regeneration Fund as a source be added on location for this award? (If there would be additional costs for this, please indicate this in the budget section)

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)

Bethany Christian Trust has secured funding for the community development worker's salary through the ALEC Trust and Tay Charitable Trust. This funding includes the worker's hours spent running the café but does not cover the cost of food for the café or hall rental.	

<p>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 <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 (£)
Running costs of £40 per week for food and cleaning products, covering 52 weeks from April to March.	£2080	£2080

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>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</p>
<p>Bethany Christian Trust holds reserve funds to cover staff salaries across the organisation..</p>
<p>What other documents are you attaching to evidence the budget costs for this application? (e.g. quotes, estimates, projected income, and expenditure)</p>

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

We keep track of numbers who use the service and numbers of referrals (but do not gather individual's personal information)

We also have a Feedback form which can give individuals the opportunity to share how they are benefiting from the café and complete a questionnaire every March.

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*)

Immediate/Ongoing

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

March / Ongoing

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.

City Plan / Local Community Plan Outcome:**Purpose of activity / project within this Outcome:**

	Target 2025-26
Outputs	
Provide positive volunteering opportunities to those in recovery.	Ongoing
Provide Food support to Local residence	Ongoing
Support individuals through recovery	Ongoing
Outcomes / Indicators:	
Increase in numbers of Individuals receiving support Increase in referrals and signposting. An increase in successful recovery from addiction, self worth and improved mental health, and wellbeing.	

City Plan / Local Community Plan Outcome:	
Purpose of activity / project within this Outcome:	
	Target 2025-26
Outputs	
Outcomes / Indicators:	