



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Community grant application form - part A

Please ensure you complete all of this form and Part B and send:

- forms A and B
- your organisation's last set of accounts
- the most recent bank statement

Also sending details of last three years' income in response to Section 5 to enquiries@abingdon.gov.uk.

1. About your organisation

Name of the organisation requesting the grant

The Abingdon Bridge (TAB)

Please state briefly what the purpose of your organisation is

The Abingdon Bridge (TAB) is leading the way in championing the wellbeing & mental health of young people aged 13-25 across the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire. Our support enables young people to have the resilience to help overcome life's challenges.

2. Your grant request

Please describe the project for which the grant is needed.

Abingdon Integrated Youth Support Project (AIYSP) is an ongoing project. We are working in collaboration with Abingdon Town Council (ATC) and The DAMASCUS youth project to facilitate Abingdon Town Council meet one its priorities namely: *'To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity'*.

Our target group, for this ATC priority, is young people living in Abingdon and aged between 10 and 19. Although no young person, in that age group, is excluded from participating, our focus is on those who are at greater risk of experiencing physical or emotional harm and/or experiencing poor outcomes because of one or more adverse factors in their lives and they feel alienated from the community at large.

There are two main strands to our work:

- (a) **Building trusting relationships with young people and meeting their needs with the objective that they feel they have the agency to make positive life choices and feel engaged within the community;**
The starting point for this, is meeting young people in their spaces wherever they are in the community – the

successful outcome of this is being accepted by young people in their spaces and building trusting relationships to identify needs. We have also established open access and targeted youth provision to address some of the needs and develop agency. Where needs are picked up targeted intervention is provided – this maybe for building positive mental health, accessing education, employment or training, or emotional support in dealing with relationship issues (family, friendship, bullying etc.). This work is ongoing and will continue into Year 3 of the project.

b) Ensuring that the diverse voices of young people (particularly those most disadvantaged) are heard at all levels of policy making within Abingdon Town Council and other service providers.

Year 1 was focussed on enabling a small group of young people to design and carry out a survey of young people in Abingdon, on issues that were important to them; Year 2 has focussed on analysing the survey – highlighting the headline findings on safety and mental health; holding discussions with the Abingdon Town Councillors. These discussions will carry through in to Y3 as well as other focus groups of young people will debate the issues to feedback to Abingdon Town Councillors. We would work towards an outcome where both town councillors and hardly-reached young people have the confidence to engage with each other, on common community issues to promote a cohesive and enabling environment in Abingdon.

Having established the concept of young people engaging with Town Councillors, in Year 3 we plan to continue building on the initial engagement with town councillors (particularly as it is a new council) and also strengthen links with other organisations in Abingdon. We will support young people to plan and deliver a social action project that will involve other organisations in Abingdon. This will embed a sustainable Abingdon-wide multiservice collaboration to offer earlier, more coherent support, which is streamlined to meet the needs of all Abingdon young people (age 10 to 19). The specifics of the project will be worked on with the young people and the Town Council.

What is the total cost of the project	£19,000
How much grant are you seeking	£12,500
What percentage of the total cost of your project are you seeking via this grant	the total cost to deliver this initiative is 19,000- this is what it cost us last year we are seeking A contribution to this for sum of £12,500
How do you plan to raise the rest of the money for your project	NA
Please show roughly how the costs of the project are broken down	We do this on our Quarterly invoices – this will be spread across the staff wages who will be delivering this project.
What fund-raising have you undertaken for this project or others in the past 2 years	We do extensive fundraising for various projects under the TAB umbrella.

3. Local benefit.

How many people take part in your organisation’s activities? Give local	As members	
	As recipients	2000

branch numbers if you are a national organisation.

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Please fill in the table below relating to numbers of members and/or recipients falling into each category. Estimates are acceptable provided an “e” is put after the figure.

Age profile	0-16	16-65	over 65
- Members (volunteers)			
- Recipients	1500	500	

Gender profile	Male	Female
- Members (volunteers)		
- Recipients	50%	50%

Local connection	Town resident	Attend education in town	Neither resident nor attending education in town
- Members (volunteers)			
- Recipients	70%	30%	

4. Vision and objectives

Please explain how your project will meet the town council’s vision and objectives, which are set out below. **You do not need to respond to each point** but it is important that your project addresses the town council’s vision and at least one objectives.

4a. Vision

To develop an inclusive community so that Abingdon is the place where everyone wants to live and where the wellbeing of residents is prioritised. In developing this community, the town will be one which is environmentally sustainable, vibrant, resilient and safe.

Our project aligns with the vision in the following respects:

1. Our work with our core group of young people living in Abingdon, addresses the needs of extremely vulnerable young people who feel disconnected and disengaged from the wider community of Abingdon.
2. Our activities promote wellbeing through building young people’s sense of self-worth and confidence.

4b. Objectives

1. **To respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency**
2. **To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future**
3. **To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future**
4. **To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity**

<p>The bulk of our work focuses on delivering on this objective. To date we have been able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Established trusting relationships• Better understanding of young people's needs• Greater sense of belonging• Created safe places for young people in Abingdon• Young people feel heard and listened too• Stronger partnerships in Town (Police, MIND, Library, Poundland)• Increased communication with Abingdon Town Council

5. Other/previous grant awards

Please provide details of any grant awards you have received from the town council, other councils or large organisations that you have received in the past three years

we have received funding for phase one and two of this project previously. Will be phase three of the work

Please list any grant applications to other councils or bodies which are currently pending

this is a specific project working in collaboration with the Abingdon town council

6. About your organisation

Please explain what structure your organisation has, i.e. is it a charity, a society, or another type of model

Charity

What is the balance of your main account according to the most recent bank statement?

£210,000 (our policy limit for free reserves is at 12 months of expenditure- we currently have 8 months of running costs in free reserves)

Additional financial information

Does your organisation have any other finances held in other accounts?

no

If so, please provide full details of all your additional finances, including recent figures.

Na

If these funds are earmarked for any specific projects, please provide further information about this.

NA