

Care Experienced Young People Programme	
Guidance Notes	Empowerment Grants
What are Empowerment Grants?	<p>Empowerment grants are small grants of up to £10,000. They are available to support work with care experienced young people aged 14-26 anywhere in Scotland.</p> <p>Empowerment grants gives groups a chance to apply for up to £10,000 to develop young people's confidence and skills.</p> <p>We are also interested in supporting projects which help young people to exercise their rights, have a say in things that matter to them and give them more opportunities to take part in community activities.</p> <p>Although these grants must focus on care experienced young people, they are designed to be flexible. We will accept proposals which aim to give care experienced young people an opportunity to join activities within a mixed group. If you are planning activities for a mixed group, please note that we would expect at least half of the beneficiaries to be care experienced.</p> <p>As 2018 is the Year of Young People in Scotland, we would love to hear about ideas which provide opportunities for care experienced young people to be part of the celebrations.</p>
Who can apply?	<p>Empowerment grants are open to the following applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not-for-profit voluntary or community groups (including Registered Charities, Social enterprises and Companies) • Schools, colleges and universities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential houses • Statutory bodies <p>We understand that small, informal groups may also wish to apply for a grant. If so, please note that we can consider your application, but if you are successful, it will be a condition of your grant that your group becomes constituted.</p> <p>You are more likely to be successful if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have an annual income of less than £250,000 • You can show that young people are leading the development of your project
<p>What do we mean by care experience?</p>	<p>Young people who have experience of any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision order/looked after at home • foster care • residential care • secure care • looked after through Kinship care <p>To benefit from Trust support, young people should have at least three months experience of one of the above.</p>
<p>What are the priorities and aims of the funding?</p>	<p>Priorities</p> <p>We are looking predominantly, but not exclusively, for small projects to particularly focus on care experienced young people who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are affected by protected characteristics (e.g. disability; sexual orientation; race; religion and belief; sex) • have experience of the youth justice system • are looked after at home • have experience of long-term health issues, including mental health

- are experiencing homelessness

Aims and outcomes

The aim of this funding stream is to build on the strengths of care experienced young people.

Project proposals can include group work with very small numbers and one-to-one support as well as initiatives driven by existing sports, arts and youth groups looking to target care experienced young people and engage them in community-based activity.

We are interested in the following outcomes:

- Care experienced young people have opportunities to be active citizens. Example project outcomes:
 - Care experienced young people have more opportunities to get involved in activities that matter to them, including sport, music, drama, art and media
 - Care experienced young people have more opportunities to volunteer
 - Care experienced young people can develop their talents
- Care experienced young people have opportunities to influence policy and practice affecting their lives. Example project outcomes:
 - Care experienced young people are confident about giving their views
 - Care experienced young people understand their rights
- Organisations can demonstrate meaningful participation of young people
 - Organisations have knowledge and understanding of care experienced young people
 - Organisations and communities engage care experienced young people

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects are led by care experienced young people
<p>What kind of projects will you support?</p>	<p>We would like care experienced young people to take the lead in designing projects that interest them – so please engage with young people!</p> <p>As 2018 is the Year of Young People in Scotland, we are keen to support projects which will help care experienced young people to take part in the celebrations.</p> <p>Our care experienced advisors have come up with some suggestions - the ideas below are examples of the types of activities empowerment grants could support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer research or peer education • Volunteering programmes • Informal training, e.g. taster sessions for trades or crafts • Outdoor activities • Intergenerational work, finding common purpose and working together • Taking ownership of a community asset, e.g. local park • Young-people led workshops • Coaching • Develop social media campaigns • Media projects <p>We are looking for proposals which are looking to proactively engage with care experienced young people.</p> <p>Some care experienced young people can be particularly isolated in their communities – particularly if they are affected by equalities issues, mental health challenges or a history within the youth justice system.</p>

	Please think about how your project will reach out to young people who may currently go nowhere near services or projects.
When can I apply?	Applications can be submitted from Thursday, 22nd February 2018 . Completed forms must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 27th April 2018 .
How much funding is available?	Projects can apply for funding awards between £500 and £10,000. However, we expect the average award size to be £5,000, so please bear this in mind when writing your application. Applicants will have twelve months to spend their funding award. The Trust is not likely to consider applications for less than £500. Please use the application form to tell us what resources are needed for your project. It is important to consider all possible costs and to provide an explanation.
What costs can the funding cover?	The funding is available to cover all or some of your project costs for up to twelve months. Your project can be brand new, or you could apply for funding to extend or develop an existing project. We can pay for things like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term staffing costs (e.g. sessional workers) • Equipment and materials • Events • Volunteer expenses • Training • Activities, including residentials • Promotional materials • Communications costs, including social media • Participation costs for young people, including travel, childcare and food

<p>Are there things the Trust cannot fund?</p>	<p>The Trust cannot replace statutory funding – that is, funding which Local Authorities have a duty to provide. This includes activities linked to the Curriculum for Excellence in schools.</p> <p>This funding is only available for projects which are designed to make a difference to the lives of care experienced young people aged 14 – 26 years old.</p>
<p>How will the projects be evaluated?</p>	<p>As part of the application process, you will be asked to identify one or two outcomes that you plan to achieve through your project.</p> <p>By outcomes we mean the difference that you expect the project to make.</p> <p>For more information on the Trust’s approach to evaluation, please see our online toolkit:</p> <p>http://www.lctevaluationtoolkit.com/</p>
<p>How is the grant paid?</p>	<p>Successful applicants will receive their funding award in full once all the relevant checks have been completed.</p>
<p>How can I apply?</p>	<p>Applications can be submitted online. The application form will be available on our website from 22 February 2018.</p>
<p>What happens to your application after you submit it?</p>	<p>All applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of the application.</p> <p>Unless we need further information from you, we won’t be in touch again until June 2018.</p> <p>Applications will be fully assessed during May, when recommendations will be finalised. Our care experienced Advisors will be involved in this process.</p>

	<p>Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application in June 2018.</p> <p>Funding awards will be received during July and August 2018, depending on the outcome of the checks we carry out.</p>
Contact details	<p>If you have any questions on this funding opportunity, please contact Catriona Kelly, Senior Programme Officer in the first instance:</p> <p>Email: catriona.kelly@lifechangestrust.org.uk</p> <p>Telephone: 0141 212 9611</p>