Your Police, You Decide: Guidelines and Funding Criteria

About

Caithness Voluntary Group (CVG) and Police Scotland are working together on an approach called 'Participatory Budgeting'. This will involve local people having a say over how we spend £32,000 in the Caithness area.

The project, called Your Police, You Decide, has been funded by the Scottish Government and aims to improve local democracy, ensuring that communities are more engaged with decision-making to improve safety and wellbeing.

The project will be running over summer and autumn 2022 and a Steering Group made up of people from the local community has been recruited to help; the group broadly represents people living in Caithness.

Police Scotland is committed to ensuring that the public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing (Joint Strategy for Policing, 2020, Outcome 3) and to our statutory purpose of improving the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland. Policing is visible in every community and plays a vital part in Scotland’s recovery and renewal from the pandemic.

More background information about Your Police, You Decide and its approach is [available here](https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/caithness/).

The focus of this funding

Applications can be made by clubs, groups, and community-led forums such as Parent or Community Councils, and should fit with at least one of the following broad themes:

* **Safety and wellbeing** - including mental health: Making sure that everyone in Caithness has the chance to lead safe, healthy, active lives.
* **Poverty and inequality** - including tackling cost of living, fuel poverty and transport: Reduce the harms caused by poverty and inequality, and improve dignity for anyone experiencing poverty.

We are particularly keen to support activities or projects which support people who are often seldom heard, marginalised, experience social injustice in communities, or who face barriers to participating in democracy.

Essential criteria

* You must be a not for proﬁt, individual, community group or organisation providing a service in, or of beneﬁt to, Caithness.
* Your application must be for activities/events/resources for one or more of the fund’s themes (health and wellbeing or poverty and inequality).
* You can apply for any amount up to and including £3,000 (of at least £100).
* You must be able to spend the funds within 6 months if successful.
* If you are a group or club without any formal set-up, like a bank account, committee or financial accounts, you must partner with a ‘host’ organisation who can support your application and the activity or project. It is the details of the host organisation which must be submitted in the application form.
* You must have any legal or other applicable permissions and suitable insurance required to carry out your project.
* You must allow your project to be used in any promotional material.
* Only one application per group will be considered.
* You must submit your application by Monday 24 October at 12 noon.
* You must return a simple evaluation of your project when requested to do so, but can return earlier upon completion of your project.

What will we not fund?

* Applications from schools (these are the responsibility of the local authority). However, Parent Councils and Associations can apply for extra activities over and above the normal learning and teaching if they enhance and benefit the wider community. There must be evidence that young people have co-designed the application and the application is as a minimum is co-signed by a young person.  If multiple applications are being submitted from one school (e.g. sports groups / parent councils) this may reduce the chances of all being funded - please discuss within your school’s management team.
* Any political or religious activities (applications can be accepted from faith groups if they are for local community work involving the wider community).
* Routine maintenance or repairs.
* Routine running costs (salaries/electricity/rates/rent/insurance/etc.)
* Private businesses.
* Other parts of the public sector, such as the NHS or local authority, or funding to deliver services/activities/projects which would normally be classed as statutory provision.

Applying

More information and online application form can be [found here](https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/25c54233). If you require accessible formats, another language version or paper version of the form, please email InsightEngagement@scotland.police.uk or call Allan from Caithness Voluntary Group on 07961224936.