

Reaching Communities – “R Time” Special Projects Fund



Where is the funding from and how much?

The funding is part of the Reaching Communities “R Time” project with £40,000.00 each year allocated to the special projects section.

“R Time” project aims and objectives:

The project is funded for three years, and its purpose is **to support and inspire young people to make decisions and take action** which will positively affect their communities and the people that live in them.

The **three main outcomes** are:

1. The number of anti-social behaviour incidents involving young people is reduced.
2. Young people have increased access to training and volunteering placements within the heart of the community.
3. Wider and more diverse opportunities available in the heart of the neighbourhoods for local residents.

Although there is a focus on Priority Areas of Stockport, this project is for all young people across the Borough, of all ages, gender, ethnic background and ability.

Similarly, although physical activity will play a large part in the project, it is not the sole focus, with partner agencies playing a key role in ensuring that there is a wide provision and something to inspire everyone.

Sustainability is also **key** throughout this project, so this must also be considered when looking at any element of the project.

“Special Projects” aims and objectives:

- Ideally target and provide to new young people in need of support/activities who are not currently engaging with organisations who are linked to the partnership group
- Ideally target a new area within Stockport where there is a current gap in provision or address the needs of “hot spot” areas
- Address an identifiable need (which could be linked to the point above) within a priority area** or Borough wide that requires action/support
- This funding pot will be short term, however that does not mean that other areas of the project/funding cannot support elements long term
- This will be a reactive funding pot that can be called upon in times of high need
- It will be high impacting on young people and the communities that they live in with clear results

Who can apply:

Ideas/applications **must** come from young people living within Stockport.

These requests can come through organisations/groups/staff members, but the initial idea must be from young people.

How people can apply:

- Young people may speak the Youth and Community Project Officer or deliverers expressing a need/gap in provision and it will then be down to the Project Officer to explore this further and find the best suited partnership organisation* to deliver the project. A request form is completed and this is then taken to the Advisory Board meetings for approval.
- Partnership organisations* complete a request form with an idea from young people which is sent to the Youth and Community Project Officer. A request form is completed and this is then taken to the Advisory Board meetings for approval.
- Young people or community groups can complete a request form with an idea which is sent to the Youth and Community Project Officer. A request form is completed and this is then taken to the Advisory Board meetings for approval.
- Partnership organisations* may have an immediate need/problem which is having a negative effect on an area/community in Stockport (for example anti-social behaviour). This problem can therefore be raised and the Youth and Community Project Officer will find the most appropriate partner organisation/intervention, produce a project idea, complete a request for and take this to the Advisory Board.
- Youth Panels will also be consulted with regards to the allocation of funding, and they can also create applications.

What we cannot fund:

- We cannot fund individuals and groups that are not constituted, however this does not mean that we are unable to deliver those projects. In these cases, R Time will either pay for the required equipment/staff, or the most appropriate partner organisation* will be asked to deliver the project.
- We will not fund projects by organisations/groups that have not met the requirements of previous Service Level Agreements.
- One-off trips/events we can fund, however it must meet the needs of the “R Time” project and have wider outcomes.
- Funding for various pieces of equipment is dependent on the item, cost and above all the decision of the Advisory board. We cannot fund electronic items or pieces of equipment such as Laptops, iPads/tablets, TV’s, monitors, desktop PC’s, mobile phones. Etc. But it may be considered that R Time will purchase the item and loan out for the period of delivery of the Special Project.
- We are unable to fund projects that do not meet the needs of the “R Time” project as detailed above.

How much can people apply for:

- Projects can place an application for a 6-month project, however the funding will initially only be allocated for a period of 3 months. After 2 months, a review will be completed and if everything within the Service Level Agreement is being achieved it can be extended for a further 3 months with the same process again completed. Once the 6-months are over the Youth and Community Project Officer will review the activity and establish the sustainability through the other areas of the overall project if required.
- Applications will therefore vary in amount depending on the length of the project.

- There is no minimum or maximum amount, therefore groups can apply for small pots to support with equipment or larger amounts to fund longer projects – as long as it meets the needs of the “R Time” project.

You might want to ask yourself:

- What’s already working in my community?
- How will my project add to these positive things that are already working?
- How will my project make the most of any resources that are already helping my community?

Deadline dates for applications:

There will be four deadlines across the year (released quarterly throughout each calendar year) when applications will be reviewed (these align with the Advisory Board meetings. However, every application on submission will be reviewed by the Youth and Community Project Officer and if it requires more urgent action, then the decision will be made via email between the group to create a quicker response.

Process following successful applications:

Organisations will first complete a Project Service Level Agreement which will outline everything that they have said they would spend the money on, but also agreed aims, objectives and targets. There will also be details on the contract period, an expenditure breakdown and monitoring arrangements. As we are recording all data on a website called “Views”, a log in will be set up for the organisation and a full induction provided to all staff who require it.

The Youth and Community Project Officer will then arrange meetings and visits (the frequency of these will vary depending on the project length) to check that everything within the Service Level Agreement is being met, and to also provide any help, support and advice that may be needed.

** Partnership organisation = one that attends the “R Time Partnership Meetings” which take place quarterly.*

***Definition of Young People = anyone aged 5 – 18 years, or for SEND young people up to 25 years.*

****Definition of Priority Areas = these areas are based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation therefore demonstrating income deprivation, employment deprivation, low levels of education and health, high levels of crime, and poor living environments.*

<https://www.lifeleisure.net/sports-development-events/r-time/>

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