

Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership Funding Project Proposal Please return to the psg-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk



Summary Page						
Organisation Name:	East Lothian Foodbank					
Type of Organisation:	Charity	1				
Project Name:	Growing & Changing: Voices of Young People with Lived Experience of Poverty in PSG					
Area Plan Priority:	 Support people to improve their employability skills Support families so that children have the best start in life and can access the services they need to develop and learn Strengthen the co-ordination of services and support provided for young people across the area Increase Children's development, educational attainment, and attendance through targeted support for both pupils and their families Encourage young people to access volunteering and accredited employment and have an active role in shaping their community 					
Funding Requested:	£2750					
Total Project cost:	£2750					
Project Proposal:	Start Date:	Start Date:	Start Date:	Start Date:		
Please use this link to view the area plan <u>here</u>						
1. What do you want to do? Summarise your project. (Max 200 words)						

Growing and Changing is about hearing the voices of young people aged 15-18 who have experience of hardship and want to tackle inequalities and create change to tackle inequalities that they have faced and continue to face to improve lives for themselves and others young people following them. We will work with the other youth voices in the area (MSYP, PSG Youth Forum and school councils) to collectively drive the change to provide a better future for ourselves and the young people following us.

The young people will drive this group with support from two members of the Working for Change Collective (a lived experience of poverty group). The group will meet up fortnightly to plan campaigns around issues close to them including social work, drugs and alcohol, employment, education, support services etc. to gather a collective voice from across PSG to share with decision makers and holding them accountable for listening and responding to us.

2. What difference do you want to make? E.g. (example)(Max 200 words)

After consulting with young people, a consistent theme that emerged from discussion was that they felt throughout their lives they have not been listened to. We want to empower their voices to create change.

Growing and Changing will feed into local policy and services through the overall Working for Change Collective and PSG Area Partnership. The group will inform services and policy and enhance the development of these young people who are struggling to find employment and education opportunities that support their needs. Living in poverty has left some of these young people with caring responsibilities, addiction, bereavement, food poverty, lack of statutory understanding of their complex situations and the health inequalities that have occurred as a result of these challenges.

We want decision makers in policy and service providers, to act upon the needs of the children. Already the young people have disclosed information that is being taken forward to drive the change. The group will let their voices be heard as well as providing opportunities for the young people to contribute to their personal development and enhance their CV, by providing experience in working in partnership and influencing local authority as well as provide training opportunities. **3. Why are you the right organisation to deliver this project proposal?** (Max 100 words) We currently support a lived experience of poverty group named *The Working for Change Collective*. The is a group of people from East Lothian with lived experience of hardship who share their voices and experiences to influence policy, community development, services and strategies. We create a space for people to share their experience, and make sure that in doing so services listen and understand, and take action to prevent this from happening again. The collective is led by those with lived experience of poverty working in partnership with representatives from the East Lothian Foodbank, NHS Lothian Public Health, East Lothian Council – this project will be a sub-group to this for young people, piloting in PSG. The representatives from the collective who bring their own experiences, have an established relationship with the young people already in attendance to create a safe space for the young people to talk freely.

4. Why is the project proposal needed? Please provide evidence i.e. (Max 100 Words)

1 in 5 children and young people in East Lothian experience poverty. In Prestonpans alone over 1,000 children and young people experienced relative or absolute poverty in 2021-22 – this is a stark figure and through this group we hope to create change through sharing experience and providing solutions to tackling inequalities faced by young people.

We understand that there is ongoing work in PSG together youth voice, this group will work with them by hearing the voices of those often disengaged from schools, services, and community groups in an age category often struggling with the transition from childhood into adulthood.

5. Who do you want to help?

e.g. Please provide separate numbers for children, young people, working age adults, and elderly people. How will you ensure that this project proposal reaches those in your community who need it most?

(Max 200 Words)

Growing and Changing is currently made up of 8 young people (aged 15-18) residing in Prestonpans or Port Seton who are piloting this initiative as part of the Working for Change Collective (this is open for anyone who would like to be on the Growing & Changing Planning Group).

This group will identify issues experienced by themselves either currently or previously and then through a variety of mediums will reach out their campaigns to young people across PSG to gather the collective voice. The voices will be collated and taken to decision makers, service providers and the area partnership to address some of the issues raised.

Overall, the impacts of the group will support many young people experiencing hardship, not only in PSG but also the county as a whole.

6. How many volunteers will be involved in the project proposal?

8+ young people volunteers in the "planning group"

7. How will you show that your project proposal has made a difference? i.e.

(Max 100 Words)

Number of voices heard and evaluation of this.

Case studies from young people in the core planning group A development evaluation by young people in the core planning group e.g. wellbeing/confidence wheels at the start of the year versus the end of the year Discussion log and actions taken from this. Responses from key stakeholders and partners who have been consulted with as part of the campaigns Responses to the campaigns

8. How will this project proposal be supported beyond the applicable?	Area Partn	ership	funding, if
(Max 100 Words)			
This year is a pilot year to build the foundations of the group. All partners involved are committed to supporting the group thoug Further funding opportunities will be explored in addition to other Community Benefit Gateway.			
9. Please provide a breakdown of project proposal costs.			
Items to be purchased or activity to be supported with workings i.e. 10 pots of paint £2 x 10	Supplier		Cost
Refreshments (dinner for (22) planning nights)			£1000
Room Hire			£250
Materials (eg. Stationery, notebooks, printing, flipcharts etc.)			£100
Campaign Budget and Support Fund			£1500
			£
			£
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Total Cost of	project Pro	posal:	£ 2750
10.Finance Can you please confirm if you have applied for or receive this project proposal.	ed any othe		
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Revised on 27 February 2024.