



Area Partnership Funding Proposal Form



Before completing this form, please ensure that:

- ❖ You read the appropriate Area Plan prior to submitting your request.
- ❖ You select the appropriate Area Partnership(s)
- ❖ You complete this form fully. We will only consider the information contained within this form.
- ❖ If any changes occur after you send in your application, you must notify the Area Manager.

Area Partnerships

Please indicate the area where people will benefit from this proposal by selecting the box(es) next to the appropriate Area Partnership(s)

REFERENCE NO (Internal only):

All Area Partnerships (please use the links below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dunbar and East Linton (Please click on the link to view the Area Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fa'side (Please click on the link to view the Area Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haddington and Lammermuir (Please click on the link to view the Area Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Musselburgh (Please click on the link to view the Area Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Berwick Coastal (Please click on the link to view the Area Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preston Seton Gosford (Please click on the link to view the Area Plan)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Organisation Information

1. Details of Organisation

Name: East Lothian Play Association, SCIO

Address: The Fraser Centre, 3A Winton Place, Tranent

Post Code: EH33 1AF

Daytime Telephone No:

Mobile No: 07818116994 (theresa)

Email: info@elpa.org.uk

Website Address (If applicable): www.elpa.org.uk

2. Main Contact for this Application

Name: Theresa Casey and Ethan James

Position Held: programme Lead partnerships, Programme Lead Community Play

Address (If different from above):

Post Code:

If this person has specific communication needs, please provide details:

Daytime Telephone No:

Mobile No: 07818116994 (theresa)

Email: theresa@elpa.org.uk ethan@elpa.org.uk

3. Type of Organisation

Community Group

Public Sector

Voluntary/3rd Sector Organisation

Other (Please Specify):

Charity No: (if applicable):

4. What is the main aim, objectives and activities of your organisation?

Max 500 Words

ELPA's aim is to promote and enrich a culture of play in East Lothian by:

- promoting children's right to play (article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)
- sharing the benefits and value of play for all children and young people living in our community
- inspiring and supporting people who work with children.

ELPA currently has a range of activities to achieve these aims. ELPA:

- delivers Loose Parts Play projects – working across schools and community settings, promoting play and supporting the 'circular economy' to reduce waste and promote environmentally sustainable practice
- delivers 'Play Rangers' project providing play opportunities in community spaces in the areas of highest disadvantage in the county (SIMD 10% and 20% most deprived)
- works in partnership with a number of East Lothian Council and third sector partners to bring play to our communities through 'Pop Up Play' and other play-based activities and events
- delivers the inclusive PlayCan model in partnership with Can Do to offer year-round, community-based outdoor play opportunities to children and young people with additional support needs
- supports children's voices through use of creative participation methods and digital media in all our projects and activities
- delivers twice yearly free training for East Lothian practitioners on all aspects of children's play
- delivers presentations and workshops at conferences to a range of audiences in play, childcare, education and cultural sectors to increase knowledge and awareness of the importance of play.

ELPA awards

- Shortlisted nominee: IPA Right to Play 2023
- IPA International Award on the Right to Play in Times of Crisis, 2020
- Shortlisted Nominee: Promoting Play, National Playwork Awards, 2019
- Winner: Positive Support for Play, National Play Awards, 2018.

5. Title of Project Proposal and Project Summary max two lines (to be used in publicity)

Play Rangers in Blindwells

ELPA will support creative, fun and friendly, open-access play to children and families in Blindwells, helping to create a sense of belonging in this new community.

6. Project Outcomes

Please identify up to three outcomes you will achieve from your project.

Outcomes are the **difference your project will make**

i.e. 10 young people will be able to access a sports bursary scheme which will **develop their skills and/or improve their wellbeing**

20 vulnerable people will receive meals and befriending which will **reduce their social isolation**

Outcome 1: Children have more opportunities to play, leading to improved health and wellbeing outcomes especially positive sense of connection in local community.

Outcome 2: Communities value and support play opportunities for children and young people. (Ok to Play in Blindwells)

Outcome 3: Children and young people are listened to and their views on playing and free time taken into account.

**7. To which of the Area Partnership Plan priorities does your proposal contribute? Please outline how your application will address inequalities?
Max 400 words**

Play rangers in Blindwells will support improved wellbeing and relationships through fun, shared activities as well as improving health through increased physical activity. Play has links across a number of the priority areas: mental health, supporting happy, healthy children and listening to the views of children and young people.

COMMUNITY-MINDED Making PSG a great place to live

7 Protect green spaces and connect people with their natural environment within and between communities to increase health and wellbeing.

The project will encourage people to make the most of and protect the green spaces available. Play Rangers model taking care of the physical environment, by showing that we can leave spaces as we find them, not drop litter and appreciate the natural resources such as trees, plants, birds etc. This is all part and parcel of playing outdoors. Outdoor play is also relaxing and shown to contribute to the 'green' factor of reducing stress and promoting wellbeing.

We embrace the 'loose parts play' ethos of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. We use low-cost recycled and environmentally friendly materials in our play sessions. Almost everything can be picked up for free or found around the house. This helps families to find play resources around them in everyday life without having to spend money on expensive toys. We hope that the constructions firms in the area will assist with a supply of loose parts.

8 Support families so that children have the best start in life and can access the services they need to develop and learn.

ELPA's sessions and information will reinforce the health and wellbeing messages in an informal and accessible way. We link and partner with other organisations providing support to families.

9 Strengthen the co-ordination of services and support provided for young people across the area.

The project will offer free and accessible opportunities in local areas to engage children and young people.

ELPA is committed to inclusion and actively seeks to find ways so support children with additional support needs to be able to play alongside their friends, siblings and families in local communities.

The team models constructive and respectful relationships and styles of communication, helping children to engage positively with others. They support parents with ideas they can use at home and model positive ways of supporting children through play.

FAIR Making PSG inclusive

12 Our communities are better able to make healthy choices, reduce isolation and access the services they need in order to maintain a positive level of physical and mental health.

ELPA Play Rangers project addresses health inequalities and promotes wellbeing through free, accessible outdoor play opportunities. We try to reduce the barriers as much as possible and use inclusive advertising, information and practice. Playing outdoors is proven to have wide ranging benefits to children's mental health through creativity, self-expression and a non-judgemental environment. Playing is a major contributing factor to physical activity levels especially for children who prefer other things to organised sport (or in addition to).

14 Improve access to the places, spaces and facilities for everyone.

ELPA actively works to ensure our services are accessible to everyone. In this newly establishing community, play sessions and the support of Play Rangers can assist children in making their views and ideas heard.

15 Inform and actively promote opportunities and developments to local residents.

ELPA will link with local calendars and social networks to promote our opportunities. This supports our reach in the community and builds beneficial partnerships.

19. Actively encourage people to walk and cycle and use the path networks within and between our communities.

Play Rangers sessions support and encourage children to actively travel within their area and to feel safe using local green spaces. These are also great opportunities to link with other local groups and activities.

8. How does your project support communities recovering from COVID? Max 200 words

Covid-19 highlighted the importance of play to children's health, wellbeing and happiness. A great deal of evidence emerged about the benefits of play to children in the short and longer term, for their physical and mental health. Though children are returning to a more 'normal' way of being, the impact of Covid can be seen in behaviour, mental health, relationships and lack of experience of social situations.

Playing provides children with a way coping and relieves stresses from other parts of life such as school or family (which have also been under a lot of strain and now have the cost-of-living crisis to deal with). Our sessions will all be free of charge and accessible in the local community.

The proposal has a strong emphasis on children's voices. It is shown that children's creative participation in community life has positive benefits for them (self-esteem, confidence, ability to self-advocate) and for the community as a whole (positive relationships, respecting points of view, fun.)

9. How does your proposal help meet the East Lothian Plan outcomes?

[\(Please click on the link to view the East Lothian Plan 2017 - 27\)](#) [Summary of East Lothian Plan 2017-27](#)

Theme - Prosperous

Outcome 1.1: East Lothian people are working, are free from in-work poverty and are able to develop and improve their work skills	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome 1.2: Local businesses are thriving and the business base is expanding.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome 1.3: People and businesses in East Lothian have better access to digital infrastructure and the digital skills they need.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Theme - Community-minded	
Outcome 2.1: East Lothian has strong resilient communities where people respect and support each other.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Outcome 2.2: East Lothian People can live affordably and contribute to a thriving community life in a high-quality environment.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Theme - Fair	
Outcome 3.1: We tackle the causes and effects of poverty in East Lothian and we reduce the gap between the richest and the poorest people.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome 3.2: People in East Lothian are enjoying healthier lives.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

10. Proposal Description

- ❖ What evidence do you have that demonstrates the need for this proposal [click to see Area Partnerships](#) How the local community has been involved in the development of this proposal?
Max 100 words

Blindwells is a newly establishing community. ELPA's experience in other parts of East Lothian suggests that regular play sessions in local spaces help to build children's sense of community, belonging and social connections. Adults also benefit from a focal point created by play as it creates opportunities for parents and carers and other community members to chat and build informal social networks. A trusted community organisation, ELPA's delivery of regular play sessions, also demonstrates the "okay to play" message in action. This supports community approval for children's right to play.

- ❖ How will you ensure that this proposal reaches those in your community who need it most?
Max 100 words

The project will ideally be located in an easily accessed community space. As a new space and project, ELPA will make efforts to reach local children and families who might be interested in taking part. We will explore any access barriers with them.

ELPA's community-based approach means our work directly engages with children, young people, families. We will try to find out what steps we need to take locally to ensure children with additional support needs and disabilities are included from the start. We can provide inclusive resources, skilled support and extra information aimed at families where any member of the family has ASN.

- ❖ How will you promote and publicise your proposal?
Max 100 words

We plan to use a range of methods to reach people and to keep them informed including:

- Information through schools, aiming to target children and families in this community

- Posters in local streets space – (we find out if there are notice boards, or if these could be set up)
- Social media – we use social media creatively with bright positive messaging, try to link directly into local groups
- Word of mouth – we find this is really effective and encourages attendance
- Connecting with local organisations

Our publicity portrays children in a positive light helping to counter negative stereotypes of young people.

❖ How will this proposal be sustained, if applicable?

Max 100 words

We'll encourage families to look out for the same low-cost and free resources we use – these 'loose parts' tend to be items that would otherwise be destined for landfill.

We hope the project will help to establish a sense of Blindwells as a community that supports children's play.

We will advocate for the views and ideas of the children and families that emerge through the sessions, and if appropriate, find ways for them to also advocate for themselves.

❖ What the funding will be used for i.e. what you intend to do, where it will take place and which other organisation(s) would be involved, if applicable?

Max 100 words

We plan to deliver a block of open-access, play sessions that are 'free, friendly and fun', staffed by experienced Play Rangers. As this is a new location and newly establishing community, we expect to start with some local groundwork to reach out to children and families and let them know what is available and find out what they would like. We currently anticipate Saturday afternoons being a suitable session time. A locally available base to store resources makes the project more economical (resources do not need to be transported to and fro for each session).

11. How will you monitor, measure and evaluate the proposal outcomes?

A range of evaluation methods including observations, questionnaires, interviews and mapping will be used.

- We will record attendances at all play sessions and events as well as using qualitative methods to understand children's experiences.
- ELPA uses a scrapbook approach to document projects and capture views at each session
- We are skilled at designing fun, creative surveys to engage children and young people
- We will create engaging visuals to raise awareness of play, understanding of the importance of play.

11.1 How many people will

a. directly benefit from the funded project?

Children	30	Young People	
Adults	30	Elderly People	

b. indirectly benefit from the funded project? (i.e. families members or wider community)

Children		Young People	
Adults	60	Elderly People	

11.2 How will you evaluate and measure the impact for local people? (e.g. what evidence will you gather?) – [Click here](#) for Evaluation Support Scotland website

ELPA staff record every session including both quantitative and qualitative information.

ELPA has developed a scrapbook approach to document projects and collect participants' views at every session. Both the children's views and ELPA's response are recorded in the scrapbook. This principle follows the Lundy model of children's participation:

- **SPACE:** Children must be given the opportunity to express a view
- **VOICE:** Children must be facilitated to express their views
- **AUDIENCE:** The view must be listened to.
- **INFLUENCE:** The view must be acted upon, as appropriate.

For wider and qualitative data, ELPA has experience in creating surveys that capture local views on spaces.

11.3 How will you know the outcomes have been achieved? (e.g. the difference you want to make?)

Outcome 1: Children have more opportunities to play, leading to improved health and wellbeing outcomes especially positive sense of connection in local community.

Attendance records and qualitative recording of session. Children's feedback

Outcome 2: Communities value and support play opportunities for children and young people. (Ok to Play in Blindwells)

End of project survey

Outcome 3: Children and young people are listened to and their views on playing and free time taken into account.

Use of scrapbooking method to record views. Opportunities to assist children in voicing views.

12 What are your key milestones or indicators of success? (e.g. what do you plan to do and when?)

Weeks one and two: local outreach, familiarisation, making contact with local children and families, including invited play sessions, publicity/posters etc.

Weeks three to eight: open access play sessions, led by children, specific activities to promote participation

Weeks nine and ten: focus on evaluation in final two play sessions.

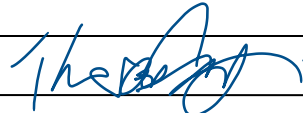
ELPA is happy to build in flexibility to the programming of the sessions, so that we can arrange them in a way that best fits local need and the development of the site (e.g. it may work better to have a short block of session in autumn and another in 2024)

13 When will it happen?

Expected Start Date:
(Month/Year) **Mid-Sept 2023 TBC**

Expected End
Date: (month/year) **March 24**

Finance		
14. Amount Requested	£ 2,270	
1. Total Cost of the Proposal	£ 2,270	
2. If you have secured or requested any other funding for your proposal, please provide details		
Funder	Amount	Confirmed/Pending - decision date
ELPA	£ in kind	Confirmed – play resources and loose parts
Storage for resources	£ in kind	Provided locally
	£	
3. Please provide a breakdown of the expenditure to be incurred on this proposal.		
Items to be purchased or activity to be supported with workings i.e. 10 pots of paint £2 x 10	Supplier	Cost
3 staff to plan, prepare and deliver play sessions x 10 sessions	ELPA	£2000
Project management and coordination: use of office, insurance for sessions, support and supervisions etc	ELPA	£200
Marketing (in-house design)	ELPA	£70
Total Cost of Proposal:		£2270
4. Governance/Supporting Documents (If you are an existing group/charity or organisation).		
Please tick the box(es) below to indicate that you have included the following documents with your completed Funding Proposal Form. (Please refer to guidance note before completing this question)		
Most recent Annual Accounts ELPA wound up the previous charity and is now running as ELPA SCIO from 1st April 2022. Two sets of accounts therefore attached to the 31st March 22. Accounts to March 23 are in preparation		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Most recent Bank Statements for all accounts (past 3 months)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the organisation have a bank account with at least 2 unrelated signatories	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Constitution, Memorandum or Articles of Association		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Equalities policy/statement or your commitment to equalities?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If you are a new group or just forming, please provide some information about your organisation. (This could include a letter of support from a constituted body such as community council, trusts, charities, schools, church, TRA's etc.)		<input type="checkbox"/>
Other supporting documents (if applicable) – : Strategic Plan		<input type="checkbox"/>
Declaration		
❖ I/we confirm that the information set out in this Funding Proposal Form, any appendices and any enclosed accompanying documents are correct.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm that if funding is awarded, the funds will be used in accordance with the purposes set out in this proposal.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm if there are any significant changes to the proposal or the project/initiative, the Area Manager will be informed immediately.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

❖ I/we confirm that any funds not used for the purpose outlined in this proposal will be returned immediately to the Area Partnership.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we agree to provide an interim report on the agreed date(if required)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we agree to provide an end of project monitoring and evaluation report, including a financial report, within 2 months of project completion date. Future funding will not be considered from organisations who have outstanding evaluation reports.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm that staff or volunteers delivering this proposal are registered with the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme if applicable? Click here for link	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm that the employer will be responsible for all staff employment rights associated with this proposal and not East Lothian Council and/or the Area Partnership.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm that the employer will meet IR35 requirements https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ir35-find-out-if-it-applies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm that the host organisation delivering this proposal or any part of it has adequate insurances (e.g. Employer, Public liability and/or Professional indemnity insurance as appropriate).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
❖ I/we confirm that we meet relevant responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulation click here and Data Protection Act 2018 click here	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Signed: <u></u>	5. Print Name: Theresa Casey
Designation: Programme Lead: partnerships	Date: 9 Aug 23
Applicant or on behalf of the organisation requesting funding	
Signed: _____	Print Name: _____
Connected Communities Manager	Date: _____
When completed please email this form to: areapartnership@eastlothian.gov.uk	