

Music Infrastructure Fund 2025 - Call for Proposals

Overview

The UK government has set out an ambitious plan for change, focused on 5 national Missions: ambitious, measurable, long-term objectives that provide a driving sense of purpose for the country. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) proactively supports Mission-delivery: pushing power out to communities everywhere, with a focus to kickstart economic growth and promoting opportunities in all parts of the UK. For more information, please visit the **UKSPF**

<<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-2025-26-technical-note>> webpage.

Vibrant and Active City Programme

As part of Birmingham City Council's UKSPF allocation to Communities and Place, the Vibrant and Active City Programme will support Birmingham's Cultural spaces and Music sector leading to higher footfall, higher use, higher pride in place and the long-term sustainability of spaces.

The Programme offers three funding streams—Enhancing Cultural Spaces Fund, Music Infrastructure Fund, and Music Development Fund—with grants ranging from £2,000 to £25,000.

The Vibrant and Active City Programme is led by Birmingham City Council Cultural Development Service.

More information about the programme along with applicant information is available on the **Cultural Development Service webpages**.

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50050/culture_arts_and_heritage/1046/apply_for_arts_heritage_and_culture_funding/4>

All applicants must carefully read the Applicant Information before applying to any of the three funding streams.

Music Infrastructure Fund (Capital grants)

This fund is aimed at improving the sustainability and revenue generation of music spaces by supporting projects to refurbish, enhance or develop spaces for music creators, music performers and music audiences for long-term impact and benefit to the music sector and the people it engages beyond March 2026.

For the purposes of this grant, a 'music space' refers to a physical location that supports music-making, sharing, and preservation. This could include places where people gather to rehearse, perform, record, participate in, or celebrate music. This can include venues which are primarily for music events but have other uses.

Eligible applicants can apply for small capital grants between £5,000 and £25,000.

In total we will distribute £100,000 Music Infrastructure funding. We aim to make up to 5 awards.

The Music Infrastructure Fund is a capital fund. This means that you can only apply for a project focused on the purchasing of equipment or expenditure on physical assets. You cannot apply for projects delivering time-limited activities, programmes and initiatives (revenue activities).

The closing date for all Vibrant and Active City Programme applications is 12 noon on Monday, 01 September 2025.

Applicant Details

Please provide information about the organisation applying for grant funding and a lead contact for this application.

1 Culture Service grant registration reference number

Enter the reference we gave you when you completed your registration. It starts with CGR, eg: CGR123456

(Required)

2 Organisation Name

(Required)

3 Organisation Postcode

(Required)

4 Email Address

(Required)

Please select all that apply

☐

Tick this box if you would like to receive email updates from Birmingham City Council about services, events or opportunities

Your Project

Through our our Music Infrastructure Fund we want to support music spaces to grow and become more sustainable.

You can only apply for a project focused on physical assets. You can include the purchase of equipment, but this must support the enhancement of a music space supporting sustainability and revenue generation.

We can not support ongoing regular repair or maintenance activities that are not part of a refurbishment such as fixing something that's broken or not working.

The applicant information on our **Vibrant and Active City Programme webpage**

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50050/culture_arts_and_heritage/1046/apply_for_arts_heritage_and_culture_funding/4> provides an overview of the available funding and the types of projects we can and can not support.

5 What is your project called?

(Required)

6 Project Start Date: This date must be after 24 October 2025

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	- <input type="text"/>	- <input type="text"/>

7 Project End Date: This date must be before 31 March 2026

select the project end date (Required)

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	- <input type="text"/>	- <input type="text"/>

8 Tell us what will happen. In your own words, give a clear overview of your capital project.

(Required)

9 For building works or landscaping projects confirm one of the following

(Required)

Please select all that apply

- ☐ our organisation owns the music space
- ☐ our organisation has a lease of 3 years or more plus permission and consent in place to carry out our project
- ☐ our project does not include building works or landscaping

10 Why do you want to do this project?

If you've done something similar before, please include how this project is different.

(Required)

11 How will you tell people about your project?

(Required)

People, Communities and Location

Through this fund we want to support the development of grassroots music across Birmingham through the refurbishment, enhancement or development of spaces for music creators, music performers and music audiences.

12 Who will benefit from the refurbishment, enhancement or development of the music space?

Include whether the people who will benefit will mainly be from specific groups, communities or demographics.

(Required)

13 How will the people benefiting help to create, design or decide the refurbishment, enhancement or development activities?

(Required)

14 Tell us about any people, groups, or organisations (project partners) supporting your project.

Who are they, and what role will they play in helping you deliver the project?

Please include relevant website addresses or social media links where available

(Required)

15 Tell us about the music space where your project activities will happen

(Required)

16 Main project delivery (music space) postcode

(Required)

17 How will your project activities support accessibility at the music space?

(Required)

Budget

Make sure the amount you are asking for matches the information in your uploaded project budget.

The Music Development Fund is Capital funding.

This fund does not include revenue costs such as day-to-day operational costs, activity, programme or event delivery, marketing or promotional expenses, or consumable items.

Your capital project can include costs associated with planning, executing, and acquiring or enhancing physical assets contributing to the project's overall operation and success. These costs include direct expenses like labour, materials, and equipment.

18 Is your organisation VAT registered?

If you are VAT registered, please ensure your project costs do not include any recoverable tax

(Required)

Please select only one item

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

19 How much capital grant funding are you applying for?

Applicants can apply for capital grant funding between £5,000 and £25,000.

In total we will distribute £100,000 Music Infrastructure funding. We aim to make up to six awards.

(Required)

20 Upload your project budget

Please attach a copy of any documents you wish to include to this printout.

A project budget form is available on our Vibrant and Active City webpage. Please upload a completed budget form.

(Required)

21 Please confirm that everybody being paid to work on the project will be paid the Real Living Wage

What is the real Living Wage? | Living Wage Foundation <<https://www.livingwage.org.uk/what-real-living-wage>>

(Required)

Please select only one item

- ☐ Yes, everybody being paid to work on the project will be paid the Birmingham Real Living Wage

22 Tell us about the people being paid to work on your project, including their experience of working on similar projects.

(Required)

23 Who will manage your project delivery and budget?

This could be one person or a group of people. Please provide their name and a short summary. You can also provide a relevant website address' or social media link.

(Required)

24 What experience do they have of managing similar projects and budgets?

If they have not managed a project and budget of this size before, who included in this application will support them?

(Required)

25 How will you make your project as environmentally sustainable and climate friendly as possible?

(Required)

26 How will you monitor and evaluate your project?

(Required)

27 How will you celebrate your project and its achievements with the public?

(Required)

28 Tell us about any permissions you have in place or permissions you might need to successfully deliver your project.

This includes any necessary building/planning or other statutory consents including Listed Building Consent where applicable

(Required)

29 Upload your project milestones

Please attach a copy of any documents you wish to include to this printout.

A project milestones form is available on our Vibrant and Active City webpage. Download, complete and upload the milestones form.

(Required)

Risks, Challenges and Impacts

The Vibrant and Active City Programme is focused on achieving specific UKSPF output and outcome indicators.

Your project must deliver at least one output and one outcome.

You will be required to identify baseline data where appropriate, track progress and collect evidence to show how you achieve these goals throughout your project.

30 What might go wrong?

Tell us what problems your project might have and how you will try to stop them happening

(Required)

31 What do you hope will be the result or impact of your project?

(Required)

32 These are the outputs for this funding. Select the outputs your project will achieve.

(Required)

Please select all that apply

- ☐ create or improve amenities/facilities
- ☐ create or improve tourism, culture or heritage assets
- ☐ support local events or activities
- ☐ engage people as participants and audiences

33 These are the outcomes for this funding. Select the outcomes your project will achieve

(Required)

Please select all that apply

- ☐ Increase the number of people using facilities/amenities
- ☐ Increase the number of visitors
- ☐ Increase the number of people engaged in the local area/activities
- ☐ Create organised volunteering roles as a direct result of the grant funded project

Other

34 If you are successful, it will be a condition of your grant aid to have insurances, policies and procedures in place. Please confirm that you have the following key documents:

(Required)

Please select all that apply

- ☐ Current valid Public Liability Insurance
- ☐ Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
- ☐ Equality, diversity and inclusion policy

35 Has any person on your organisation or group's management committee or board been employed by Birmingham City Council or served as a Councillor for Birmingham City Council in the last three years?

(Required)

Please select only one item

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

36 I confirm that the information provided is true and correct at the point of completion.

(Required)

Please select only one item

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No