



## A guide to applying to the Better Place Outdoor Project Fund

### What is the Better Place Outdoor Project Fund?

The Better Place Outdoor Project Fund has been set up to help small organisations and groups **to apply for funding up to £500** to develop outdoor projects for expectant parents and families with 0-3s, at outside spaces already developed by Better Place, within the Better Start Bradford area.

Projects should help expectant parents and families with 0-3s do one or more of the following:

- Use and enjoy Better Place outside spaces in all seasons.
- Develop pride and community ownership of Better Place outside spaces.
- Take part in fun outdoor activities using Better Place outside spaces.
- Improve mental health and well-being using Better Place outside spaces.

### How do I apply?

You need to complete a simple application form telling us your idea and how much funding you need to bring your idea to life. The application form is available to download from [www.betterplacebradford.org.uk](http://www.betterplacebradford.org.uk) or you can collect this from the Better Place office:

**Better Place, Mayfield Centre, Broadway Avenue, Bradford, BD5 9NP.**

### Who can apply?

Small organisations and community groups.

Ideas and projects must support families living in Bowling and Barkerend, Bradford Moor and Little Horton wards (BD3, BD4 and BD5).



## What can I apply for?

We are looking for ideas, projects and activities delivered at Better Place outdoor spaces that will improve the lives of expectant parents and families with 0-3s and give children the best possible start in life. **Here are some examples:**

- Planting and outdoor activities with families and their 0-3s
- Sporting activities for families and their 0-3s
- Messy outdoor play sessions for families with 0-3s
- Wheelie sessions for families with 0-3s
- One-off outdoor events for families with 0-3s
- Outdoor story and rhyme time with families with 0-3s
- Walking group with expectant parents and/or families with 0-3s
- Outdoor crafts and play for families with 0-3s
- Outdoor health and wellbeing sessions for expectant parents and/or families with 0-3s
- A community picnic in the park for expectant parents and/or families with 0-3s
- Weekly outdoor story telling for families with 0-3s
- Baby and buggy outdoor exercises for families with 0-3s
- Outdoor sensory play for families with 0-3s
- Seasonal/cultural event, for example blossom festival, Eid party, outdoor Santa's grotto, petting farm for expectant parents and/or families with 0-3s.

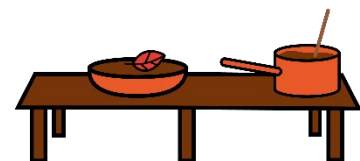


**There's lots of ideas to explore but please check that no-one else is doing something similar.**

## How much can I apply for?

The Better Place Outdoor Project Fund has a total of £5000 available each year. You can apply for a minimum of **£100** and a maximum of **£500** to be spent within a one-year period before October 2024. Please note we want the fund to benefit as many small groups and organisations as possible therefore, **lower requests are more likely to be approved.** The funding allows you to pay for the things you need to run your project, such as:

- Resources needed for your project
- Equipment
- Plants
- Tools for planting
- Toys suitable for outdoor play
- Arts and craft supplies
- Sessional workers
- Outdoor food/drink such as picnic food/hot chocolate
- Storage for your resources
- Volunteer expenses, for example, travel expenses
- Marketing materials



**All these need to be outlined in your Better Place Outdoor Project Fund application form**

**We will not pay for:**

- Staff costs (unless sessional worker fees)
- Screen based activities using mobile phones, laptops, tablets or similar gadgets

**We will expect you to look at environmentally friendly and low-cost resources.**



We are happy to pay any additional landowner fees (that may be required) for running your activity.

## How will I receive the funds?

Funds will be loaded onto a pre-paid card (Soldo) and you will use this to purchase all of the resources (that were approved on your application form) you need to deliver your project. You will need to download an app to a mobile device so that you can keep track of your spending. You will also need to keep records of receipts in correlation with the usage of the card.

## How long do I have to complete my initiative?

We would expect you to complete your project within a year of receiving the money. Your project can range from a one-off delivery to weekly sessions over a set period. All projects need to be delivered within a one-year period before October 2024.

## When do I need to apply by?

This is a rolling application, so there are no rounds or deadlines. We require approximately four weeks to assess your application. The last deadline submission would be Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 and your project needs to be completed by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

## Can I apply more than once?

Yes, you can apply more than once for different activities, however, **priority will be given to organisations applying for the first time** if their initiative fits the criteria.

## I need help to apply!

We would encourage you to chat to us first before completing your application. We want to help you plant your seed of an idea and watch it grow! Before applying, please ring us on **07506 864878** and ask for **Haleema Khathoon** (Senior Community Engagement Officer) or email **Haleema@bradfordtrident.co.uk** who will be happy to chat to you.

## When will I know if I have been successful?

You will be informed of our decision after the four-week assessment period. Successful applicants will need to sign an agreement to access the funding.

Your project cannot start until your agreement has been signed and you have attended the 'Before you start' session.

## Before you start session

Successful projects will be invited to a 'Before You Start' session. This will be an opportunity to go through what happens next and find out what support you have available to help you deliver your project.

We will share what resources, templates, marketing support and campaigns we have available to support delivery of your project and the training opportunities you can access to develop your own skills and register it on our community assets map.

It will also be an opportunity for successful applicants to connect with each other, for example, to create a WhatsApp group to share learning, pool resources and learn together.

## What happens when my Better Place Outdoor Project ends?

The Senior Community Engagement Officer will support you throughout the life of the project. This support will also include discussions beyond the life of your project and how we can support you in your journey beyond the Fund.

At the end of your project, you will be required to complete an end of award form so that we can find out who has benefitted from your project and what skills you have personally gained. Also, an expenditure record showing what the fund was used towards.

During delivery of your project, you will be expected to log details of who has attended and benefitted. We will provide everything you need, such as a template registration form to be able to keep track of this information at each session.

## Any questions?

If you have any questions, please ring Haleema Khathoon on **07506 864878** or by email to **Haleema@bradfordtrident.co.uk**.

## Before you go here's some top tips...

- Keep the explanation of your idea on the form simple and to the point
- Show your filled in form to someone who knows nothing about your idea to see if it makes sense
- Please talk to us first and tell us about your idea and we can help you to grow it.



If you have any questions before or as you complete your application, please contact the Senior Community Engagement Officer Haleema Khatoon on 07506 864878 or email Haleema@bradfordtrident.co.uk