

Way Forward for Families Partnership

YOYO

You're Only Young Once Fund

Criteria and Guidance



Background information

The Way Forward for Families Partnership is a partnership programme that involves the Scottish Government and Corra Foundation, which jointly invest in the programme. It is guided by our key programme partners – our Way Forward Steering Group, and the Be Different to Make A Difference (youth) Advisory Group.

The programme is working towards the following aims:

- Improving the wellbeing of children, young people (pre-birth – age 26) and their families in Scotland who are affected by alcohol and drugs;
- Developing and influencing local and national alcohol and drugs policy and practice.

The young people who make up the advisory group were asked to co-design and co-deliver a small grants programme. We are delighted to share the criteria and application, for the second round of this fund, the You're Only Young Once (YOYO Fund).

For further reading on the background and policy context for the themes and aims of the Way Forward for Families Partnership and the YOYO Fund (including, Whole Family Approaches, Children's Rights, MAT Standards, and participation), please see the "Further Reading" links in the notes section at the end of this document.¹

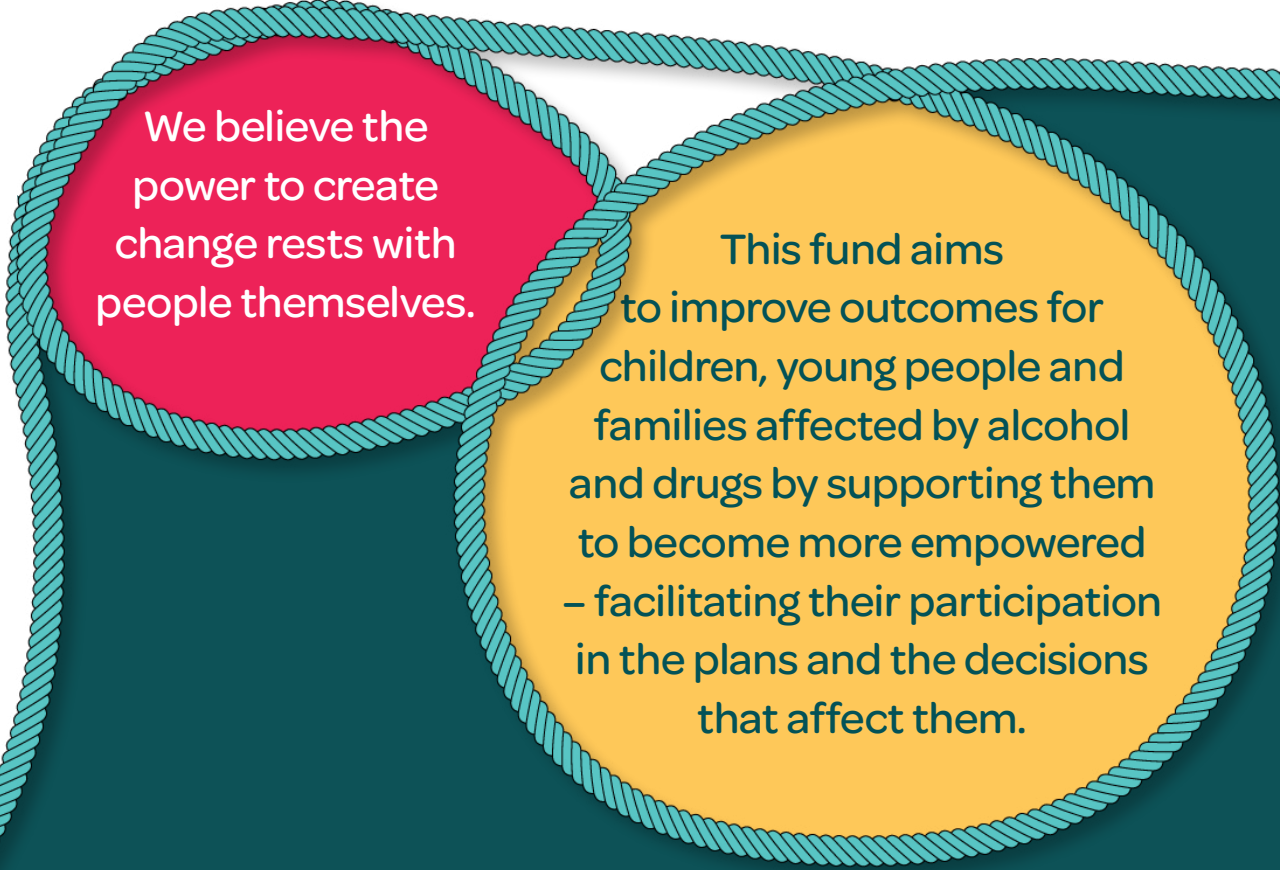
Why "You're Only Young Once"?

The advisory group is focussing this small grant programme on supporting children, young people and their families to shape and share experiences, create connections, and to create the conditions where they are empowered to influence participation, policy and practice across Scotland, and can thrive in the future.



YOYO Fund Aims

The focus of the You're Only Young Once Fund is to support organisations with a track record of supporting children, young people and families affected by drugs and alcohol.



We believe the power to create change rests with people themselves.

This fund aims to improve outcomes for children, young people and families affected by alcohol and drugs by supporting them to become more empowered – facilitating their participation in the plans and the decisions that affect them.

The Advisory Group have provided a couple of definitions to help groups:-

What do we mean by “improve”?...

“It means making things better”

What do we mean by “outcomes”?...

“The result of an action”

Key Information

- Fund opens for applications – **5th June 2026.**
- Fund closes for applications – **Noon on 1st September 2026.**
- Maximum grant - **£10,000**
- All final decisions for the distribution of grant funding will be made by our Be Different to Make a Difference Advisory Group – a group of young people with lived/living experience of drugs and alcohol.
- Corra Foundation will be the grant administrator and data controller for any grants made to groups/organisations.
- Grants must be spent within 12 months of the project start date.
- As part of Corra's approach to grant management, support and engagement, a representatives will meet with successful applicants approx. three months from the project start date, and a written end of project report will be requested.
- Application forms should be completed using the online portal.
- Applicants have the option to send an additional video or audio file to describe their application through alternative mediums.

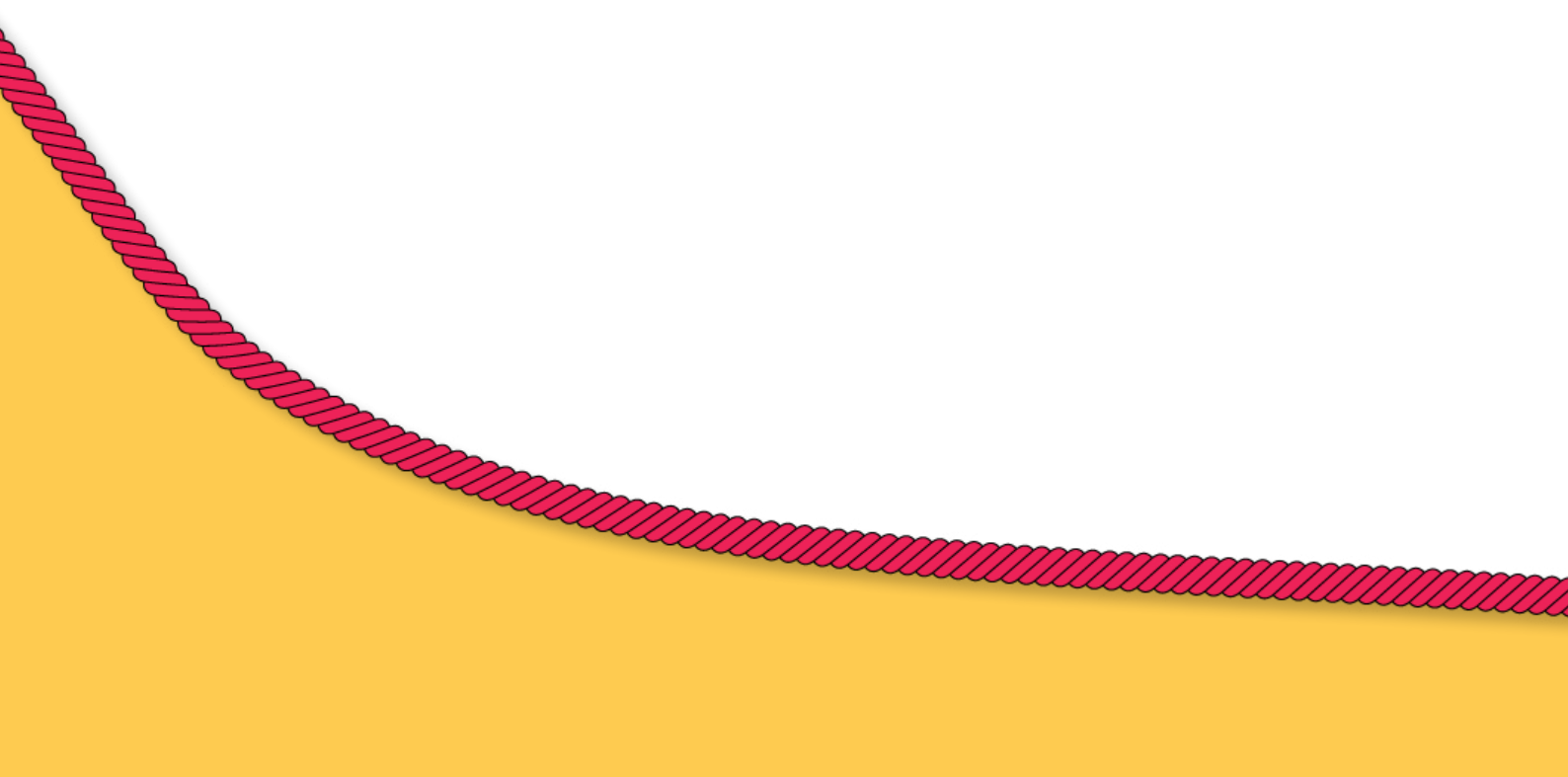


What can be funded

Organisations applying must be an incorporated not-for-profit organisation (e.g. registered charity, company interest company, trust) must have a proven record of delivering services for children, young people and families affected by substance use in Scotland. This means that organisations should have more than two years of direct delivery of support to children, young people and families – and they should have skills and understanding of things like participation, safeguarding and whole family approaches.

While the advisory group will consider proposals for a wide range of activities which meet the aims and criteria of the fund, they are particularly keen to support projects, which:-

- Create spaces where children, young people and families feel heard, valued and able to influence change i.e. the development of forums or participation processes.
- Support children, young people, families and communities to take part in decision-making, planning or advisory groups.
- Bring people together through activities, events or shared experiences that create lasting connections and lead to ongoing involvement, or positive change.
- Involve peer research, campaigns or consultations that inform services or policy locally or nationally.
- Engage with marginalised communities and groups that are under-represented in decision making structures, such as, LGBTQI+, young people with care experience, and Black and racially minoritised communities.



Types of costs that can be covered, include:-

- Staff costs (excl. training)
- Participation costs
- Venue hire
- Materials and equipment (excl. fixed equipment)
- Activity costs
- Catering/Food
- Travel/Transport costs
- Training/Accreditation costs that directly link to the programme of work.

What can't be funded

Organisations must have a proven record of delivering support services for children, young people and families affected by drugs or alcohol.

In each round of funding only one application per organisation can be accepted. We welcome applications from returning applicants for the continuation of previously funded projects, or for new work.

There are some restrictions on what grants can be used for, specifically, grants cannot be used for:

- **Capital projects**
i.e. building repairs/maintenance/alterations, construction, or fixed equipment.
- **Projects that take place in school settings**
but we understand schools/after school clubs may be partners in planning or delivery*.
- **Respite care or holidays for individuals/family groups.**
- **Staff training**.**
- **Individual grant/award programmes**
i.e. we cannot fund projects which plan to use funds to make financial awards/loans/grants to individuals.
- **Crisis support**
e.g. food vouchers, household energy costs, white goods, furniture, etc.

*Work with Schools – The Advisory Group recognise that projects may deliver work in partnership with schools. However, any proposed funded activities should take place outside of school settings. School-based counselling/mentoring/intensive one-to-one support is strictly excluded.

**Staff Training – The Advisory Group recognise the importance of a skilled and trained workforce – however, they have agreed that funds will be focussed on the direct activity and support provided to children, young people and families.

Priorities

Applications for projects which meet the criteria are welcomed – however, applicants should note that priority may be given to:-

- Applications that are designed and led by the people/groups your project will support.
- Projects which will promote or enhance the voice of the people/groups supported.
- Projects which create the conditions in which people feel empowered and better understand their rights.
- Projects that directly support children (ages pre-birth-11) or young people (ages 12-26).
- Relationship-based support (i.e. projects which develop long-term/long-lasting relationships with the people it supports).
- Under-represented communities and groups.
- Children, young people and families facing additional challenges.



Completing the Application

Below is brief guidance on completing the application form.

Please note:-

it is important to use clear, uncomplex language (i.e. not using jargon, or specialist terms, where possible). We encourage the use of bullet points and succinct responses.

Project Details

Why are you applying for funding and what will you do?

We would like to know what your project will do, which groups or communities it will support, why support from the YOYO Fund is needed and how the funding will help deliver your proposed project.

Tell us how the children, young people and families will help shape, influence or lead the project?

We would like to know how you are involving children, young people and families in your project. This could include, planned or already carried out consultation, co-design, or co-production activities; the creation of groups, forums, committees/sub-committees; or generally, contributing to the planning, delivery or evaluation of your project.



Please provide a story, quote or supporting statement or quote from the children, young people or families your project will support.

We are interested in the people your project will support. A brief story, quote or statement can give us insight into the aspirations, needs and journeys of these people and communities; demonstrate the importance or impact of your work; and/or provide insight into the aims or ambitions of the proposed project.

What difference will your project make and what will be the lasting impact?

We would like to know what outcomes will be achieved by the end of your project, and whether there will be a legacy for the work – this could be for the people and communities supported by the project, or for the wider work of the organisation (e.g. sustained participation of children, young people and families).

What's the biggest thing that makes your organisation and your application to YOYO stand out?

We would like to know in your own words, what makes your organisation and the people and communities you support particularly special, and what makes your project an exciting or important one to support through the YOYO Fund.

Project Start Date/Project End Date

Tell us the planned/estimated start and end dates of the project. Please note all projects must be completed within 12 months of the project start date.

How many people will benefit from your project

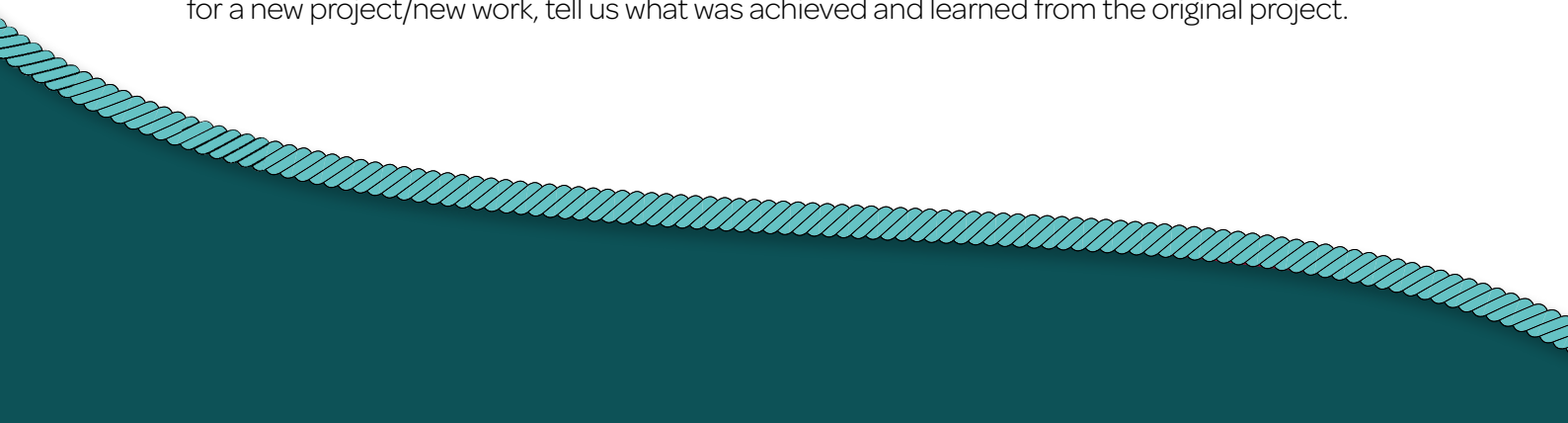
Tell us the approximate number of children, young people and parents/carers the project will directly involve and/or support

Previous Funding

Have you previously received funding from the YOYO Fund?

If yes, tell us a bit about this.

We are interested to know if your organisation has previously received funding from the YOYO Fund. If so, we are particularly interested to know if this application will build on, continue or expand a project previously funded by YOYO – for example, what learning or sustained work has resulted from the original project, and how does this new application build on that. If it is for a new project/new work, tell us what was achieved and learned from the original project.



Budget

How much are you requesting?

Tell us the total amount you are requesting from the YOYO Fund.

Please provide a brief breakdown of your project costs

Please use the table to provide the total costs of the project, the amount from YOYO and how this will be spent, and a brief description of costs

	Total Project Cost	Amount requested from YOYO Fund	Brief description/ breakdown of costs
Staff costs	10000	5000	Sessional Youth Worker (3hrs); Development Worker (8hrs)
Activity costs	5000	2000	Entry to park; Hire of facilitator/instructor
Materials/ equipment	1000	500	Projector; Decorations/Balloons
Travel/ Transport	500	0	Coach hire
Training/ Accreditation	500	500	Community Achievement Awards; Youth Achievement Awards; First Aid Training; Neurodiversity Awareness Training
Catering/ refreshments costs	1000	0	Community event catering
Other costs	1200	600	Rent costs (% of total cost)

Does your project require match funding? If so, from where will you receive this, and has it already been received?

Please provide a brief note of whether you are waiting for match funding in order to begin your project, or whether the remaining project costs have already been secured. E.g. "Local Business – donated £1,500 to cover food and transport costs. XYZ Grant Programme – £5,600 secured for staffing and rent costs. We are having a fundraising event next month with monies raised match funding the activity and material costs."

Supporting material

Applicants should send a supporting video or audio clip that features the voices and representation of children, young people or families and answers the three key questions (below). Any files should be less than three minutes in length (180 seconds).

- The link for uploading a video/audio file can be found on the online application form.
- The three 'key' questions are as follows:-
 - Why are you applying for funding and what will you do with it?
 - Tell us how the children, young people and families you support will lead the project?
 - What will be the outcome of your project?

When sending a video or audio file as part of your application, please note the following guidance:-

- Where possible, the video should feature the voices and/or representation of children, young people and families.
- If filming interviews, ensure audio is clear – e.g. film in a quiet area or use noise-suppression/directional microphones.
- If using a soundtrack for your video, please ensure that the volume does not interfere with any spoken/interview audio.
- If using Powerpoint/slides/text as part of your video, ensure text is clear/legible, does not move quickly.
- Generally, keep it short, simple and sweet while ensuring that you answer the main application questions:-
 - Why are you applying for funding and what will you do with it?
 - How will the people you support lead the project?
 - What will be the outcome of your project?
- This is also an opportunity to involve and promote the communities and groups you support.



Organisation Details

We ask for the contact details for your application, and the registration details of your organisation (i.e. Registered Name, Address, Website, Charity No., etc.)

Do you have a safeguarding policy that protects children, young people, and vulnerable adults that you work with?

Please confirm whether your organisation has up-to-date safeguarding policies and procedures in place.

Tell us how you ensure that staff and volunteers understand their role in safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults – please include a note on the training, supervision, and support that is provided to staff and volunteers?

Please provide a short summary of how your organisation implements its safeguarding policy in practice. This should include staff/volunteer training, safeguarding roles (e.g. a safeguarding lead), and how concerns are identified, reported and managed.

Please explain how your work incorporates the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), with particular focus on how this shapes your safeguarding approach and supports meaningful participation by children and young people?

We would like to know how staff, volunteers and those you support are made aware of the UNCRC (e.g. promotion; training) and how this informs your work.

Application Coding

Corra asks these questions to help us understand how far this funding will reach. It is used for data gathering purposes only and does not form part of the assessment or decision-making process.

Diversity and Inclusion Questionnaire

This questionnaire is for Corra's information purposes only and is designed to help us collate information on the diversity of organisations. This is for monitoring purposes and used by Corra to understand our reach, inform future work and potential gaps across our programmes. Responses are confidential and collated separately and will not be used in the review or outcome of your application.

For more information

If you have any questions about the YOYO Fund, the application process, the Be Different to Make a Difference Advisory Group, or Corra Foundation, please get in touch and a member of the team will be happy to assist – contact us by email, yoyo@corra.scot

Endnotes

1 Further reading/Useful links

- [Charter of Rights for People Affected by Substance Use 2024 \(Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland\)](#)
- [Guidance - Decision-making: children and young people's participation \(incl. link to Lundy Model of Child Participation\) \(Scottish Government\)](#)
- [Framework for holistic Whole Family Approaches. \(Scottish Government\)](#)
- [Children's rights in Scotland \(Education Scotland\)](#)
- [Medication Assisted Treatment \(MAT\) standards: access, choice, support \(Scottish Government\)](#)
- [UN Convention on Rights of a Child \(UNCRC\) \(UNICEF UK\)](#)
- [Independent Care Review \(Care Review\)](#)
- [Plan 24-30 \(Promise Scotland\)](#)
- [The Promise Oversight Board's Report 2. \(Promise Scotland\)](#)



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