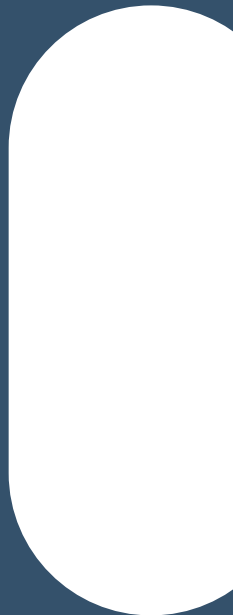




**Better
Bethnal
Green**



Youth Opportunities Fund

June 2026



VRU | MAYOR OF LONDON
VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT

Streets of Growth



thcvs
Council for Voluntary Service



About Better Bethnal Green

The Better Bethnal Green (BBG) is a two year, MOPAC funded programme to reduce serious youth violence at local neighbourhood level in the Bethnal Green area.

BBG is one of eleven partnerships across London who successfully achieved funding from the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) as part of the MyEnds programme. MyEnds across London are taking innovative approaches to supporting young people to thrive, and to keep them safe from violence.

BBG is a consortium of Tower Hamlets youth organisations, led by Osmani Trust, Spotlight and Streets of Growth. BBG is supported by THCVS, partners at the Police and council, and a range of additional community networks and partners.



Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF)

The YOF is an innovative approach, giving a voice to young people and empowering them to take the lead in all aspects of the grant programme. From engaging young people in the Bethnal Green area, to what matters most, what keeps them safe, the opportunities they want to deliver, the decisions about how the funds are allocated and which projects are funded.

The BBG YOF is specifically for young people living, socialising, studying and/or working in the Bethnal Green area.

YOF Guidelines

The BBG YOF is being administered by
Osmani Trust on behalf of the BBG partnership.

YOF Priority

Our Priority for the BBG YOF is to support the ongoing reduction in serious youth violence in the Bethnal Green area, increasing the safety and wellbeing of young people, the community, and creating new opportunities for young people to grow and thrive.

The BBG YOF will support a range of projects and activities for young people in the Bethnal Green area.

We want to strengthen the networks and communities around young people, so that the whole community is involved, and feel safer, more connected as a result.

Priorities we are seeking to achieve for young people are:



Young people
will have an
increased
voice in their
lives and their
communities



Young people
feel more
optimistic
about their
futures



Young people
have access to
positive activities
and support
across Bethnal
Green



Young people in
Bethnal Green
have a better
understanding
of positive
choices

Involving young people

When young people are in the lead, they thrive – we want your project application to demonstrate this clearly.

Young people understand what's needed in their communities better than anyone, especially during these unprecedented times.

The best applications will have the involvement of young people at an early stage, and have plans including young people in all aspects of your project.

We want to support projects that:



Involve young people from the start

Build on young people's strengths

Are connected to their community

How much can you apply for?

Groups can apply for **between £1,000 and £5,000**.

We want to fund a wide range of groups and organisations working with young people in the Bethnal Green area.

Who can apply?

**Voluntary and/or
Community Organisation**

Registered Charity

Constituted Group or Club

**Charitable Incorporated
Organisation (CIO)**

Not-for-profit Company

**Community Interest
Company (CIC)**

Community Benefit Society

School*

Un-constituted groups will need to identify a constituted organisation to act as their body or 'parent organisation'. For example, this could be a local charity, constituted TRA or housing association that is willing to hold the grant money on your behalf.

The application form must be completed by the un-constituted group and you must have written agreement from the body demonstrating they support you.

*As long as your project benefits and involves the communities around the school in the Bethnal Green area.

We cannot accept applications from:

Individuals seeking funding
for personal benefit

Organisations based
outside the UK

Applications made by one
organisation on behalf of another

For-profit
Organisations



What can you spend the money on?

One-off Events

Staff Costs

Training Costs

Transport

Utilities

Volunteer Expenses

Young people’s accreditations

Food and non-alcoholic refreshments

Young people’s involvement costs

Community engagement costs

Key Dates

There is only one round of funding in 2026.

Application deadline	17th July 2026
Grant award decisions by	31st July 2026
Projects can start	1st August 2026
Project to end	1st March 2027
Grant End Report submitted	19th March 2027

Support available to apply

Online and In-person Information sessions

Online: Wednesday 24th June - 2pm to 3pm

In-Person*: Tuesday 30th June - 5pm to 7pm

The two sessions will:

- Give an overview of the funding priorities
- Review the application process
- Provide an opportunity for people to ask any questions
- Identify any support they may need to apply

Formal Enquires

Groups who want to talk through their project ideas can get in contact with **Somsul Islam** at Osmani Trust on **0207 247 8080** or email somsul.islam@osmanitrust.org



Community Capacity Building Support

In partnership with **THCVS**, we will be offering capacity building support to groups in the Bethnal Green area (voluntary or charity organisations, resident led-group, Tenants & Residents Association, Women & girls groups, disability organisations). The one to one group development support available includes:

- Support with fundraising – working up a project, funding bid draft reviews, funding searches.
- Group development queries – governance, organisational policies, business planning



For more information contact

Sam Crosby on sam.crosby@thcvs.org.uk

Online session for Grantees

Grantees will be invited to a short online session to support your project, helping to:

- Support wider outcomes on community safety and youth engagement
- Mobilise your project
- Connect with others in the Bethnal Green area
- Monitor and Report

Word Counts

We have not stated word count limits. We want you to answer the questions. Try to avoid much background information. Keep your responses as brief as possible, in order to be clear what your project is about.

How applications are assessed

Applications will be assessed in two stages;

Stage one – basic checks to ensure that your project fits with our funding priorities, has evidence young people being involved in the proposal, and that the project is supported by an organisation that meets our basic eligibility checks.

Projects which don't pass stage one will be offered support from THCVS and others to review their projects and plan any actions that groups need to either reapply, review policies or access safeguarding or other training.

Stage two – Young people's panel to review projects. We want young people to be involved in the decisions about which projects are funded. Those which meet stage one checks will be presented to a panel of young people, who will decide the projects that will receive funding.

Successful Projects

Successful projects will be invited to a short online session, which aims to:

- support your project mobilisation
- give you a sense of what additional services, networks and support is available
- help you ensure that your activity is connected with other activities taking place in the Bethnal Green area

Monitoring

All successful project will need to provide monitoring data on the number and diversity of participants, along with a summary report of what you achieved, a case study and photos of activity.

All projects who receive an offer of a grant will be offered support to ensure that their monitoring processes are set up for the start of their projects. It is very important to BBG that we are able to show the Mayor of London and the Violence Reduction Unit, the impact of investment of funds for this programme.

Unsuccessful Projects

Projects that are not selected for funding will have access to THCVS and ELBA support to identify and apply for other funding, or access other capacity building support that groups may want.

How to Apply

Please submit your application form along with attachments using subject line 'BBG YOF Grant Application' to somsul.islam@osmanitrust.org



Grant Application Form Guidance

Your Organisation

- 1 What is the full name of your organisation?
- 2 What is the main registered address of your organisation?
- 3 What type of organisation are you?
- 4 Registered Charity and/or Company number?
- 5 Bank details
- 6 Accountable Body

Please tell us the details of the organisation who is acting as your 'accountable body'. A body should be a registered charity, CIC, or charitable company. Your accountable body will need to provide bank details for us to make a grant payment to them on your behalf. Your accountable arrangement should be confirmed in writing and attached to your application when submitted.

Your Project

- 1 What is the name of your project?
- 2 When is your planned (or estimated) start date of your project?
- 3 When is your planned (or estimated) end date of your project?
- 4 Where will your project take place?

(Please check the end date for your activity fits with the round of funding you are applying for)

(We want all activity to take place in the Bethnal Green area with this funding)

Choose which of the four outcomes your project fits in:

- 1 Young people will have an increased voice in their lives and their communities
- 2 Young people feel more optimistic about their futures
- 3 Young people are better able to access positive activities and support across the Bethnal Green area
- 4 Young people have a greater understanding of positive choices and an increased affinity to their community in Bethnal Green

What would you like to do?

Here are some ideas of what to tell us about your project:

- 1 What difference your project will make?
- 2 Who will benefit from it?
- 3 How long you expect to run it for? (This can be an estimate)
- 4 How will you make sure people know about it?
- 5 How do you plan to learn from it and use this learning to shape future projects?
- 6 Is it something new, or are you continuing something that has worked well previously? (We want to fund both types of projects)

How does your project meet our funding priorities?

A good application should work toward at least one, of these four outcomes:

- 1 Young people will have an increased voice in their lives and their communities
- 2 Young people feel more optimistic about their futures
- 3 Young people are better able to access positive activities and support across Bethnal Green
- 4 Young people have a greater understanding of positive choices and an increased affinity to their community in Bethnal Green

How does your project involve young people the Bethnal Green area?

We believe that young people understand what's needed in their communities better than anyone. Tell us how your community came up with the idea for your project. We want to know how many people you've spoken to, and how they'll be involved in the development and delivery of the project.

Here are some examples of how you could be involving your community:

- Having regular chats with young people, in person or on social media
- Including young people on your board or committee
- Run a focus group with young people
- Pair up with another group who work with young people
- Deliver outreach to talk to young people about what they want to do and how they want to be involved

Project Costs – List the costs you would like us to fund

Contacts – Please give two contacts, one primary and one secondary. The primary contact should be the who will lead on the project and the second contact should be a person who leads your organisation or a Trustee on your board. For each person, we will need the following information:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 First name | 4 Email |
| 2 Last name | 5 Telephone |
| 3 Role in your organisation | |

Please submit the following information with your YOF application:

- 1 Your Constitution/Rules
- 2 Your Safeguarding Policy
- 3 Your Equal Opportunities Policy
- 4 One bank statement
(dated within the last 3 months that shows the organisations name, account number and sort code)
- 5 For groups applying with an accountable body – a letter confirming this arrangement, signed.



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