



Report on Children's and Young People Health and Wellbeing Project

Grant Application to Somerset Association of Local Councils

Overview

SALC is working with Somerset Council Public Health and other partners to support City, Town, and Parish Councils in delivering community health and wellbeing projects. The SALC application process offers three funding categories:

- £1,500 Seed Grants for initial project ideas
- £2,500 Small Grants for smaller or individual council projects
- £35,000 Large Grants for collaborative projects involving multiple councils/organisations

Minehead Eye and West Somerset Primary Care Network's Living Better project have been funding a dedicated Young People's Health Coach role at Minehead Eye for the last 6 months. This initiative has already demonstrated significant need and impact in the community. These organisations now seek to partner with Minehead Town Council to apply for the large grant of £35,000 to extend the project into the medium term (2 years), establishing a foundation for long-term sustainability.

For large grant applications, SALC expects to see match funding from the applying council and/or partner organisations. This project combines universal youth services (clubs, events, outreach) with targeted mental and emotional health support, creating an integrated system of care for young people in Minehead. Having already received verbal support from the Minehead and Watchet LCN group, there is potential to further develop and expand the project to receive financial support from multiple parishes and towns across the LCN area.

Key Partners

- Minehead Town Council
- Minehead Eye
- West Somerset Primary Care Network's Living Better project
- Local Community Network (LCN)

Evidence of Need

- West Somerset ranked lowest for social mobility nationally
- Higher mental health challenges in coastal communities
- 25% increase in wellbeing support demand over three years
- Successful 6-month pilot demonstrating need and effectiveness

Beneficiaries

- Primary: Young people aged 8-18 in Minehead
- Secondary: Families, wider community, health and education services
- Expected reach: 1,000+ young people in year 1

Budget

- Year 1: £35,000 (SALC grant)
- Year 2: £41,000 (secured through partner contributions from MTC, Minehead Eye & Primary Care Network)
- Minehead Town Council contribution: £13,000 in Year 2

Financial & Legal Considerations

- The £35,000 grant would be fully funded by the SALC health and wellbeing fund, paid directly to MTC who would then grant the money to Minehead Eye.
- The £13,000 MTC match funding requirement would need financing through the 2026/27 budget
- Financial support for youth services can be provided under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S.19 (3)(a), with this project representing an enhanced youth service

Sustainability

With funding secured for two years, the project would have time to develop longer-term sustainability through expanded local council support, Local Community Networks, and additional external funding.

Recommendation

To approve submission of this grant application and to agree to provide match funding of £13,000 financed through the 2026/27 budget, subject to receiving the grant.

Ben Parker

Town Clerk

March 2025