

## Community Investment Fund: Seeking ideas needing more than £10,000

The Community Investment Fund is managed and delivered by the Community Investment Board. The Board, hosted by SAVS made up of local residents volunteering their time to make investments enabling Southend residents to improve their lives. The board are seeking ideas looking for more than £10,000 that will support the delivery of their vision, mission and key themes. These will likely be made in partnership with other organizations with the initial contact made by a lead organisation who can work with the board to build the idea. Ideas will be based on realistic budgets and bear in mind the board's total current pot of up to £1m.

Our vision is of a sustainable Southend where residents engage in their wider communities, are empowered to realize and reach their full potential. In a city they are proud of, feel safe in and can enjoy healthy and fulfilling lives.

Our mission is to utilize the strengths and assets of Southend by motivating residents to create sustainable resilient communities taking community led-action that will improve mental health. To achieve this the Board have identified key themes they are seeking to invest in;

1. **Young People (<35):** To enable young people to maximize their health and wellbeing through increased resilience.
2. **Improve Community Spaces:** To enable communities to improve public spaces to build stronger health and wellbeing. Spaces are safe and that local residents are proud of - indoor and outdoor.
3. **Reduce Poverty:** To ensure local residents realize and reach their aspirations. The Board are keen to support those with ideas around out of working hours support, activities for those living with addiction and that reduce isolation and loneliness.
4. **Enhance a Thriving Voluntary Sector** to deliver the Board's vision.

All ideas will too further the delivery of Southend City Council's 2050 vision.

### What can I apply for?

- Activities delivering benefits involving the most marginalized communities within the city of Southend.
- Ideas minimizing use of statutory services.
- Project or core costs for up to 2 years for ideas that will have a long-term and sustainable benefit.
- Ideas that have been designed, will be delivered and evaluated by those who will benefit.

### How to apply?

To apply click here to access our form which will ask for information on your organization and the idea you have. These ideas which may be conceptual at this stage will be shared with the board and they will then be in touch with you to see how you can develop and work together in partnership with other organizations and the Board providing investment and catalyzing collaboration. The Board are looking for ideas, not necessarily detailed proposals at this stage. The Board are planning to hold workshops to bring ideas together in September and October 2022 please click here to register for them. The Board plan to make decisions on how to develop the ideas received after the workshops from November onwards and are extremely keen to work collectively and collaboratively to invest in strategic and sustainable ideas that will deliver against the themes.

### What will the reporting look like?

The Board will seek to find out the impact of your activities, whether that was for a particular community, how much was spent and how it contributed to their aims and the Southend 2050 themes and outcomes. If funds are for over a year the board will seek a progress report before year two funds are given.

### What happens next?

Funds cannot be used for the furthering of religious or political aims and only for future plans. Feedback will be provided as soon as possible after board meetings. Successful projects will be asked to acknowledge the Community Investment Fund and Southend City Council. Funds will be paid into an account in the name of an organization.

To receive this information in an alternative format, find out more or talk through your idea contact the Community Investment Fund Coordinator, using [cib@savs-southend.co.uk](mailto:cib@savs-southend.co.uk) or 07415 846506. Any ideas will not be shared with the board until complete. The board is unable to consider incomplete ideas.

Thank you for taking the time to share your ideas with us, we look forward to being in touch with you.