



Expression of Interest

Part 1 Application Form to the Communities' Choice PB Fund

Introduction to the Communities' Choice Fund

Communities' Choice aims to empower local communities by giving them the opportunity to decide how public funds are allocated to the projects that matter most to them. Local **People Committees**, made up of residents from each community, will oversee the delivery of projects within their area.

The Process:

Upon submission of your Expression of Interest (EOI) form (Part 1), the People Committees will assess your application and **may** invite you to complete the Part 2 form, which will ask for more detailed information, including a budget breakdown. Both Part 1 and Part 2 must be submitted for your application to progress to the final assessment and public vote.

Guidance:

Please ensure all sections of this form are completed with clear and comprehensive information, as this will give you the best chance of being invited to complete Part 2 of the application for the **Communities' Choice Torfaen Participatory Budgeting (PB) Fund**. We strongly encourage you to read the **Our Priorities Report & Application Guidance** documents before completing your application. These will give you an overview of the types of initiatives we aim to fund, in line with the priorities identified by local community members.



Please note that if you are submitting a cross-area application, you may apply for a maximum of £10,000 across the three Communities' Choice areas.

1. Communities' Choice Area:

Blaenavon		Thornhill & Upper Cwmbran		Trevethin, Penygarn & St. Cadocs	x
Do you intend to apply for funding in more than one area?			Yes	No x	

2. Applicant Information

Applicant Details		Registered Address	
Organisation Name:	Torfaen Museum Trust	No. / Street:	Park Buildings
Position / Job Title:	Museum Services Manager	Local Area:	Park Road
Contact Name:	Robert Lewis	Town / City:	Pontypool
Email:	torfaenmuseum@outlook.com	County:	Torfaen
Phone Number:	01495752036	Postcode:	NP4 6JH

3. Organisation Type

Part A:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Interest Company	<input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Incorporated Organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registered Charity
<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary / Community Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Informal / Self-Help Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Business / Limited Company
Part B:	Other (please describe)	

Priorities

4.1 Pick Your Main Project Theme:

EOI Form



4.



Priority Theme: Youth and Service, Health and Wellbeing, Education and Skills Development

Project types: - Please ensure that you have read the **‘Our Priorities’** Document thoroughly before submitting your application. This document outlines the priorities identified through the ‘Have Your Say!’ consultation and provides guidance on the types of initiatives that the community wishes to fund. You should refer to this document wherever possible in your application. While all applications will be considered, priority will be given to those that align with the project types listed.

4.2 Project Timeline

**Approximate dates and timings are fine at this stage; however, if you are successful in Part 1 and progress to Part 2, you will be required to provide more definitive start and end dates.*

Start Date:	1.10.25	End Date:	30.09.26	Duration:	1 year
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5. Project Details

Now tell us about your idea. You should consider how your project aligns with the identified priorities and contributes to the community's aspirations. Your submission should demonstrate a clear connection between your chosen theme, the proposed activities, and the anticipated impacts on health and wellbeing. It's essential to articulate the uniqueness of your project while addressing key aspects such as the timeline, expected outcomes, and how it fits within the funding criteria.

5.1 Project Title

Provide a concise and descriptive title for your project.

Bricks & Stories: Building Futures at Torfaen Museum





5.2 Project Summary

In a few sentences, summarise the main idea and purpose of your project. Explain what you aim to achieve and why it is important for the community. Please be concise and focus on the main elements of your project (**maximum 250 words**). If you are successful

We are looking to fund a Lego Building Club hosted within the museum, offering a creative, inclusive, and skill-building opportunity targeted at young people, addressing several key priorities.

The grant will fund the procurement of Lego for up to 15 people to take part in sessions, staff time to prepare and run sessions and refreshments for participants. We will be running two sessions per week for 1 year.

By using the museum's collection as inspiration—for example, recreating historical buildings, artefacts and other exhibits with Lego—participants can engage with local heritage while developing creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork skills as well as a deepened sense of pride in their local community.

As an accessible and neuroinclusive activity, the club can serve young people from diverse backgrounds, including young carers or those with additional needs. A number of sessions at different times including as an after-school or weekend initiative, giving young people a safe, structured alternative to anti-social behaviour.

The club can incorporate health and wellbeing elements such as “mindful building” sessions, encouraging relaxation through quiet, focused construction. These sessions can support the Health and Wellbeing of young people, especially for those experiencing anxiety or social isolation.

Overall, the Lego Building Club promotes creativity, inclusion, learning, and wellbeing, while actively engaging young people in their local environment and heritage.

at Part 1, you will be required to provide a more detailed project plan within Part 2.

List at least one positive outcome or objective your project intends to achieve. You may refer to the Our Priorities & Application Guidance documentation for ideas and inspiration.

1:	Enhanced Youth Engagement and Skill Development
2:	Improved Mental Wellbeing and Social Inclusion
3:	Community Connection and Civic Awareness





6.

Budget

Please provide the total cost of your project and the amount of funding you are requesting from the Communities' Choice Torfaen PB Fund. If you do not plan to access any other funding, please enter '0' for the total project costs.

a) Total Project

	Total Project Cost:		Amount Applied for:	Costs
£	0	£	8000	

**Please note that if your application progresses to the next stage, you will be required to provide a more detailed budget breakdown.*

b) Other Funding Sources

Please list any additional funding sources for your project, including grants, donations, or in-kind contributions. Specify whether each source is confirmed or pending.

In kind contributions in the form of volunteer time. We will be actively recruiting volunteers to help run the sessions with the view to creating a self sustaining model once the funding period ends.

c) Break Down for Cross-Area Applications

If you are applying for funding across more than area, please provide specific details about the project logistics and costs for each area. If you are applying to only one area, please move on to question 7.





Blaenavon	Thornhill & Upper Cwmbran	Trevethin. Penvaarn & St. Cadocs

7. Alignment with Priorities

Please refer to the **‘Our Priorities’** guidance document. Proposals should align with one or more priority themes and clearly highlight how your project fits with these theses and the types of initiatives considered for funding.

The club directly supports **Youth Services & Activities** by providing regular after-school and weekend sessions tailored for young people, including young carers and those with additional needs. As a neuroinclusive and welcoming space, the project offers a positive, accessible alternative to isolation or disengagement, helping young people connect, collaborate, and express themselves through play and design.

The programme also contributes to **Health and Wellbeing** by incorporating mindful building sessions that promote calm, focus, and emotional resilience. These quiet, hands-on activities support young people’s mental health, particularly those experiencing anxiety or social challenges, in a safe and supportive environment.

Aligned with **Crime & Community Safety** priorities, the club offers a structured and supervised setting that helps divert young people from antisocial behaviour, fostering a sense of belonging and purpose. By engaging them in regular, meaningful activities, the club plays a preventative role in creating a safer, more connected community.

Finally, the club addresses **Education & Skills Development** by encouraging creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving. Using the museum's collection as inspiration, participants will build Lego models of historical and cultural exhibits, developing transferable skills and gaining a stronger connection to their local heritage.



8.



Through this multi-faceted approach, the Lego Building Club offers an engaging, inclusive initiative that nurtures young people's development while responding directly to the community's identified needs.

a) Alignment with the Marmot Principles

Torfaen is a Marmot region. Please consider how your project aligns with the Marmot principles and tick one or more that apply.

Reference: [Wales First Marmot Region](#)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My project helps give every child the best start in life	<input type="checkbox"/> My project enables all people to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
<input type="checkbox"/> My project creates fair employment and good work for all	<input type="checkbox"/> My project ensures a healthy standard of living for all
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My project builds healthy and sustainable communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My project strengthens the role and impact of ill health prevention

b) Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations Goals

Please indicate which of the seven National Well-Being Goals your project will contribute to and tick all that apply.

Reference: [Wellbeing of Future Generations indicators](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> A prosperous Wales	<input type="checkbox"/> A resilient Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A healthier Wales	<input type="checkbox"/> A more equal Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Wales of cohesive communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.
<input type="checkbox"/> A globally responsible Wales	

Declarations & Consent:

By ticking signing, I confirm that I have read, understood and consent to the [GDPR Policy](#)

I hereby declare that the information provided in this EOI form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information may result in the rejection of this application.

Name:	Robert Lewis	Signature:	Robert Lewis	Date:	01.08.25
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EOI Form





Please ensure that all sections of this form are completed accurately before submission. Incomplete forms may not be considered for assessment.

Thank you for your commitment to improving your community through the Communities' Choice Torfaen PB Fund.

9. Submitting Your Application

Applications can be submitted to communities-choice@tvawles.org.uk or alternatively, you may choose to upload your application via the form found [here](#).

****The deadline for part 1 Expression of Interest forms to be received is midnight on Friday 1st August 2025.**
Applications received after the deadline stated above will not be considered for part 2 of the application process.

10. Contacts:

Dan Watkins

Communities' Choice Coordinator
dan@tvawales.org.uk

Bailey Richardson

Youth & Community Support Worker
bailey@tvawales.org.uk

