



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.



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1. Communities' Choice Area:

Blaenavon

Thornhill & Upper Cwmbran

Trevethin, Penygarn & St. Cadocs

Do you intend to apply for funding in more than one area?

Yes

No

2. Applicant Information

Applicant Details

Organisation Name:

THORNHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Position / Job Title:

Community Co-ordinator

Contact Name:

MARIA CHALLENGER

Email:

thornhill44too@gmail.com

Phone Number:

07549973965.

Registered Address

No. / Street:

LEADON COURT

Local Area:

THORNHILL,

TOWN/CITY:

CWMBRAN

County:

TIRFAEN

Postcode:

NP44 5T2.

3. Organisation Type

Part A:

Community Interest Company

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity

Voluntary / Community Group

Informal / Self-Help Group

Private Business / Limited Company

Part B:

Other (please describe)



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4. Priorities

4.1 Pick Your Main Project Theme:

Priority Theme: Building Stronger Communities

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:	Sept 2025	End Date:	July 2026	Duration:	11 Month
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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.

Thornhill Messy Family Play Session

EOI Form





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

This project will provide free messy play sessions for children aged 0-5 and their families, offering inclusive sensory activities such as sand, water, and paint. These sessions are designed to support early childhood development—encouraging curiosity, motor skills, and creative thinking through hands-on, open-ended play.

Crucially, the sessions are completely free of charge, removing financial barriers and ensuring that all families—regardless of income—can participate. In communities where the cost of activities can prevent families from accessing enrichment opportunities, this project creates a welcoming and supportive space where no one is excluded due to circumstance.

Beyond individual benefits, the sessions help strengthen the wider community. Parents and carers can meet others in similar situations, build friendships, and form peer support networks. Children develop vital social and communication skills by engaging with their peers in a fun and inclusive setting.

By offering free, high-quality early years play, the project promotes equality, improves wellbeing, and encourages a sense of belonging for local families. It's a simple yet powerful way to nurture development while supporting community cohesion and resilience.

5.3 Positive Outcomes

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: | Bringing people in the community. |
| 2: | Allowing all children to access play provision, regardless of financial background. |
| 3: | Improving parent wellbeing, and children's physical and emotional development |

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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 Costs

Total Project Cost:	Amount Applied for:
£ 8,000	£ 8,000

*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.

[Large empty rectangular box for listing other funding sources]

c) Break Down for Cross-Area Applications

If you are applying for funding across more than one 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, Penygarn & St. Cadocs



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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.

This project supports Health and Wellbeing, and Stronger Communities through free messy play sessions for children aged 0-5 and their families. Activities promote early development and mental health, while creating space for parents and carers to connect, reducing isolation. By fostering inclusion and social bonds, the project helps build a more resilient, connected Thornhill

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

- My project helps give every child the best start in life
- My project creates fair employment and good work for all
- My project builds healthy and sustainable communities

- My project enables all people to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- My project ensures a healthy standard of living for all
- 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

- A prosperous Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A globally responsible Wales

- A resilient Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.



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8. 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: **MARIA CHALLENGER**

Signature:

Date:

28/7/2025

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