

# Main Grants Programme 2019 - 2022 Assessment Sheet

## Section 1 – Core Information

<b>Name of applicant</b>
Noah's Ark Children's Venture

<b>Is the applicant eligible to apply for a main grant</b>	Yes <input style="width: 40px; text-align: center;" type="checkbox" value="Y"/>	No <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/>
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<b>Reasons for ineligibility or any further comments</b>

<b>Is the application for Core or Project funding</b>	Core <input style="width: 40px; text-align: center;" type="checkbox" value="X"/>	Project <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/>
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<b>Which main grant theme is being applied for</b>	
x	Strong and cohesive communities
x	Communities that care
	Access to advice
	Widening access to sports
	Widening access to sports

<b>Annual amount requested</b>
£36,000

<b>Application Form Question 25.</b>	<b>Details of any funding from Lewisham Council within the last 3 years?</b>
Main Grants 2015-2018	

## Section 2 - Deliverables

<b>Application Form Question 7</b>	<p><b>Tell us the issue you are seeking to address.</b></p> <p><b>Please ensure you are clear why this issue is Lewisham specific and why you feel the need is not met by the existing assets in the community whether they be people, services (both commissioned and non-commissioned) or available funding.</b></p>
<b>Score</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Noah's Ark Children's Venture is unique, offering a residential centre for people within the borough in a rural setting in Gloucestershire.</p> <p>The organisation has worked with over 200 Lewisham organisations and estimates that over the years 37,000 from the borough have used their facilities.</p> <p>The application focusses on the work that the organisation has done over the years and what it has achieved but does not attempt to outline the need that it is addressing.</p>
<b>Word count (400)</b>	<b>400</b>

<b>Application Form Question 8</b>	<p><b>Tell us the assets you will be seeking to engage and mobilise to assist you.</b></p> <p><b>These assets could include individuals, groups, buildings or any or specific strengths that already exist within your community including the lived experiences of those within it.</b></p> <p><b>Tell us the other organisations working in this area and how you will avoid duplication and add value.</b></p>
<b>Score</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Noah's Ark Children's Venture is unique, no duplication issues.</p> <p>Assets include 18 acres of woodland and residential services that can house up to 51 people.</p> <p>There is a large range of facilities that include fun based activities such as swimming, BMX track and table tennis etc. The site also includes classrooms and community kitchens.</p> <p>The application also highlights the skills within the organisations board and staff skills</p>
<b>Word count (400)</b>	<b>400</b>

<b>Application Form Question 9</b>	<p><b>Please tell us what you will seek to achieve over the next three years both with and without the funding you are applying for.</b></p> <p><b>Please include details of how many extra people you would expect to work with, the outputs you will deliver and the outcomes you will seek to achieve.</b></p> <p><b>Please tell us how your service differs from those that are already delivered or</b></p>
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	<p><b>commissioned by the council.</b></p> <p><b>You should state the level of funding that you would anticipate attracting during this period both with and without Lewisham's core support.</b></p> <p><b>As you are applying for Core Funding this section should set out your ambitions as an organisation and what Lewisham's funding will help you achieve rather than simply what 'we are paying for.'</b></p> <p><b>NB – this details in this section will form the basis of the monitoring of your organisation although the exact details will be agreement with once the grant has been awarded.</b></p>
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**Without core funding from Lewisham:**

<b>Comments</b>	<p>31.5% of the guests are Lewisham, however, the Lewisham Grant represents 20% of the organisations income.</p> <p>Without the Lewisham core funding Lewisham representation would potentially decrease from 31.5% as they will have to increase the charges to Lewisham groups.</p>
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<b>Word count (500)</b>	<b>459</b>
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**With core funding from Lewisham:**

<b>Score</b>	<b>2</b>
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<b>Comments</b>	<p>NACV will continue to provide subsidised accommodation for Lewisham groups and a minibus service that makes it more possible for groups to travel. These groups include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families with disabled children and young carers benefiting from respite breaks</li> <li>• Adults with complex social needs</li> </ul> <p>Although these are valuable services they do not provide a strong match with the funding criteria.</p>
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<b>Word count (500)</b>	<b>499</b>
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<b>Application Form Question 10.</b>	<b>Please state how far your service offer is scalable. Please indicate below what percentage of your requested amount would still be feasible in terms of service delivery. Please tick all that apply</b>
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75%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
50%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Comments on value for money of revised offers</b>	75% of amount is needed to employ the Centre Manager Full Time.
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<b>Application Form Question 11.</b>	<b>User profile – this table is copied directly from the application form</b>	
<b>PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC</b>	<b>PLEASE TICK</b>	<b>FURTHER DETAIL</b>
Age	/	
Disability	/	
Gender	/	
Gender reassignment	/	
Marriage & civil partnership	/	
Pregnancy & maternity	/	
Race	/	
Religion & belief	/	
Sexual orientation	/	

<b>Application Form Question 12</b>	<p><b>Please set out how your proposed programme will engage those who do not traditionally access services.</b></p> <p><b>This engage should relate to both the protected characteristics but also other groups.</b></p>
<b>Score</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Good evidence of collaboration provided throughout the application. The organisation works closely with a range of organisations that visit the centre.</p> <p>The organisation states that it will evaluate user data to identify any further gaps.</p>
<b>Word count (300)</b>	<b>298</b>

### Section 3 - Track record, finance and governance

<b>Application Form Question 13</b>	<p><b>Collaboration and delivery: your track record of working in partnership and delivering quality services.</b></p> <p><b>Please use this section to outline the partnerships you have developed over the last three years. Please detail who you have worked with and what you have achieved.</b></p> <p><b>Please also details the three service achievements during this period of which you are most proud.</b></p>
<b>Score</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>An comprehensive account of provided by the organisation including an excellent example of collaboration with the Young Lewisham Project involving maintaining / servicing of bicycles, tricycles, BMX's and Go-karts, in exchange for accommodation. This highlights the way that organisations can work together in times of austerity.</p>
<b>Word count (500)</b>	<b>500</b>

<b>Application Form Question 14</b>	<p><b>Resources: your track record of attracting resources both financial and human.</b></p> <p>Please complete the below tables detailing your track record of the following over the past three years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• funding applications both successful and unsuccessful</li> <li>• other fundraising activities</li> <li>• volunteer engagement</li> </ul> <p>Please add extra rows as required.</p> <p>Please use the space below the tables to provide further details as required (200 words max).</p>
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Total number of funding applications in last 3 years	Level of funding requested	Outcome/level of funding received
28	£190,250	£175,250

Number of fundraising activities undertaken in last 3 years	Level of funding achieved
11	£284,129

Number of volunteer engagement activity undertaken in last 3 years	Approximate number of volunteer hours delivered
2	300

<b>Score</b>	4
<b>Comments</b>	The organisation has submitted a large number of funding bids and has seen some good success both thorough the application process and via other fundraising activities.

<b>Application Form Question 15</b>	<p><b>Overall financial health: Please complete the below table and answer the following questions.</b></p> <p>What is your reserve policy and current reserves status as a percentage of your turnover?</p> <p>We would expect organisation who are more than three years old to have a minimum of 10% of their annual turnover in reserve.</p> <p>If you are seeking funding and do not meet this threshold please provide a detailed account of why and what you intend to do to bring your reserves to an adequate level.</p> <p>Regardless of your reserve position please explain how your organisation is financially viable.</p>
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The below table is copied directly from the organisation's application form

Year	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/deficit
2015/16	£190,333	£195,089	(£4,756)
2016/17	£263,213	£196,089	£67,005
2017/18	£196,583	£198,858	(£2,275)
2018/19 (anticipated)	£183,000	£173,000	£10,000

<b>Score</b>	5
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<b>Comments</b>	<p>The organisation has a very strong approach to financial stability with a number of contingency funds covering issues such as building, renovation, minibus, management change as well as revenue. Total contingency funding is £160,000</p> <p>The organisation also has a policy that general funds will have at least £10,000.</p>
<b>Word count (250)</b>	<b>240</b>

<b>Application Form Question 16</b>	<b>Shared values: Please use this section to demonstrate your commitment to these (London Living Wage, equalities, being Dementia Friendly, ending Modern Slavery and sustainability) and plans to develop these commitments.</b>
<b>Score</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Comments</b>	Organisation is committed to all of the above has a very comprehensive Environment and Sustainability Policy.
<b>Word count (250)</b>	<b>248</b>

<b>Application Form Question 23</b>	<b>Board Statement: Please include a statement from your Board regarding its overall approach to managing the organisation. This should include the details of the most recent skills audit and how the key posts on the Board are recruited to.</b>
<b>Score</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>8 Board Members.</p> <p>Comprehensive skills audit in 2016 with identified skills gaps addressed.</p> <p>Board has identified that it needs to be better represented with BAME and female trustees, however the organisation do not state how they plan to achieve this.</p>
<b>Word count (250)</b>	<b>246</b>

<b>Has the organisation met all other requirements of the application?</b>		
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Does the organisation have a Board of at least 5 with all major posts filled	/	
Is the organisation currently compliant with filing requirements?	/	
Does the organisation have a reasonable awareness of opportunities and threats?	/	
Does the organisation have all the requested documents available?	/	
Has the organisation attached their accounts for 2017/18 – or most recent set of management accounts if formed after 2017?	/	
Relevant quality assurance systems in place	/	
<b>Comments</b>	No issues	

### Overall comments/Recommendation

Score 29

This is a strong application from an organisation with a proven track record of delivering valuable activities to Lewisham residents. However, there is a concern that services provided do not respond clearly enough to the Main Grants themes. Officers have considered a range of applications that provide a stronger response and given the continued pressures on the Council's budget and the subsequent reduction of the grants budget, priority needs to be given to those applications.

The application indicates a very strong approach to contingency planning and diverse funding streams and so in the view of officers the organisation will be able to transition away from any dependence on Main Grant funding. The application indicates that subsidies to Lewisham organisations will come to an end without the grant but also states that a gradual step increase to charges will be put in place

It is recommended that Noah's Ark Children's Venture does not receive Main Grants funding.