

Community Chest Proforma 2015/2016

Organisation	<u>Unit Twenty Three</u>	Application ID	<u>SEBC5</u>
Contact	Mr Emrys Green		
Value	£5,000		
Local Authority	St Edmundsbury Borough Council		

Key points

The Project is inspired by *Freefall*, a powerful play developed by Young Carers and professional artists. The project has been through a phase of development, funded by Arts Council England primarily, which enabled them to invite representatives such as West Suffolk MYP Toby Jeffrey and his colleagues to participate in an exchange and to feedback on the project development over this year.

Using *Freefall* as a stimulus, the Project will train Young Carers to facilitate post show 'Talk Out' workshops, where Young Caring can be explored and discovered with *Freefall's* audiences (local schools and communities). By replacing stigma with status, and by disseminating support packs and signposting to services, identified Young Carers will educate communities and develop skills, and unidentified Young Carers will be encouraged and enabled to access support.

Clarification Questions:

Have you a target audience in mind in terms of age group for the project?

This is 13+ (year 9 upwards) within schools. We also consider it very important to ensure that families, policy setters & local influencers see the production so it can help inform them of the issues faced.

Have schools been approached and if so which ones?

We have directly approached King Edward VI School within St Edmundsbury so far (as per reference contact) and we will be talking with County Upper & St Benedicts within Bury St Edmunds and Samuel Ward in Haverhill in September.

We also have Castle Manor Academy in Haverhill listed through an existing relationship they hold with Creative Arts East under a youth music project. (This also applies in the Forest Heath District with IES Breckland in Brandon in addition to the relationships held by Music Arts Projects there).

Have you any concerns about schools not engaging in the programme and how you might encourage their participation?

Our concerns extend only to ensure action is taken early on to secure their participation. The project partners have existing direct relationships with two of the four schools we hope to reach with your subsidy and we know that we can rely on the advocacy & championship of the project from both Geoff Barton at King Edwards as a local influencer and Simon Pickering at St Edmundsbury Borough Council to aid in the connections being made for 2 more to follow suit.

We have also recently been appointed to deliver support work with the Bury St Edmunds Youth Forum and local Member for Youth Parliament, and as such we are required to engage with the local schools in this role and will be introduced to them by field officers from Community Action Suffolk.

Additionally we have engaged with the Norfolk & Norwich Festival Bridge Organisation, which covers Suffolk, throughout the development of this project and they are funded by Arts Council England with a responsibility for connecting schools with cultural organisation & projects like ours. We have been working with the area programme manager, Joff Whitten, as well as the Head of Bridge (Michael Corley) to ensure our work is accessible to schools and have their support in brokering relationships.

We have selected an optimum time of year to visit the schools which has least impact possible on exam preparation. Moreover, we will be bringing a highly valuable piece of work to the schools which will help them with both the Advanced Healthy Schools award & Artsmark status as recognized quality marks available to them.

The project has been designed with other subject areas in mind so it is not just considered an arts project touring in. We have designed additional workshop packs and the experience as a whole to meet the new national curriculum changes which came in to effect in 2014. The project contributes to schools' requirements for PSHE, English & Citizenship subject areas.

Recent research compiled by Arts Professional (published 21st August 2015) show how schools have had to reduce their engagement with theatre largely because of the cost factors involved with taking students out to venues or the costs of buying full length work in from a touring company. We meet the need to fill the gap because we are offering a project that suits wider subject needs, supports an increasingly prominent issue (of hidden young carers) and are offering it as a shorter performance with workshop that can be subsidized. This is where St Edmundsbury Borough Council comes in and can make it happen.

Schools and councils will be looking to work together increasingly to find cost effective and impactful methods for identifying hidden carers thanks to the new duties imposed by the Care Act 2014 & the Children and Families Act 2014 which requires local authorities to "take reasonable steps to identify the extent to which there are young carers within their area who have needs for support" (HM Government 2014c:73).

We know that our work delivers on this requirement and as such we can bring value to the schools from multiple angles:

- Exposure to high quality art & culture;
- Support of PSHE, English & Citizenship curriculum requirements;
- Support of a healthy school community;
- Support towards attainment & continuance of schools' quality marks; and
- Supporting local authorities with their statutory duties in an innovative way.

Finally, we are working with Crossroads East Anglia & Suffolk Family Carers as our young carer partners who also already offer other support to the schools when a young person is identified and referred under the Common Assessment Framework. These contacts will also be used as an existing route in to schools as we can offer activity that leads to the identification; taking a preventative approach rather than purely dealing with individual referrals after the fact. So we have established multiple routes in to the schools as well as compiling a compelling offer that offers excellent outcomes for the local community. You can hear some of these outcomes from the community in their comments featured in our development video at:

<https://www.freefalltour.uk/2015/05/freefall-development-video/>

We believe that the project is very important to local people & families; we have been told by the various audiences who have seen the development that it has the impact needed and conveys important messaging which will have a significant impact on local residents'. Friends, relatives and siblings of both young carers and the cared for. The ability to offer the project to schools on a heavily subsidised basis will remove the only potential barrier to participation; the financial issue.

**St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Community Chest Grant Application Form
Part A**



Community Chest funding supports voluntary and community groups who make a contribution to improving the quality of life for people in West Suffolk. The information you provide will help us consider your application. If you have any questions, please give us a call on 01638 719763. Before completing this form, we ask you to please read the guidelines, which are available on: <http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants.cfm>

Please return your completed, signed form and supplementary documents to: richard.baldwin@westsuffolk.gov.uk

1. Name of your organisation(s):

2. Organisation address details

Address Ln1	Unit 23 Court Industrial Estate		
Address Ln2	Vinces Road		
Address Ln3			
City/Town	Diss	Postcode	IP22 4BF
Main phone	01379882200	E-mail	info@unittwentythree.co.uk
Website	Unit23.co		

Main Contact Person		Second Contact Person	
Title	Mr	Title	Mr
Forename	Emrys	Forename	Joshua
Surname	Green	Surname	Gould
Role	Director	Role	Assistant Project Manager
Daytime Tel No.	[REDACTED]	Daytime Tel No.	01379 882200
Mobile No.	07905 253099	Mobile No.	[REDACTED]
Email	Emrys@unittwentythree.co.uk	Email	Joshua@unittwentythree.co.uk
Address Details (if different from Org address)		Address Details (if different from Org address)	
Ln1		Ln1	
Ln2		Ln2	
Town		Town	
Post Code		Post Code	

About your organisation

3. What local authority area(s) does your organisation work in?

Suffolk & Norfolk primarily

*Community Chest funding is offered by both Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils. As the decision making process is different any projects applying for funding across West Suffolk, must apply separately.

4. What is the status of your organisation?

Registered charity		Charity number:
Applying for charitable status		
Company limited by guarantee	x	Company number:
Community Interest Company		#8564486
Part of a larger regional or national charity (Please state which one)		
Constituted Community Group		
Social Enterprise	x	
Other (Please specify)		

5. How many people are involved in your organisation?

Management committee	3	Service users	
Full Time staff / workers	2	Volunteers and helpers (non-management)	8
Part Time staff / workers	2		

6. What is the purpose of your organisation? Please briefly describe why your organisation was set up, its aims and objectives and who primarily benefits from your organisation.

Unit Twenty Three is a social enterprise that aims to support the development of young people and creative enterprise. Unit Twenty Three delivers programmes for which it has been commissioned or provided with grant funding to enable. Our focus of work is on areas of economic or cultural deprivation and need for the development of great art & a great future workforce to deliver this for everyone. We produce professional arts work and support young artists to achieve success.

We set up because there was no such organisation focussed on bringing high quality professional work together with community focussed projects and the team all had relevant & varied experiences to help make this happen. Our primary beneficiaries are young people participating in or receiving our work.

7. What was your organisation's total income for last financial year?
8. What was your organisation's total expenditure for last financial year?
9. Does your organisation have more than six months running costs? **Yes/No**
10. What are your organisation's current unrestricted reserves or savings?
11. West Suffolk prioritises building resilient families and communities that are healthy and active. Please indicate which of the following areas your project contributes towards:

	A thriving voluntary sector and active communities who take the initiative to help the most vulnerable.
	People playing a greater role in determining the future of their communities.
x	Improved wellbeing, physical and mental health.
	Accessible countryside and green spaces.

About your project – why are you applying for this funding?

12. What do you want the funding for? Please be specific. Please note that 'project' is meant to describe the project for which you are seeking funding, and not your organisation.

The Project is inspired by Freefall, a powerful play developed by Young Carers and professional artists. We have been through a phase of development, funded by Arts Council England primarily, which enabled us to invite representatives such as West Suffolk MYP Toby Jeffrey and his colleagues to participate in an exchange and to feedback on the project development over this year.

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The project is seeking to work in Suffolk, Norfolk & Cambridgeshire over a 4 week period. We hope to spend 2 weeks in the Suffolk area with your support.

Across the project we will:

- 1) Secure bookings to community venues and schools;
- 2) Train approximately 8 young Carers (YC's) in workshop facilitation over 6 sessions, enabling them to become TalkOut Leaders of post-show workshops
- 3) Facilitate meetings with local agencies and charities, eg Crossroads Care East Anglia & Suffolk Family Carers (Carers agencies) to maximise local engagement;
- 4) Co-create with YCs and local agencies a toolkit of support for distribution during workshops and by community leaders and services post-workshops;

- 5) Support the YCs to deliver 32 post show 'Talkout' workshops over 4 weeks to approximately 2000 young people (800+ in West Suffolk), their teachers and families about Young Caring, using Freefall as a stimulus;
- 6) Signpost and facilitate links to available support for those affected;
- 7) Run regular project monitoring, using evaluations, participant & audience feedback, meetings of partners and theatre creators, and data-tracking of identified YC's;
- 8) Support YCs to work towards an Arts Award qualification in recognition of their communication, creativity & leadership skills;
- 9) Secure 5 local businesses in a Making it Work session post-workshops. Making It Work sessions assist YCs to translate their work on the Project into something employers and universities will recognise and reward; afford Young Carers valuable local networking opportunities; educate employers on the issues and abilities of YCs, and obtain work experience opportunities from the businesses.

We are specifically looking for support to cover the costs of touring the project (performance & talk-out workshops) for one week within the Borough. As part of our wider funding efforts this will then bring ongoing partnership work with our partners within the Borough, resources for all participating schools, and open opportunities for further follow up opportunities with young people.

We will engage with young people in West Suffolk primarily through the Bury St Edmunds Youth Forum & Music Arts Projects (Forest Heath) in the development of the work as well adult support workers from our partner care agencies; building on our existing consultations & development. We will also work with the West Suffolk council officers on outreach & engagement with both young people directly and with the local schools. The schools will also be invited to take part in the project (if not already) through our partnership with Creative Arts East, the carer agencies & via Suffolk County Council.

In the long term we hope to further tour the project, engaging more young carers from West Suffolk in our training opportunities and bringing their voice to more schools, a wider area and in identified areas of need nationally.

13. How has the project been developed out of the community's desire to improve the lives of local people? What evidence do you have that there is a need for this project? Please include sources of evidence, including any public/user/community consultation.

Unit Twenty Three Director, Emrys Green, grew up in West Suffolk and co-founded the Bury St Edmunds Youth Council in 2004 which engaged young people for several years as well as being the Member of Youth Parliament for West Suffolk. Co-Director Tom also grew up in St Edmundsbury and this first hand experience as a service user ensures we know what it takes to help improve the lives of young people in West Suffolk. Still resident in part within the area and actively engaging both personally and through Unit Twenty Three with community groups, we've established that there is a need within the area to provide such a unique and innovative approach to raising awareness of the issues at hand.

Research shows that young carers are likely to attain low educational success and be NEET (Children's Society, 2013) and as evidenced through the work with Suffolk's Raising The Bar initiative we believe that our targeted intervention work with affected young people will help to raise aspirations and attainment within the area.

Moreover, by maintaining ongoing conversations with continuing youth representatives, engaging with schools & other community organisations (such as Bury St Edmunds Youth Forum, Music Arts Projects & Suffolk Family Carers) we have ensured that the work has been shaped to have the most impact possible. We are seeking funding & working hard to ensure that we can continue the project with the most possible community engagement, raise awareness through press relations and digital media channels.

As aforementioned, we invited local partners & funders to experience the work in development at one of 3 sharing opportunities. This process of exchange and consultation has secured direct development from local people as general residents & professional artists. We will continue this iterative process with our professional artists, young people & support agencies to have the best possible impact.

In St Edmundsbury there were 527 young carers identified in the 2011 Census and it is expected that there is a far greater number who remain unidentified despite the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Suffolk Carers in October 2014 stipulating awareness raising work with & in schools. Our project will bring such an identified need to the forefront and engage schools & their pupils in an innovate and unique way that will be much more impactful than a typical assembly.

14. How will the project help local people to support one another?

We will be training local young carers to facilitate the talk-out workshops. They will then support young people to self-identify & engage with support services provided by Suffolk Family Carers & Crossroads East Anglia as needed.

Our programme of work also ensures that teachers & community leaders become better aware of the support young carers need & the valuable impact they make to the community as an enabler and in economic terms (reducing long term care bills).

Our work can continue to support the community through the resources we create and share long after our workshops, although we are developing the project with further future tour ambitions too.

The project has been designed in clear reference to the Healthy Schools Award; ensuring that our work contributes to the objectives and can be used as one source of evidence for schools making an application. The repercussions of this will be for local people to support their peers & schoolchildren on leading healthier lives. In our case this is focussed on mental health & wellbeing.

Schools receiving our project will also be able to use it towards their attainment of the Suffolk Young Carer Schools Award.

The approach of using high quality theatre with a large digital component, coupled with talk-out workshops & ongoing resources ensure that the work is memorable & innovative in the approach of sharing the messages.

15. Are you working with any other organisations on this project? **Yes / No**

If yes, please state the names of these groups and the nature of the relationship.

Crossroads Care East Anglia – The Young Carers experts within the region (head office in Bury St Edmunds) and Carers Trust Network partner. They are facilitating links with local young carers groups, enabling young people to influence the development of the piece & co-developing the support materials available.

Suffolk Family Carers – We are working with SFC to ensure the voice of local Suffolk Young Carers are heard & that the relevant support services will be in place for any identified young people through the project. They will also be another conduit to more schools within West Suffolk through their existing work.

Music Arts Projects CIC – Based in Brandon, MAP are working with us on the Suffolk community focus, bringing their service users & expertise within West Suffolk to the piece and facilitating schools access.

John Peel Centre (Stowmarket) – Are working with us to provide local space for rehearsals and to commence our performance programme within Suffolk – being accessible to young people & families from St Edmundsbury in particular this enables us to reach those that may not have the opportunity through schools.

Creative Arts East – As the region’s rural touring organisation they are supporting us with the structure & development of the tour to disadvantaged areas, providing direct subsidy for schools participation in other areas of the region and supporting with contacts.

20Twenty Productions – Creative People & Places Consortium partner for the Marketplaces Initiative; 20Twenty are also providing free rehearsal space and specifically subsidising our work with Cambridgeshire as well as facilitating young people to participate in our development whilst contributing to their Arts Award accreditations.

Arts North Norfolk – A community arts charity working with disadvantaged young people in Norfolk to engage them in activity and are working with us to bring quality arts work to their area as part of an audience development strategy.

Bury St Edmunds Youth Forum – We are working with the Youth Forum to ensure that the messaging around peer support, mental health issues & anti-bullying are proportionate and appropriate for young people participating in the tour who may not themselves identify as young carers, but who may know those that are.

These partnerships have grown out of the engagement of all partners in the initial development stages of the project and inviting all the above to our sharing opportunities so they could witness first hand the quality & impact of the work. We also had a number of young representatives, councils & funders present at these sharings who have helped to shape the ongoing shape of our work across the region and in West Suffolk.

Once funded for a particular area we will continue our development of local community partners and we hope to engage with organisations such as AC Leisure, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, Brandon Town Council & Bury St Edmunds Town Council.

16. When will the project start?

17. When will the project finish? or is the project ongoing?

If this is an ongoing project, how will it be funded and continue going when the funding ends?

Our project is phased and the completion of this local tour of the project will not be the end of it. It is a point for us to review how effective our engagement has been, use feedback to shape the future, and plan out ongoing development. We hope to tour the project again in the Autumn of 2016 and beyond.

18. Which years funding are you applying for?

19. How many people do you expect to benefit directly from the project on either a weekly, monthly or annual basis?

20. What results (including targets/numbers) do you expect to see as a result of the funding and how do these relate to the Community Chest funding criteria?

3000 Audience Members over the 4 weeks. (1 week in the borough) – Preventative measure & support to early access of young carer support services (as per the Families & Communities Strategy Priorities) We expect this to be around 1500 people from West Suffolk.

32 Schools Performances (16 in West Suffolk)

8 Young Carers Trained in workshop facilitation, Teachers at all schools & community leaders participating all building their capacity to support each other within West Suffolk.

Engage with 3+ third sector agencies involved in delivering support services for young people & young carers – developing cohesion & capacity of the networks to work together & support the local community.

20+ young people engaged in the development process of information resources & the production (community involvement in producing the work).

The young people engaged in the ongoing development process will help form a legacy for West Suffolk, with researched and presented clear information & resource packs designed to support young people in West Suffolk. The improved knowledge & understanding of school teachers will have a profound impact on the support & attainment of young carers for years to come. We will work with Schools & local care agencies to encourage young carers champions, and to facilitate the dissemination of the latest information.

We will be taking feedback from all community partners, audience members and young people in active format so that we can ensure they are fully engaged from the outset, to the participation, to the future shape of the project in preparation for returning again.

Our work will continue to be influenced by our partners within West Suffolk and by working with them to access more young people and establish community engagement through direct & representative methods.

21. What is the total cost of the project?

£74,761

Please provide a full breakdown of the total cost of this project, including VAT if applicable along with any in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours.

Item or activity	Cost (£)
Please see attached detailed budget breakdown. We are specifically asking you for 1 week's touring costs plus a small contribution towards the project management.	
Total cost of items listed above:	

22. How much funding are you applying to us for?

£5,000

23. What funds have you raised so far for this project?

Source	Amount (£)
Private Fundraising Event (Hosted by Arbuthnot Private Bank)	2,000
Children In Need grant	9,750
Awards for All grant	9,924
Private Donations	150
Creative Arts East Subsidy	1,000
20Twenty Productions Subsidy	2,000
Arts North Norfolk	2,800
Total fundraising:	27,624

24. What other funders have you applied to for further funding for the project?

Funder	Amount (£)	Timescale for decision
Arts Council England	28,000	October 2015
Forest Heath District Council (FH Leg of tour)	5,000	October 2015
Foyle Foundation, Cambridgeshire Community Foundation & other trusts – applications in progress	6,441	November 2015
Income from other schools	1,800	November 2015
Venue Ticket projection	896	January 2016
Total:	42,137	

25. What other grants and contracts has your organisation received over the past year from either Forest Heath District Council or St Edmundsbury Borough Council?

Funder	Amount (£)	Reason for funding
0		
Total:		