

Supporting our grantees during COVID-19

We understand that the COVID-19 crisis will affect all of our grantees and their ability to deliver their projects. We know that social distancing measures and the closure of schools will mean that many projects will need to be paused, or delivered differently. We want to reassure all of our grantees that we understand this and will work with you to try and work through your individual needs. We hope that this information will help to provide some reassurance to you about how we will do this.

Grant payments

We will ensure that grant payments due to be paid to our grantees in the quarter April – June 2020 reach you as intended. We will still need to gather grant monitoring information from you, but we will be as flexible as we can be about when you provide this to us.

Changing how you spend your grant

For projects that are able to adapt delivery methods so that projects can continue whilst adhering to UK government guideline, our Grants and Evaluation Teams will work with you to ensure that where we can agree changes these are done as swiftly as possible. However we understand that adaption will not be possible for everyone. Where this is the case, we are happy for projects to be paused. Once further information is available from the government regarding the relaxation of social distancing measures, we will work with each of our grantees to agree a revised delivery and evaluation timetable for your project. We will also review grant budgets, and be open to appropriate changes in budget as needed.

YEF funding and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

YEF funding is public funding. Where we have provided funding to explicitly cover staffing costs, presently the funding for these costs remains available. However we have a responsibility to ensure that there is no duplication as to how staff costs are being funded. If you are an existing YEF grantee and are considering furloughing staff and applying support from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, we would ask you to speak to your Grant Manager so that we can discuss your specific circumstances with you.

YEF's approach to evaluation

The COVID-19 crisis makes progress on evaluating projects challenging. Many projects are facing difficulties in reaching and engaging with young people currently. We understand the capacity of some projects to engage with and plan evaluation activity is



reduced. In these circumstances, pausing the evaluation may be the most appropriate strategy. However, we also know that other projects are adapting to new models that can be implemented during social distancing and would like the ability to learn from this. Where projects and evaluators wish to learn from activity being delivered during social distancing, YEF will explore supporting this activity and is committed to this learning. Across all of YEF's discussions with projects regarding evaluations, we will be guided by the principle that no project should be penalised for an evaluation not proceeding as originally planned because of the COVID-19 crisis.