

# Stage 1

# Expression of Interest

# Toolkit

# LandAid

## Young Futures Fund

### 2026

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# The Toolkit

Thank you for your interest in **LandAid’s Young Futures Fund 2026**. This toolkit outlines the Stage 1 application process (called the “Expression of Interest”). The aim of this first stage is to provide a short introduction to the project you are looking for LandAid to fund, without asking you for lots of additional information. If we think the project closely aligns with the aims of the Fund and has a good chance of securing a grant, we will invite you to Stage 2, when you will be asked to submit a more detailed application.

We aim to be transparent in how we make funding decisions, so this resource includes the timeline, criteria and assessment approach. Please review the toolkit in full before submitting your Stage 1 Expression of Interest. A glossary of key terms is included at the end of the document.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [grants@landaid.org](mailto:grants@landaid.org) .

The deadline for Stage 1 Expressions of Interest is **Friday 22 May 2026**.

## Contents of this Toolkit

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# 1. Young Futures Fund 2026 Summary

## Available Grant Support

The LandAid Young Futures Fund (“the Fund”), offers one-year grants ranging from £5,000 to £40,000.

## Essential Funding Criteria

To be eligible for funding, your application must meet all the following criteria:

<b>Homes</b>	<p><b>Your project must focus on increasing access to safe, secure and affordable housing, alongside services that help young people maintain tenancies, manage their homes, and build independence.</b></p> <p>Examples of eligible projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency accommodation, including community-based models</li><li>• Supported accommodation, including support worker costs and independent living support</li><li>• Move on options such as rent deposit schemes and move on support</li><li>• Tenancy sustainment support, including home starter packs, essential furniture and furnishings,</li></ul>
<b>Young People</b>	<p><b>Projects must primarily support young people aged 16–25 who are experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.</b></p> <p>Your organisation does not need to work exclusively on youth homelessness, but you must demonstrate clear experience and expertise in supporting 16–25-year-olds who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>LandAid funding <b>can only</b> support work with young people aged 16–25.</p>
<b>Rooted in communities</b>	<p>We prioritise frontline organisations and services with strong local links, networks, and insight into the needs of the young people in their communities.</p>

	Young people’s needs – and their voice – should play a role in how you shape the project design and delivery.
<b>Timeframe</b>	The grants will fund projects and services over a period of <b>12 months</b> with flexibility for any necessary set up period and reasonable adjustments as required.
<b>Geographical areas</b>	We can only fund work that takes place in the UK and is for the benefit of people living in the UK.  Available funding is based on regional budgets.
<b>Governance</b>	Your organisation must be <b>not-for-profit</b> , with income used solely to further charitable aims.  Your organisation must have an independent board or governing body.
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Your organisation must have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A safeguarding policy in your organisation’s name, outlining clear reporting and escalation procedures</li> <li>• A named safeguarding lead or representative</li> <li>• Regular safeguarding training and appropriate background checks for relevant staff and volunteers</li> </ul>

## Supporting over-represented groups

Some young people are more likely to be at risk of homelessness than others. We will prioritise projects that **primarily support** young people who are over-represented among those experiencing homelessness, including:

- Communities experiencing racial inequity
- Care leavers
- LGBTQAI+ young people
- Young people seeking asylum or refugees
- Young people affected by domestic violence or abuse
- Young people with a disability

A project will be considered to “primarily support” if **over 50%** of the target audience identifies with one or more of these groups

## Key Eligibility

<b>Capital funding</b>	Refurbishments, fixtures and fittings are eligible for support.
<b>Employability, education and training</b>	We will be focusing on funding homes and housing projects rather than standalone education, employment or training projects through this fund in 2026.
<b>Grants to Individuals</b>	Our focus is on providing grants towards organisations.
<b>Match funding</b>	We can either match-fund, part-fund or fully-fund eligible projects.
<b>Faith organisations</b>	Are eligible if the project meets our criteria and is not for the promotion of religion and/or cultural beliefs.
<b>Multiple grants</b>	Organisations may hold multiple LandAid grants at once, provided they are for different projects.
<b>Repeat applications</b>	We are happy to fund projects we have supported before. We do not require new elements – what matters is that the project meets young people’s needs and responds to its local context.  However, please don’t assume we have prior knowledge of your project, we will still require you to provide the requested information.
<b>Partnership applications</b>	Partnerships are welcome. The lead partner should hold the funds and take responsibility for delivery and reporting.
<b>Core costs and overheads</b>	This fund focusses on supporting frontline delivery. We will fund a reasonable and related proportion of overhead/support costs within project budgets.
<b>Retrospective and statutory funding</b>	We are only able to fund work that has not yet happened, is not a statutory responsibility or cannot be reasonably funded by an organisation themselves.

## 2. Application Process

Stage	Key Dates	What You Need to Do / What Happens
Fund Launch	Monday 27 April 2026	The Young Futures Fund is open for Stage 1 applications.
Stage 1 Expression of Interest (EOI)	Opens: Monday 27 April 2026 Closes: Friday 22 May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Complete the eligibility quiz</li> <li>- Review the toolkit guidance</li> <li>- Submit your EOI application</li> </ul>
EOI Review	Mid-June 2026	LandAid reviews applications and informs applicants of the outcome.
Stage 2 Full Application	Mid-June to early July 2026	Shortlisted organisations are invited to submit a full application.
Full Application Review	Mid-August 2026	Final funding decisions are made and communicated.
Post-Decision	From September 2026	Successful applicants complete paperwork, receive funding, and begin project delivery.



### 3. Assessment Criteria

Below are the assessment criteria we will use to review your project so you can understand what we are looking for, the information you'll need to provide, and how we will make our funding decisions. We won't ask for all of this information at the Expression of Interest stage but keep it in mind when you are planning your application.

Assessment Area	What we are looking for
1. Impact focus	<p>We want to fund projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• focus on homes and housing</li> <li>• are delivering frontline services / direct engagement with young people</li> <li>• are rooted in local communities</li> <li>• support homeless experienced young people and or those who are at higher risk of homelessness.</li> </ul>
2. Rooted in Communities	<p>We are looking for projects that show a clear understanding of the needs of homeless experienced young people in the local area. You should explain why your project is needed and how your work will support these needs.</p>
3. Project Plans	<p>We want to see that your project is well planned and realistic. Please describe your service model or delivery approach, along with your budget and staffing (if relevant). You should also demonstrate your organisation's experience and how you work with local partners.</p>
4. Youth Voice	<p>We aim to support projects that are youth-centred. Show how young people shape your work, take part in decision-making, and feel included and supported.</p>
5. Organisation Structure	<p>We will assess whether your organisation is in a good position to deliver the project. This includes checking the organisations finances, governance, safeguarding, and other processes that ensure safe and effective delivery.</p>
6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	<p>We want to fund projects that can demonstrate impact. We will ask about how you will measure outcomes, collect learning, and understand what difference your project is making.</p>

## 4. Completing your EOI form

The Expression of Interest (EOI) form is the first step in applying to the LandAid Young Futures Fund 2026. It helps us understand your organisation and proposed project, but we don't want you to spend a lot of time providing information we might not need. We are expecting a high volume of Stage 1 applications, so the EOI has been kept brief and focused on essential criteria. If you are invited to submit a full application, you will be able to provide more detail, including information about the outcomes your project aims to achieve. Further guidance will be shared on this if you are invited to this stage.

The EOI questions mirror our main assessment criteria. A summary of the information requested is included in the table below.

EOI Section	Information Requested
Essential Requirements: Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How your project focuses on the target group of young people</li> <li>• How your project focuses on delivering housing related services</li> <li>• Project location</li> <li>• Delivery timeframe</li> </ul>
Essential Requirements: Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal Status</li> <li>• Governing board information</li> <li>• Safeguarding information</li> </ul>
Organisation information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name</li> <li>• Charity Number</li> <li>• Contact details</li> <li>• Organisation experience</li> </ul>
Primary Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary contact details</li> </ul>
Project Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What your young people's needs are</li> <li>• Brief project description including delivery plans, track records and partnerships</li> <li>• How many young people you plan to support</li> <li>• Whether you are supporting young people overrepresented in homelessness</li> <li>• Funding requested</li> </ul>

## Glossary: Key Definitions

When we say	We mean
Affordable Housing	Housing that is reasonably priced for individuals on low incomes, allowing them to meet other essential living costs.
At Risk of Homelessness	Young people who are likely to lose their housing due to factors such as family breakdown, financial hardship, unsafe living conditions, or leaving care.
Care Leaver	A young person who has previously been in the care of a local authority.
Co-designed / Youth-led	Projects that are shaped or led by young people, ensuring their voices, experiences, and ideas influence how services are designed and delivered.
Community-Based Model	A project or service delivered within a local area, often working closely with local partners and responding directly to community needs.
Communities experiencing racial inequity	Communities that experience inequity as a result of their race or ethnic group which may be related to their national/geographical origin, skin colours, and other identities. This is often referred to as "Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic" or BAME.
Delivery Plan	A clear outline of how a project will be carried out, including activities, timelines, staffing, and resources.
Emergency Accommodation	Short-term housing provided to individuals in immediate need of a safe place to stay.
Frontline Services	Services that work directly with beneficiaries, providing practical support rather than strategic or administrative functions.
Governance	The systems and processes in place to ensure an organisation is well-managed, accountable, and operating in line with its purpose.
Homelessness (Young People)	A situation where a young person does not have a safe, stable, or suitable place to live.
Independent Living	The ability for a young person to manage their own home, finances, and daily life without ongoing support.
LGBTQIA+ Young People	Young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, asexual, or other diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

<b>Match Funding</b>	Funding provided by another source that contributes to the total cost of a project alongside the grant requested.
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	The process of tracking a project's progress and measuring its outcomes to understand its effectiveness and impact.
<b>Move-on Support</b>	Support that helps individuals transition from temporary or supported accommodation into longer-term, stable housing.
<b>Not-for-Profit Organisation</b>	An organisation that reinvests any income back into its work to achieve its aims, rather than distributing profits to owners or shareholders.
<b>Outcomes</b>	The changes or benefits that result from a project (e.g. improved wellbeing, sustained housing, increased independence).
<b>Outputs</b>	The direct activities or services delivered by a project (e.g. number of young people supported, number of sessions delivered).
<b>Overrepresented Groups</b>	Groups of young people who are disproportionately affected by homelessness, such as care leavers, LGBTQIA+ young people, or those from minority ethnic backgrounds.
<b>Project Budget</b>	A breakdown of the costs required to deliver a project, including staffing, activities, and resources.
<b>Pro Bono Support</b>	Professional services or expertise provided free of charge, often by corporate partners.
<b>Safeguarding</b>	The measures taken to protect young people from harm, abuse, or neglect, and to ensure their wellbeing.
<b>Statutory Services</b>	Services that public authorities (such as local councils) are legally required to provide.
<b>Supported Accommodation</b>	Housing that includes additional support services to help individuals live independently.
<b>Tenancy Sustainment</b>	Support that helps individuals maintain their housing, such as budgeting advice, life skills, or ongoing support.
<b>Young People (16–25)</b>	The target group for this fund, referring to individuals aged between 16 and 25 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
<b>Young People Seeking Asylum or Refugees</b>	Young people who have left their home country due to conflict, persecution, or danger. Asylum seekers are waiting for a decision on their right to stay, while refugees have been granted protection.

<b>Young People with a Disability</b>	Young people who have a physical, sensory, learning, or mental health condition that has a significant impact on their daily life. This may include visible and non-visible disabilities.
<b>Young People Affected by Domestic Violence or Abuse</b>	Young people who have experienced abuse in a personal or family relationship. This can include physical, emotional, sexual, or financial abuse, and may impact their safety, wellbeing, and housing situation.