

Seasons of Culture 26: Nature

Welcome
the session
will start shortly



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Mayor of
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Programme Overview

Overview of **Seasons of Culture**

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Leeds City Council Seasons of Culture project funding

Budget for Grants Programme:
£250,000

Grants available from
£3,000 – £15,000

A minimum of 10% cash match
required for each project

Deadline
Tuesday 21 April 2026, 12pm



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**Seasons of
Culture
Leeds: Nature**

Activity in green & blue
spaces

Nature recovery

Active travel

Celebrating Leeds 400



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Activity in green & blue spaces

Outdoor performances, exhibitions
and participatory workshops

Intergenerational gardening and arts
programme

Creative walks & sensory trails

Sculpture and land art

Waterside sound & music projects



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Nature recovery

Nature-themed performances,
exhibitions, events

Create pollinator-friendly art
installations that double as habitat

Seed-bomb making combined with
storytelling around local species

Digital Nature Recovery Stories



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Active travel

Storytelling walks

Art marked cycling trials

Sketch and stroll sessions

Wayfinding mural-making

Cycling performance



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**Leeds 400
400th
anniversary of
Leeds city charter**

A city of

- Culture
- Heritage
- Sport
- Innovation
- Learning
- Communities

A city for the Future



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Who Can Apply

Individuals who live in Leeds

Organisations, community groups who have a registered address in Leeds

Leeds based education institutions with public-facing activity

Partnerships with a lead applicant who have a registered address in Leeds

Leeds City Council Projects Teams



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2026 Timeline

Applications open: Thursday 12 April

Applications close: Tuesday 21 April @12pm

Application results: Mid-June

Project start date: 1 July 2026

Project end date: 18 November 26



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What Cannot Be Funded

Non-nature related activity

Continuation of existing projects

Projects that are not creative

Core costs, overheads, sports, fundraising, capital equipment



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Application Process

Online Portal Application form

leedscultureprogrammes.org.uk/seasons-culture-2026

Please complete the application form and submit

- SoC Budget
- SoC EDI form
- Additional material to support application
- Provide cash match evidence if confirmed



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Application form

About your project

Please answer each question.

What is the name of your project? *

What is the start date of your project? *

 

The start date of this project must be on or after Wednesday 1 July 2026.

What is the end date of your project? *

 

This should be the date of when the proposed funded activity would be completed. All projects must be completed by Wednesday 18 November 2026.

What is the main form of cultural activity in your project? *

 

Application form

? Project costs

What is the total cost of your project (£s)? *

How much funding are you applying to us for (£s)? *

Project activity

Q1 Summarise your project. *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q2 Why do you want to do it? *

200 words

200 word(s) remaining



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Q3 How will your project engage people with nature, sustainability, or climate resilience, and how will it help support or encourage nature recovery? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q4 Where will your project take place and, if it's in a natural space (like a park), how will you make sure your activities protect or improve the environment? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q5 How will your project help people connect with nature, and what will you do to involve or inspire them about the environment, wildlife, or storytelling about nature? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining



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Application form

Q6 What steps will you be taking to reduce the environmental impact of your project, and how will you encourage more sustainable travel choices e.g. walking, cycling or public transport? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q7 What benefits do you expect your project to create, how will you encourage long term change or connection with nature, and will any partners help you achieve these goals? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q8 What is the delivery plan and timeline for the project? *

100 words.

100 word(s) remaining

Q9 Tell us here about your communication, engagement and marketing plans. *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining



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Application form

Q10 What steps are you taking to consider accessibility within your project? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q11 How will your project be inclusive and reflect the diversity of our city? *

200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Q12 How will your project make a positive contribution to health and wellbeing? *

Please tell us how your project will support people to live actively, healthy and mentally healthy lives. (200 words).

200 word(s) remaining



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Application form

Q13 What are your goals for this project?

Please provide us with your 4 most important measurable goals for your project. The goals must be SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound.

i.e. "Arthouse will deliver 12 dance workshops with 75 participants aged 65+ in East Leeds by November 2025."

Goal 1 *

Goal 2 *

Goal 3 *

Goal 4 *



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Application form

Q14 What are the risks to delivering your project and how will you tackle them? *

Up to 200 words.

200 word(s) remaining

Project Beneficiaries

How many people will benefit from your project?

Artists/creatives

Volunteers



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Participants

Please estimate the total number of people who you want to engage with and their approximate age group. If a participant is engaged in repeated activity, such as a class or course, please only count them once.

Number of people per age range

TOTAL

Aged 0-5

0

Aged 6-11

0

Aged 12-15

0

Aged 16-19

0

Aged 20-24

0

Aged 25-64

0

Aged over 65

0

Not age specific

0

Participant Total



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Audience

Please estimate the total number of audiences, viewers and spectators, including outdoor, public, non-ticketed events.

Number of people per age range	TOTAL
Aged 0-5	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Aged 6-11	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Aged 12-15	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Aged 16-19	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Aged 20-24	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Aged 25-64	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Aged over 65	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Not age specific	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Audience Total	<input type="text"/>

Broadcast/online audiences *

Please do not count social media engagement in your broadcast/online audiences. Examples of what can be included are streamed performances, virtual galleries, podcast downloads, etc. Please make sure that '0' is showing in this field if you have nothing to add.



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Application form

Will your work be targeted at a specific group? *

Yes

No

If yes, select up to 3 groups which you will target your work to *

Ethnically diverse people Men Women Non-binary people Disabled people

Mental health LGBT+ Older people (over 55) Pupils in schools

People in school (teachers, governors, support staff etc) Younger people (under 25) Carers

People with challenging lives (e.g., those who are socially excluded, those from a low-income household, young people at risk, in care or NEET)

Religious or Belief Communities

Which Leeds ward(s) will your activity take place in? (Select all that apply) *

[Find your ward](#) [ⓘ].



Bramley and Stanningley



Project outputs – How many of each output will your project deliver?

Year	New cultural activities, products	Performances or exhibition days	Learning or participation sessions	Days employment for freelance artists & creatives	Training opportunities	Volunteer opportunities
Year 1	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>



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Application form

Attachments

Please remember to also include the following attachments with your application:

For all applicants

Completed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring form [Download our EDI template here](#) DO NOT ADD ANY ADDITIONAL ROWS OR COLUMNS. DO NOT REMOVE ANY ROWS OR COLUMNS. DO NOT CHANGE THE FILE TYPE. Project Budget.

Your budget will need to show a breakdown of your income and your expenditure, including descriptions. The budget should balance to £0. [Download our budget template here](#) DO NOT ADD ANY ADDITIONAL ROWS OR COLUMNS. DO NOT REMOVE ANY ROWS OR COLUMNS. DO NOT CHANGE THE FILE TYPE.

For organisations

- Governance documents e.g. Articles of Association
- Most recent set of end of year or audited accounts



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Please complete the entire project income in the table below, including whether your funding is confirmed and a written description in the supplied narrative column. You must complete all the relevant columns for your budget to be accepted.

Please note that we require evidence of match funding from other funders. If you do not yet have confirmation please write a proposed date for when you will receive it.

Project Income	Total Amount (£)	Confirmed (Y/N)	Narrative i.e. list of funders, potential dates for funding confirmation, etc.
FUNDING REQUESTED IN THIS APPLICATION	£0		£3,000 - £15,000
Leeds City Council (LCC): other designated funding	£0		
Other local authorities	£0		
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	£0		
Arts Council England	£0		
National Lottery Heritage Fund	£0		
Other public funding	£0		
Trusts and Foundation	£0		
Donations including cash sponsorship	£0		
Earned income (eg ticket sales)	£0		
Crowd funding (eg. Kickstarter)	£0		
In-kind support (cash value)	£0		
Total match funding (funding requested & in-kind)	£0		
Total income (including funding requested & in-kind)	£0		
% of match funding	0%		

Expenditure

Please complete the table below providing the expenditure for your whole project, and a written description in the supplied narrative column. You must complete all the relevant columns for your budget to be accepted.

The grant breakdown is a specific section for providing cost details regarding how you will be spending the money you have requested. Please also supply a written description of funding costs in the supplied narrative column. If you have included in-kind support in the income you should include this in the expenditure.

Project Expenditure	Total Amount (£)	Funding requested expenditure breakdown	Narrative i.e. staffing, marketing, support costs, equipment type, etc.
Artistic costs	£0	£0	
Project management costs	£0	£0	
Marketing costs	£0	£0	
Education and outreach	£0	£0	
Equipment hire costs	£0	£0	
Venue hire costs	£0	£0	
Access costs	£0	£0	
Other costs	£0	£0	
Total Expenditure	£0	£0	
Income minus expenditure	£0		
Breakdown Total		£0	The breakdown total should be zero as you need to allocate all the funding you are requesting from the programme



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Decision Making

Panel of LCC officers
and external
assessors

Balancing across
city, artforms, artists
and organisations

Useful Links

WYCA Restoring Nature: westyorks-ca.gov.uk/place/environment-and-regeneration/restoring-nature/

Leeds City Council Climate Change: leeds.gov.uk/plans-and-strategies/climate-change

Carbon Trust: Green Events: carbontrust.com/our-work-and-impact/guides-reports-and-tools/green-events-guide

SAIL Sustainable Arts in Leeds SAIL: wearesail.org

Apply: leedscultureprogrammes.org.uk/seasons-culture-2026

Deadline: **Tuesday 21 April @12pm**



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