

# APPLICATION FORM FOR GRANT 24/25

Please read the policy on pages 1, 2 and 3 **before** filling in the form.

1. Name/Address of Organisation:

Weymouth Skatepark Association (WSA)

The Front Skatepark, Preston Beach Road, Weymouth DT4 7SX

Name of person making the application:

Mrs Lisa Kille

Position in organisation:

The Front Skatepark Manager

Contact phone number:

Supplied

Email address:

hello@weymouthskatepark.co.uk

## About Your Organisation

2. Does your organisation:

Have its own bank account, which requires two unrelated people to authorise cheques and make withdrawals?	Yes
Have at least three members on its management committee	Yes
Have a constitution, terms of reference or set of rules ( <i>please contact for help with this if needed</i> )	Yes
Have paid employees	Yes
Recruit and train volunteers?	Yes

3. Are you a registered charity?:

Yes

If so, please give your charity number:

1085208

4. Is your organisation part of, or affiliated to, a larger organisation?

No

If so, which?

N/A

5. Aims and objectives of your organisation; What does your organisation do and how does it benefit the residents of Weymouth?

WSA's overall objective is to provide a high-quality staffed extreme sports facility in Weymouth, with the aim of enhancing the sports and recreational opportunities of people living in Weymouth and the surrounding areas, as well as welcoming visitors from further afield.

WSA is responsible for The Front, a long-established purpose-built community Skatepark on Weymouth seafront, where locals and visitors can enjoy a range of extreme sports and spend quality time in a safe, welcoming and exciting environment, with open-air ramps, an undercover ramp room, and indoor snack bar, skate shop and social area.

Staff run all-year-round sessions, occasional events, deliver coaching, and manage group visits including from local schools. They also provide volunteering opportunities which enable locals to help out at The Front while building up skills and self-confidence, with work experience placements being very popular with Weymouth schools' pupils.

We know from direct contact with many Weymouth families that they appreciate all The Front has to offer. Parents of children and young people who spend time there can feel confident, knowing that the ramps are well-maintained and staff are fully trained, including in Health & Safety, First Aid and Safeguarding. Children and young people like being somewhere where they can practice their chosen sports without pressure, learn from others who share similar interests, and interact with knowledgeable and supportive staff and volunteers who are always around to offer low-key help if needed. Overall, The Front provides a positive alternative to the streets and unmanned skateparks for local children and young people who love extreme sports.

The Front staff also welcome other residents, through links made within the local community; for example with Weymouth's Veterans' Hub, with some veterans coming to help out with ramp building; and with Weymouth-based Dorset Abilities Group, with people with disabilities and additional needs able to enjoy socialising and in some cases gain basic skateboard skills, helped by our trained coaches.

6. Where does your organisation meet?

At The Front Skatepark, Preston Beach Road, Weymouth DT4 7SX

7. How often do you meet?

The Front Skatepark is open 5 days a week, with session times varying seasonally.

8. How many members does your organisation have?

The Front currently has approximately 350 regular members from Weymouth and the surrounding local areas.

9. How many people will benefit from this funding?

Everyone using The Front will benefit – members as in our answer to Q8, plus locals including children and young people attending in groups – for example groups from local schools including those with SEN provision, and people who belong to the Dorset Abilities Group, plus locals including young people who volunteer at The Front, and also day visitors.

10. How many of these are Weymouth Town Council area residents?

Approx 95%

11. How much funding are you applying for?

£3,000

12. What is the total cost of your project?

£6,000

**NOTE:** Weymouth Town Council will only approve allocations up to £5,000 in exceptional, urgent circumstances that are clearly detailed in question 15, with regard to the information in Policy point 6.

13. Briefly describe the project or purchase you would like the funding for:

We are planning to carry out a much-needed complete overhaul and resurfacing of The Front's mini-ramp, and we are seeking funding to cover the cost of purchasing the surfacing material.

We have had a mini-ramp at The Front from day one; it is one of the most popular ramps among people of all ages and skill levels from beginner to elite, and consequently gets a very high level of use.

Despite its name, the mini is a wide and shallow ramp around 24ft square in size. It was originally surfaced in plywood, but in recent years we have used a specialist material called Skatelite, which provides an excellent riding surface, is much longer-lasting than plywood, is weather-resistant, and doesn't need painting. It is also environmentally friendly, being manufactured – unlikely as it may sound – from recycled paper.

Unfortunately though, rising costs mean replacing it now would be much more costly than before; but we have been in talks with the supplier, and they have told us about a material called Drumlite, which has exactly the same properties as Skatelite, but is made from the ends of rolls, is very slightly smaller in size, and – most importantly – is significantly cheaper in price. So our bid is for funds to cover the cost of purchasing Drumlite, which will represent excellent value for money, as well as being a green solution, and will be much appreciated by all our users at The Front.

14. Which of the Council's priorities does the project contribute to?

- Improve the wellbeing of the people of Weymouth.
- Work to become greener and cleaner in our activities as well as supporting our communities and partners to be as green as possible.

15. If your application is for between £3,000 and £5,000 please give full details of the **exceptional circumstances** relating to your request. Please see policy point 6 for examples of what constitutes exceptional circumstances

N/A

16. How will you spend the money you are applying for? Please remember that Weymouth Town Council do not normally give grants for running costs unless associated with a specific project:

Item	Amount
Sheets of Drumlite ramp surfacing material	£3,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,000</b>

17. How else are you funding your project? Include grants from other organisations, fund raising and existing reserves:

Source	£	Confirmed?
From existing reserves	Approx £3,000	Yes
<b>Total</b>		Approx £3,000

18. How will the funding benefit the community or residents of Weymouth?

The funding will benefit the many users of The Front of all ages and ability levels who enjoy riding the very popular mini-ramp, and those who will do so in future, by enabling us to resurface it as described in our answer to Q13.

19. If your project focusses on a particular area of Weymouth, please give the name of the Councillor who is supporting your application?

The Front Skatepark is situated on the Preston Beach Road, next to the Sealife Centre, but as described in previous answers, it is enjoyed by residents from right across Weymouth and the surrounding areas, plus some visitors from further afield. WTC Cllr Matt Bell is supporting our application.

20. How do you know that the groups you work with, or the local community, want this project to take place? Please detail any consultation undertaken:

Our staff and volunteers work day-to-day with the wide range of people using The Front, so they know from observation, conversations and feedback from users how very popular and well-used the mini-ramp is, and always has been, hence the importance of maintaining it to the highest level, using long-life surfacing material, so that it can be available for everyone to enjoy.

21. How will this funding lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?

We know from experience that the type of surfacing material we plan to use to resurface the mini-ramp has a much longer lifespan than plywood; even with the expected high level of use, it should last at least twice as long, significantly increasing the time before we have to consider future resurfacing.

22. Weymouth Town Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in 2019 and is keen to ensure that environmental impact reduction and opportunities for environmental enhancement are mainstreamed through its work.

How will this project help improve the environment and what mitigation measures will be put in place to limit environmental impacts such as use of single use plastics, waste generation, sustainable travel, reducing energy usage?

As referred to in our answer to Q13, the Drumlite we want to purchase is an environmentally friendly material, made from 100% recycled products using a waste-to-energy process. The well-used and now worn Skatelite, ply underlayer and timber that will be removed from the mini-ramp before resurfacing will be salvaged for use in repairs elsewhere in the Skatepark, or given to others for local community use.

23. How is your organisation normally funded? Not applicable to new organisations:

The Front's income comprises user fees, Skateshop / Snackbar sales, plus funding awards.

24. What are your current/planned subs/fees/charges?

Current fees are as follows:  
Non-members pay £8 per 2hrs any day;  
Annual Membership £25, and Members pay £3 per 2hrs weekdays, £4 per 2hrs Saturdays.  
We also have schemes which provide free entry for children and young people from Weymouth and the surrounding areas who are unable to use The Front for financial reasons. Please see our answer to Q25.

25. The Council wishes to ensure that its limited grant budget goes to help those most in need. The Council will not normally fund events or activities for which a charge is made e.g. tickets for a dinner or a fee to attend a club. If it is intended to have a charge, please let us know how much people will be charged to access this project and what steps are to be put in place to ensure as many people as possible from Weymouth are able to access the project.

If a surplus is to be made please detail how and when these funds will benefit the communities in Weymouth:

It isn't financially possible to offer free entry to everyone coming to The Front, but we do what we can to keep fees low, and to ensure we provide good value for money. Please see our answer to Q24 for current fees.

However we know there are children and young people living in Weymouth and the surrounding areas who would love to come to The Front and enjoy time there, including on the mini-ramp, which is particularly popular with their age group, but who can never (or only rarely) afford to attend, because of financial constraints – particularly those from local families struggling due to the cost-of-living crisis.

We also know that some of these children and young people might particularly benefit from time spent at the Front, in a safe secure space with supportive staff on hand. We help to address this in various ways, including by giving free session vouchers in exchange for volunteering, providing free-entry sessions for local school groups, and bidding for funding to pay for free-entry off-peak sessions open exclusively to local children and young people – an example being a recent grant from Dorset's PCC.

If this application is successful, we do not expect there to be any surplus.

26. Have you applied for any other funds/grants towards the cost of this project or purchase? Please include details below:

N/A

27. What fund raising activities took place in the **last** 12 months and what fund-raising activities are planned for the **next** 12 months, if any?

In the last 12 months we ran fundraising community events including Easter and Halloween themed ones plus Cake and Coffee Mornings, and we expect to run similar activities in the next 12 months.

28. Anticipated income/expenditure for the next 12 months?

As per 2023-2024

29. Details of any grants or financial support received from local authorities including Weymouth Town Council in the past three years with dates:

Dec 2022 £4,400 Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner  
Dec 2022 £2,000 Dorset Council Art Project  
Dec 2022 £,5,000 Dorset Council Youth Grant  
Sept 2023 £2,300 Dorset Council Youth Fund Grant  
Feb 2023 £3,000 Dorset Council Culture and Community Fund  
Feb 2024 £2,000 Dorset Council CCF

30. Grants from non-local authority sources in the last three years with dates, if you have any:

Dec 2022 £4,400 Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner  
Feb 2023 £700 Hangers Heroes (local charity)  
Dec 2023 £5,000 Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner Fix The Future Fund  
Dec 2023 £10,000 Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Foundation  
Feb 2024 £2,000 Hangers Heroes  
Feb 2024 £1,000 Dorset Echo Charity of The Year Award

31. Has the project that you want the funding for already happened?

No

32. Will you be passing the funding on to any other groups (except to pay for goods and services)?

No

33. If the funding is for security measures do you have the support of the local police and/ or crime reduction officer?

N/A

34. If the funding is for work with vulnerable adults or children, do you have the support of either Adult Social Care or Children's Services at Dorset Council?

N/A

Please give us details of the bank account that the grant should be paid into if approved (this cannot be a building society passbook account):

Name of Account: Supplied

Account number: Supplied

Sort Code: Supplied

**Please ensure you have read the policy on pages 1 - 3 before signing the form.**

*Checklist (please tick the appropriate boxes)*

*Have you submitted the following?*

- A copy of your most recent accounts (not more than 12 months old);
- Your most recent bank account statement & details of any other investments/savings (not more than 3 months old);
- A copy of your constitution / terms of reference/ set of rules;
- A copy of the notes from your last Annual General Meeting;
- Details of your organisation's officers;
- A copy of your safeguarding policy if your group works with vulnerable adults, or children;
- A copy of your adopted equal opportunities policy or statement;
- Any other documentation you feel may help in assessing your application.

### Privacy Notice

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), I/We agree that Weymouth Town Council will process and hold personal information about me/us and my/our group or organisation only in relation to this grant application. I/We consent to my/our personal information, including that contained in this form, being stored manually and/or electronically by Weymouth Town Council. It will be held securely and treated confidentially for six years after an application is made. I/We understand that it will only be accessed by authorised staff members to manage the grant application process.

I also understand that Weymouth Town Council may pass details onto an official organisation where required to do so by law or contract. I/We understand that my/our data will be disposed of securely six years after the application and that I/we have the right to correct the information at any time. I/We have been made aware of my/our rights under GDPR.

Declaration:

I/We declare that the information confirmed in this application is correct and that any grant received will be applied as detailed in the request.

I/We declare that we have read the policy on pages 1 - 3 and that our application complies with the policy.

I/We declare that I/we have included all the requested information.

I/We fully understand that if I/we do not include the requested information and/or if mine/our application does not comply with the policy, the application may be rejected.

I/We fully understand that we will need to attend a Finance and Governance Committee meeting to present our request.

Signed: **Supplied**

Name: Supplied

Date:



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Grant applications must be checked against the following criteria. Any questions where the answer is no must be reported to the Finance and Governance Committee meeting where the application is being considered and must form part of the formal agenda items list for that meeting.

Yes	No (investigate)	
Yes		The grant will result in a benefit for the area covered by the Town Council and will contribute positively to the area of Weymouth?
Yes		Does the grant exclude ongoing running costs?
n/a		If the application is for running costs has the applicant included plans for where future running costs will be found from?
Yes		Is the grant for a group and not for individuals or organisations whose function is primarily undertaken by the health authority or Dorset Council's Social Services?
Yes		Is the grant for non-political or non-quasi-political organisations or projects?
Yes		Is the grant application for £3,000 or less?
n/a		For applications between £3,000 or £5,000, has the applicant fully detailed the exceptional circumstances?
Yes		Does the application include the required financial and organisational information?
Yes		Is this the only application in this financial year from this group or organisation?
Yes		Is the applicant based in the Town Council area? If not, has the applicant detailed what proportion of beneficiaries of the grant reside in the area?
Yes		Is the application for future funding? (i.e. not retrospective)
Yes		Is the grant for the sole use of the applying group and not to pass on money?
Yes		Has the applicant demonstrated how one-off grant funding will lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?
n/a		For applications for funds for security measures, does the applicant have the support of the local police or crime reduction officer?
n/a		For projects involving vulnerable children or adults, do the organisers have the support of Adult Social Care or Children's Services at Dorset Council?
tbc		Will a representative be attending Finance & Governance Committee?
tbc		Scoring matrix approved by the Grant Subgroup?

Assessing officer: Helen Legg

Date of assessment: 04/07/24

Decision (delete as applicable): proceed to committee

Approved as agenda item for the Finance and Governance meeting on: 24/07/24

