

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:

ACTIVATE PERFORMING ARTS
7-9 THE LITTLE KEEP, BARRACK ROAD
DORCHESTER, DORSET
DT1 1SQ

Name of person making the application: DOM KIPPIN

Position in organisation: PRODUCER (OUTDOOR ARTS, FESTIVAL, TOURING)

Contact phone number: Provided

Email address: Provided

About Your Organisation

2. Does your organisation:

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

3. Are you a registered charity? Yes/No: YES

If so, please give your charity number: 1069622

4. Is your organisation part of, or affiliated to, a larger organisation? NO

If so, which:

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

Activate works with artists to create extraordinary experiences in Dorset and across the UK – touching the lives of many. We produce programmes that change lives, create unforgettable memories and celebrate our unique part of the world.

Based in Dorset for more than 30 years as a charitable company and an Arts Council NPO organisation, we are an ambitious, hard-working and committed organisation, delivering social justice through the arts and maintaining the rich talent and venue development that supports the county.

We are a trusted local organisation and have delivered large scale projects to put Dorset on the map, such as ‘Danny Boyle’s Pages of the Sea’ with 14-18 Now, which took place on Weymouth beach and in Lyme Regis in 2018, and as the lead partner of the Dorset Festivals Consortium producing ‘Dorset Moon’ to mark the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing. The closing weekend Dorset Moon event took place at Nothe Fort and was produced in collaboration with Portland’s b-side Festival.

Since 2005 our Inside Out Dorset festival programme and signature events have presented high quality, large-scale, outdoor arts events to hundreds of thousands of people and engaged them through the learning and community outreach programme. Inside Out Dorset brings together incredible artistic work and combines it with beautiful, inspiring Dorset locations. The programme has a profound impact on the wellbeing of a place, encouraging feelings of pride and enabling everyone to take part and experience.

Past events in Weymouth include Teatr Podrozy at Nothe Fort in 2007, Vel e Vents at Bowleaze Cove (in celebration of the launch of the Cultural Olympiad in 2008), various events as part of the Cultural Olympiad programme Battle for the Winds in 2012, Ray Lee’s ‘Chorus’ outside Weymouth Pavilion in 2016, Mark Anderson’s ‘Furious Folly’ at Mount Pleasant Park & Ride in 2018 (also part of 14-18 Now), Sense of Unity in 2021, and Poupées Géantes in 2023, which was seen by over 12,000 across three performances. We have also presented popular events outside the festival, with Cirque Du Platzak at North Quay, as part of the Pommery Dorset Seafood Festival in 2017, Dorset Moon with b-side in 2019 at Nothe Fort, and ‘Peixos’ by Sarruga, the first Dusk to Dark event run by We Are Weymouth in 2022.

Activate has worked with Weymouth College putting on Youth Performance Platforms, sitting on their industry panel, and worked with the students to perform in our Street in the Park event in Dorchester annually over the last few years. In 2010 we worked with Weymouth Parkour group to perform with No Fit State Circus in Dorchester’s Maumbury Rings as part of our festival. The Remix and Premix, which are our groups for children and young people aged 7-19, many of whom have disabilities, sensory impairments, are on the autistic spectrum or have learning difficulties - provides regular free workshops and performance opportunities in dance and theatre with members from Weymouth.

We are committed to challenging perceptions that the arts are elitist and not for everyone. We seek to remove barriers to participation, particularly for under-represented groups and individuals and champion arts for its inherent value as well as the effect it has on our general well-being and health. We offer support for Dorset based artists through CPD and bespoke support on developing their work and we are currently promoting a free course for young and emerging artists to learn how to create events. We have also been working with Abri Housing Association and the HAF programme for children on free school meals – with workshops most recently in Littlemoor.

6. *Where does your organisation meet?* Our work takes place across the county of Dorset. Weymouth past and future activity is outlined above. Our voluntary board of Trustees meets for quarterly Board Meetings at different locations across the county to accommodate members.
7. *How often do you meet?* We run events and workshops which take place at least on a fortnightly basis: year-round, we normally have approx. 10 projects running at any one time. Our Board Meets quarterly and has 1-2 away days a year.
8. *How many members does your organisation have?* Our Board consists of 8 Trustees/Directors who are the members. We do not have a wider membership structure.
9. *How many people will benefit from this funding?* At least 5,000, estimated
10. *How many of these are Weymouth Town Council area residents?* 100%
11. *How much funding are you applying for?* £5,000
12. *What is the total cost of your project?* £30,500

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:

This application is requesting support towards Activate's 2024 event in Weymouth, as part of the annual Dusk till Dark activity presented with We Are Weymouth. On the evenings of Friday 27th and Saturday 28th September we will present 4 performances by the internationally-renowned UK percussion ensemble Worldbeaters, last seen in Weymouth in 2021 as part of the hugely successful Sense of Unity performances.

Three Friday performances of Spark! will take place across Weymouth, in the wards of Preston (Bowleaze Cove), Rodwell (Hope Square) and Melcombe Regis (St Mary Street). SPARK! is a mesmerising street theatre show that combines high-impact drumming with kaleidoscopic lighting design, that has toured across the world for nearly 20 years.

Saturday's performance, along Weymouth Esplanade, will be a culmination of two days of workshops, bringing together the performers of Worldbeaters with 20 young people from Weymouth. The show, FIREFLIES, will be a world premiere, and expands the original Spark! show into a true community experience. As well as the spectacular LED costumes and drums, we are exploring the possibility of using some of the empty properties along the Esplanade in order to reach the thousands of Weymouth people who attend these events every year.

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

- Improve the wellbeing of the people of Weymouth.
- Manage the Council's assets and resources responsibly and transparently.
- Manage the Council's services effectively to meet the needs of the communities we serve.
- Work to become greener and cleaner in our activities as well as supporting our communities and partners to be as green as possible.
- Promote opportunities for economic success of the area.
- Strive for continuous improvement and service development.
- Work with partners to deliver our core values and strategy.

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

We are requesting £5,000, as this is a significant event for the town and reaches a huge number of people. Our previous events have attracted regional and national press and are still talked about by residents and visitors alike. Our event allows everyone to access internationally significant art experiences not usually available in the town – for free! The events for this year have a focus on Hope Square and the town centre where they are easily accessible on foot by local families in some of the most relatively deprived areas of the south coast.

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
Artistic (including community workshops)	£13,343
Production	£8,016
Staff	£9,902
Project management	£3,000
Marketing (including evaluation costs)	£2,100
Overheads	£550
Contingency (at 2%)	£541
Total	£37,452

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

Source	£	Confirmed?
WE ARE WEYMOUTH	20,000	YES
ACTIVATE PERFORMING ARTS	6,952	YES
DORSET COUNCIL Culture & Community	5,000	NO
WTC Community Grant	5,000	NO
DONATIONS	500	NO
Total	37,452	72% confirmed

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

Funding from Weymouth Town Council will directly benefit the Weymouth community in several ways.

Firstly, the grant funding will support some of the cost of the participation workshops for the world premiere performance of Fireflies. Twenty current and former students from Weymouth College will spend two days with musicians from Worldbeaters. They will learn drumming & movement routines which will form part of the Saturday night performance on Weymouth Esplanade. This element of the project directly supports the Weymouth Town Council Culture Strategy 2024 – 2029’s vision of a town where people can “participate in and enjoy the arts.”

Secondly, along with the performance of Fireflies on Saturday 28th September, there will be three performances of Spark! on Friday 27th September. These will be short, accessible performances in three different locations of the town. This element of the project directly supports the Weymouth Town Council Culture Strategy 2024 – 2029’s vision of a place where “the arts are experienced by more people from a wider range of backgrounds.”

Finally, as seen in the response to question 20, our work is driven in response to the enthusiasm of our Weymouth audiences, and by providing funding to support this project, the Council are fulfilling another part of their vision for culture.

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

Our work takes place in different areas of Weymouth, depending on the specific project and its requirements. No specific conversation has taken place with a Councillor regarding this project, though Cllr Orrell may well be aware of it, as We Are Weymouth (Weymouth Business Improvement District) are the lead funder. As an organisation that has been working in and supporting Weymouth communities for many years, there will be several current Councillors who will have experienced our work previously.

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:

We evaluate all our activities, gathering both quantitative and qualitative data from audiences, participants, artists, volunteers, partners and funders in order to continually improve and ensure that we are meeting the desires of the communities we are working with. Our work was also included in the recent Cultural Strategy for Weymouth's Economic Development, published by Weymouth Civic Society, showing images of how the town can be successfully animated through events such as this.

"Looking back, I am proud of what we all achieved for the community and visitors to Weymouth. I am used to parades and moving classes on trips and looking out for health and safety, but never on this scale. The professionalism of the whole Inside Out team made me feel confident and I will volunteer again. The actual show was inspiring, seamless and a special spectacle that I will never forget." Volunteer feedback, Weymouth 2021

"I watched 'Sense of Unity' with my son & grandson. We all thought it was amazing, particularly the finale on the promenade stage. Fabulous performers & we all felt safe yet free to enjoy the wonder of it all." Audience feedback, Weymouth 2021

"Have to say, it was amazing, one of the best art festival events I've covered and one heck of a crowd too." Photographer feedback, Weymouth 2021

'The project has highlighted Littlemoor in a favourable manner to a wider audience, which we are keen to develop.' Community feedback, Weymouth 2021

"More of this please! A fantastic atmosphere and makes Weymouth attractive." Audience feedback, Weymouth 2022

"We are locals and enjoyed this very much. Very entertaining and can't wait to see next year's." Audience feedback, Weymouth 2022

"It was lovely, thank you. We do not have much money so it was nice to take the kids to see such a lovely parade." Audience feedback, Weymouth 2022

"It was a fantastic couple of days, I always love volunteering for the events. Honoured to carry the [Accessible Route] flag." – Volunteer feedback, Weymouth 2023

"Fantastic for Weymouth, incredibly popular." Audience feedback, Weymouth 2023

"Lots of people from Weymouth who wouldn't normally be there. Lots of young people and families, diverse audience and age range." Audience feedback, Weymouth 2023

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

Weymouth Town Council (and previously Weymouth & Portland Borough Council) have contributed significant funding to Activate events in the town. Following the hugely successful 2021 Inside Out Dorset events, Weymouth Town Council expressed a desire to see similar activity going forward and invested £20,000 in the 2022 Dusk till Dark. However, since then, the Council have not been able to provide funding beyond the Community Grant programme. We have been able to work with our other partners and funders, most significantly We Are Weymouth, to continue our work with communities in Weymouth, as we understand the value of the work we do with them and did not want to see those relationships end. In terms of our resilience – we are not relying on one investor: Weymouth Council's total investment, if successful, will represent 13% of the total. The scale of this event requires investment from a range of partners, including, once again We Are Weymouth.

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?

Environmental sustainability is a core part of all of Activate's work. We recognise that there is a climate and ecological emergency. Climate change is the biggest threat to humanity; one of the greatest threats to biodiversity and we know that nature recovery is an important part of the solution. We believe in protecting the environment and our planet's precious natural resources. We are committed to providing a quality service in a way that ensures safe and healthy workspaces, events and gatherings for participation, and minimising our impact on the environment.

We will consider environmental concerns and impacts in all our decision making during this project, and reduce any unfavourable impact on the natural environment. By undertaking projects in and close to significant natural locations, such as the Weymouth coastline, we can raise awareness of these unique protected landscapes. Our project management plans ensure we create no negative environmental impact. Carbon emissions will be monitored and offset, as part of our ongoing work to reduce them. Sustainable transport will be encouraged to all participants and staff, using public transport and car sharing. Where there is no public transport available, we will provide shared transport for project participants.

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

Our turnover can range between c. £500,000 in a non-festival year to c. £650,000 in a festival year, with funding coming from a range of sources. For example, in 2022/23, this was: Arts Council England: 52%, Earned Income: 30%, Other Public Grants: 3%, Local Authority Funding: 12%, Trusts and Foundations: 2.75%. Donations: 0.25%

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

There are no charges planned for the event or engagement programme. In order for our work to remain as accessible as possible to as many people as possible, this will all be free to the public.

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:

Not applicable. This funding forms part of a larger budget and will be spent for the benefit of communities in Weymouth. There will be no surplus.

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

As detailed above, we have secured £20,000 from We Are Weymouth (the Weymouth BID). We Are Weymouth have submitted an application to Dorset Council's Culture & Community fund for £5,000. Activate are contributing £6,952 towards staffing and marketing via our core funding agreements with Arts Council England and Dorset Council.

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?

All staff work on Fundraising and are use an organisation-wide Fundraising Strategy across all projects. The Board of Trustees includes a dedicated Income Generation and Fundraising sub-group which meets quarterly to interrogate fundraising plans.

In 23/24 our turnover was £684,534 which we raised from Arts Council, Local authority grants, Trust & Foundations, other public funding, donations and earning income through contracts to deliver services.

For 24/25 year our target is £693,572. 71% of this is confirmed, secured from the same sources as above. Further grant applications are being submitted along with donation raising and earned income expected to cover other project areas.

28. Anticipated income/expenditure for the next 12 months

Our anticipated income for the 24/25 is £693,572 and Expenditure is £622,162– the difference in expenditure to income in the year is due to this being a festival development year, so we will be raising funds in 24/25 to be restricted and carried forward for delivery of the festival in 25/26.

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

Please see attached PDF – ‘Last 3 years of funding’

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

Please see attached PDF – ‘Activate Other Grants Income 2021-2024’

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?

Not applicable

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?

Not applicable

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: Provided

Account number: Provided

Sort Code: Provided

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: Provided

Name: Dom Kippin

Date: 28 June 2024

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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?
	No	Is the grant application for £3,000 or less?
Yes		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?
	No	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?
Yes		Scoring matrix approved by the Grant Subgroup?

Assessing officer: Helen Legg

Date of assessment: 3/7/24

Decision (delete as applicable): proceed to committee

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