



COMMUNITY FUND FUND

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Application No 01

Organisation:	Burnley MP
Contact:	Oliver Ryan

Application Details

Project Name: Youth & Community Van

Project Location & District: Burnley, Lancashire

Project Duration: Ongoing

Proposed Start Date: 1st October 2025

Commissioners Priorities:

- Youth services
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- Community safety
- Engagement and education
- Crime prevention
- Partnership working

Project Summary:

The Youth & Community Van provides mobile outreach and educational support to young people across Burnley. It operates during the day in schools and community settings and in the evenings within local neighbourhoods, offering a safe space, guidance, and positive engagement opportunities. The van was recently vandalised, prompting a funding request to restore and enhance its facilities.

Project Brief:

Summary of Activities:

- **Sports & Team-Building Activities:** Delivered in parks and recreational areas to promote positive engagement.
- **Educational Workshops:** Covering ASB, drug and alcohol awareness (including ketamine), sexual health, bullying, internet safety, family dynamics, school challenges, and career aspirations.
- **Community Clean-Ups:** Involving young people in litter picking, graffiti removal, and civic pride initiatives.
- **Mentorship & Guidance:** Building trust and signposting to specialist services.
- **Informal Sessions with Partners:** Delivered by teams such as EmPower, EAST Sexual Health, and Police.

Issue Identified:

- ASB including vandalism, unsafe use of vehicles, graffiti, and intimidation
- Reduced feelings of safety among residents
- Increased pressure on police resources

- Teen issues such as mental health, substance misuse, bullying, and exploitation

No. Of Individuals Expected to Engage:

Not explicitly stated, but expected to be significant through outreach and school/community sessions.

Referral Pathways:

Referrals made via Participation Works to:

- EmPower Contextual Safeguarding Team
- EAST Community Sexual Health Team
- Police
- With You
- MATAC

Community Impact:

- Reduction in ASB
- Improved youth engagement
- Strengthened community relationships
- Increased awareness and access to support services
- Enhanced safety and wellbeing

Partners Involved:

- Participation Works (project delivery)
- EmPower Contextual Safeguarding Team
- EAST Community Sexual Health Team
- Police
- With You
- MATAC

Amount Requested From PCC: £4,500

Overall Cost & Breakdown:

Total Project Cost: £4,500

- Van repairs and furnishings (£725 + £158)
- Portable power station (£1,500)
- Safe and security features (£300 + £225)
- Gaming equipment and tablets (£500 + £14.99 + £477)
- LED lighting (£350)

(All costs covered by PCC budget)

Evaluation Suggestions:

- Attendance records
- Number of locations visited
- Logs of workshops and support sessions
- Safeguarding documentation
- Feedback from participants and community
- Reports on ASB trends and perceptions

Insurance Coverage for Repairs

'I contacted our insurers regarding the equipment damage. After factoring in the policy excess and the limited payout offer of just £450, it was not financially viable to proceed with a claim. Additionally, submitting a claim would likely result in an increased premium next year, making it even less worthwhile.'

Priority Supported:

Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
Get Tough on Serious Violent Crime

Partner Consultation

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	<p>The concept is engaging and clearly having a positive impact within the community. Participant Works is recognised as a respected delivery partner in the area, which adds credibility to the proposal. However, there are a few points that require clarification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repair and Upgrade Costs: The funding request appears to focus on damage repairs and upgrades. It would be helpful to understand whether these costs were anticipated and budgeted for when the van was originally purchased.• Previous Funding: It's noted that upgrades such as the PlayStation may have been funded previously, possibly under the former Commissioner. We would like to know what preventative measures are now being put in place to protect the van from further damage.• Insurance Coverage: As raised by colleagues, it's important to confirm whether any of the repair costs are covered by a valid insurance policy.
ASB, Prevention and Problem-Solving Command	<p>This application focuses on using a youth van to engage with young people around the Burnley area. Run by Participation Works, who are a valued partner in East Lancashire. Participation Works have spent many years engaging with young people around the Burnley area and I have personal experience of their work from when I was CBM in Padiham. At that time, they had the Space Bus which sounds similar to this project. This was well kitted out and as such, attracted huge numbers of young people. One thing I know, is that the van needs to be kitted out with the latest tech / gadgets to attract young people. With this, it needs to be secure. This bid is for new kit but also for additional security features, which will hopefully prevent any further thefts. Furthermore, this van replaces the traditional static youth centre. Because it is mobile, it has the opportunity to be accessible to a much larger number of children, which can only be seen as a positive. I would be more than happy to support this, especially as it is being run by Participation Works.</p>