2021/2022 BUILD BACK A BETTER BORDERS RECOVERY FUND

Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High - a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium - provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low - lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

1. Applicant Details

Organisation name	Borders Disability Sport					
Organisation structure	Constituted group					
Application reference	BBBB/EIL/21					
Theme of	Sport	Arts & culture	Environment	Community capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
application	\boxtimes			\boxtimes	X	
Project start date	February 2022		Project end date	July 2022		

2. Organisation's Finances

End of year balance	£ 20,595.58
Current bank balance	£ 20,066.21
	 £ 10,894.21 These funds are to be utilised for already established programmes and associated running costs with the group such as: - entry fees for participants with a disability to compete in local and nation events
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	 travel expenses for volunteers disability inclusion workshops training camps and access to development squads to buy new equipment for current programmes equipment maintenance annual outgoings (accountant charges, marketing, registration fees etc.) to cover any unforeseen shortfalls
	£1,000 of unrestricted funds will be put towards this BBBB Recovery Fund project (exceeding the mandatory 10% contribution)
	£9,172.00
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£6,000.00 – development of disability swimming initiative (not associated with BBBB application) £3,172.00 – Small Grants Scheme Pot

3. Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community.

	High 🛛	Medium 🗆	Low 🗆
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Borders Disability Sport (BDS) wish to provide individuals with the opportunity to take part in various sporting activities and to allow them the chance to experience the positive impact of taking part in such activities can have on them both physically and socially.

The group plans to implement and deliver a new sporting opportunities programme with sessions taking place in Tweedbank & Galashiels throughout the whole year. This will give participants the chance to try new sports, meet new people and share the experience with their family, friends and care providers. These sessions will be open to all ages and abilities within an inclusive and supportive environment.

As part of the new sessions, disability cycling will be on offer to participants. The group currently has a fleet of disability trikes but would like to add two more in order to have a full range of sizes. The current fleet of disability trikes are stored at Live Borders offices and are owned by Kelso Sports Hub. These are currently not being utilised due to transportation and storage barriers and are only used for taster sessions, "come and try" sessions or disability camps. BDS has direct approval from the Chair of Kelso Sport Hub to use these bikes as part of this new format of multi-sport weekly activity for individuals with a disability. The current fleet consists of 5 trikes, all being suitable from aged 11 onwards, but it has become apparent through delivering sporting camps and taster sessions (in partnership with Borders Additional Needs Group) that there is a demand to purchase the two trikes to enable younger children to access cycling. The BBBB project that BDS wish to deliver will allow the trikes to be actively stored at Tweedbank Sports Complex and be accessible for the sporting sessions on a weekly basis. This will ensure that participants can recreationally cycle or try cycling and gain self-confidence while under instruction. This is a brand-new initiative which will give participants the opportunity to try out new sports including cycling and will break down any potential barriers that exist currently.

A variety of helmet sizes will be purchased so that participants are safe while on the bikes.

As these sessions are specifically for individuals who have a disability, BDS will be looking to purchase equipment which cater for their needs, especially those participants with autism. This equipment includes a sensory tent, battery powered sensory lamp and sensory stress balls.

The original plan for BDS was to purchase a 6 metre storage container to be able to securely store the equipment within the grounds of Tweedbank Sports Complex. Unfortunately, planning permission was required and was unable to be sought in time for the February Area Partnership meeting. Therefore, in the short term, the group will store all equipment in the pre-existing secure shed located within the Sports Complex as per on-going agreements that are in place with Live Borders.

BDS is also looking to expand its current disability swimming initiative, with the plan to implement a developmental aspect onto its already established performance programme. This will allow participants with a disability across the Eildon area to have access to swimming opportunities in an inclusive environment where they can develop their swimming skills as well as sharing a positive experience with their peers. Swimmers within the "Barracudas Squad" will have the possibility to compete at local and national events to be recognised for their swimming achievements.

BDS is currently working in partnership with a local archery community club who have agreed to work with them to deliver archery sessions as part of the multi-sport project. This is a brand new initiative for BDS and therefore equipment that meets the appropriate safety criteria for children is required to be purchased.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to <u>benefit</u> from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

	High 🗆	Medium 🛛	Low 🗆
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Taking part in sporting activity is an integral part of the daily routine for the group's participants who have a disability and it is where individuals can come together in a positive, safe and controlled environment to socially interact and practice their sporting skills.

COVID-19 created a sense of loneliness for those who have a disability, whether that be through their regular established routines being broken, loss of social interaction with friends and family, unable to access opportunities due to lack of support or due to a lack of understanding for some. Evidence shows that those who have a disability were 17 times harder hit throughout the pandemic, their physical and mental health was impacted, confidence lost, and community engagement affected. The BDS Development Officer has had numerous conversations with participants, parents, family members & carers about how difficult the pandemic has been, and the ongoing hardship being fought each day. On return to sport after lockdown, the group's current established programmes were at full capacity, participants couldn't wait to get back into routine, see their friends again and play a sport they love. One care provider mentioning 'our service users were the happiest they had been in months coming back to the session today, it's great to see' & another parent saying 'getting back into the pool and being with his friends was just what he needed'.

Expected <u>impact</u> of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic		
High 🗆	Medium 🛛	Low 🗆

By re-commencing its programmes, BDS will encourage positivity, sociability and encourage participants' engagement within the community and show them the benefits these programmes can have. Currently the programmes will require to adhere to current Government COVID-19 restrictions, but the group hope that its disability sessions will be able to accommodate 34 participants on a weekly basis.

When BDS delivers its holiday camps with BANG, there are around 50 participants in attendance. The group will establish a booking system for the new programme to ensure the maximisation of each session and will develop a waiting list if the programme becomes oversubscribed.

There has always been a demand for sporting opportunities due to them not always being readily available/ the structure of mainstream programmes doesn't always suit the needs of an athlete with a disability. Since COVID-19 and the impact it has had on people with a disability the need for sporting opportunities within a controlled, safe environment is more than ever to help overcome anxieties associated with accessing sport.

The group view this as an ideal opportunity to not only bring people back to sport but to gradually introduce the interaction between coaches, participants, parents and other individuals as this is something which will have been missed during lockdown.

4. Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£7,544.97
10% organisation contribution	£1,000.00
Request to BBBB	£6,544.97

Item of expenditure	Cost	Notes
Pool hire @ £80 per session x 26 weeks	£2,080.00	Split between Galashiels & Selkirk pools, dependant on availability.
Venue hire @ £55.30 per session x 26 weeks	£1,437.80	Split between Queens Centre (Galashiels) and Tweedbank Sports Complex
2 x Coaching costs: 1.5hrs @ £15.93 x 26 weeks	£1,242.54	This covers the cost of 2 coaches, 1.5 hours per week each. This would cover all sports that are delivered.
2 x Disability trikes	£1,278.00	
3 x Archery sets	£119.97	
3 x Archery bows (twin pack)	£17.97	
3 x Junior archery bow	£44.97	
2 x Archery target	£49.98	
2 x Archery quiver	£13.98	
3 x Archery safety armguard	£14.97	
2 x Archery storage bag	£35.98	
Cycling helmets	£209.93	
Athletics Racing Wheelchair XL	£882.00	
Autism Sensory Tent	£79.90	
Autism Battery powered Sensory Lamp	£18.99	
Sensory stress balls	£17.99	
Total Project Cost	£7.544.97	

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SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	The application meets the criteria of the BBBB Recovery Fund.	
Comments	The application scores medium/high . The group has strong plans in place to deliver robust programmes across a variety of sports that will encourage individuals to get back into sport and into a routine. BDS has a proven track record of delivering well-attended sessions and funding from the BBBB Recovery Fund would allow the group to deliver further sessions, significantly benefitting individuals (both mentally and physically) who have a disability. Officer recommendation is to fund the project.	
Additional terms and conditions required	The applicant must follow all Scottish Government COVID-19 guidance.	
Evaluative measures	 Feedback from parents/carers & coaches as to the success of the project on participants' mental and physical health Feedback from participants Photographs of participants taking part in sessions (if appropriate) Attendance statistics from different sessions across the six months 	