**Welcome to the Social Innovation Competition Application.**

Before you start, please make sure you have read all of our guidance information available on our [resources page.](https://www.firstport.org.uk/funding/social-innovation-competition/social-innovation-competition-application/www.firstport.org.uk/resources) This document is designed to help you draft your applications prior to submitting the [form online](https://www.firstport.org.uk/funding/social-innovation-competition/social-innovation-competition-application/).

This year's Social Innovation theme is The Great Outdoors, and is focussed on supporting innovative new ideas that:

* Encourage everyone to get out and enjoy the Great Outdoors, in a responsible way
* Seek to benefit the environment, for example combatting climate change, promoting more sustainable lifestyles or tackling environmental damage
* Run activities or services in the Great Outdoors that specifically benefit vulnerable individuals.

The Social Innovation Competition has 3 grant prizes, one of which is specifically dedicated to supporting a Young Social Innovator (aged under 30).

**We look forward to receiving your application!**

At Firstport we aim to be as accessible as possible for individuals applying for funding.

If you have any problems accessing or completing the form online for any reason, please do contact us and we will work with you to find an alternative way for you to submit your application.

Contact Details: Call: 0131 564 0331 Email: info@firstport.org.uk

Eligibility Criteria:

* I am 16 or over
* I am a permanent resident of Scotland
* My enterprise/idea is operating primarily for the benefit of people, or communities within Scotland
* The activities of my enterprise do not involve political campaigning or the advancement of religion
* If you have received funding from Firstport before, you have signed off your award and have spoken to your Relationship manager.
* Profits from the enterprise are reinvested in the business and its social aims, no assets or uncapped dividends may be transferred ot of the organisation to private individuals or bodies.
* My enterprise is at the 'idea' or 'start-up' phase, and I confirm that it has not ben trading for more than 2 years
* My enterprise is an independent organisation and not a project or subsidiary of an existing body.
* My enterprise aims to provide direct social benefit to individuals, communities and/or the environment. Firstport does not fund enterprises whose main activities are directed at providing benefit to other organisations.
* My idea does not form part of my current employment.
* Does your enterprise require premises before it can start trading? If yes then: I have identified premises and have confirmation from the owner of the property that they are happy to lease it to me, subject to funding being secured. Note: we do not require you to have signed a lease or other formal agreement, just confirmation of an agreement in principle.

**About you:**

Preferred Pronoun:

First Name:

Last Name:

Email:   
Phone Number:

Mobile Phone:

House name/Number and Street:

City:

Postcode:

Local Authority are:

Date of birth:

Age:

Please provide details of any disability or accessibility requirements here:

Have you spoken to a member of Firstport staff before?

* No
* Yes, face to face
* Yes, over the phone

How did you find out about us?

* Word of mouth
* Community or local charity
* Internet
* Social Media
* From a Firstport award winner
* Leaflet
* Newspaper
* Radio or TV

If you are developing this idea with somebody else, please include their details below:

**Person 1: First Name**

**Person 1: Last Name**

**Person 1: What role do/will they play?**

**Person 2: First Name**

**Person 2: Last Name**

**Person 2: What role do/will they play?**

**Person 3: First Name**

**Person 3: Last Name**

**Person 3: What role do/will they play?**

**About your enterprise:**

**Name of idea/enterprise:**

**What is the legal set up of your organisation?**

**Which sector is most relevant to your idea?**

If your idea/enterprise works in multiple sectors, please select the sector more relevant, or the one in which you do most of your work.

In a circular economy, waste and resource use are minimised. Products are used again to create further value.

* Creative Industries (including Digital)
* Circular Economy
* Employability
* Energy (Including Renewables)
* Financial & Business services
* Food & Drink
* Health & Social Care
* Life Sciences
* Retail
* Tourism & Hospitality
* Sports & physical activity

**Where are the main beneficiaries of your idea located?**

**Please provide us with an introduction to your idea.?**

Please describe what your social enterprise will do in just a few sentences. For example:   
My enterprise/idea is X  
It will generate an income by doing X  
It will benefit communities/individuals by X

**Are you 30 or under, and applying for the Young Innovators Category?**

**Tell us a bit more about yourself and what makes you the right person to take this idea forward**

Tell us why you're the right person to take the idea forward. Things to include:

Any relevant qualifications, experience (lived or professional)  
Why the social issue is important to you

**How will your idea support itself financially?**

Remember that we are looking for enterprising ideas that are not solely reliant on grant funding, and that have some means of generating their own income.

Things to consider:

What will the enterprise do?   
What are the different products/services?   
Who will pay for the products/services?   
Have you spoken to potential customers?   
Has anyone so far expressed interest in paying for your products/services?   
How will you market your idea and reach your target customers?   
How much do you plan to charge?   
Who else is doing similar things?   
How are you different from the competition i.e. what’s your competitive advantage?   
Is there any scope for partnership or collaborative working?

**What is the social issue or challenge that your idea will seek to address? What evidence is there of the scale of the problem?**

Please outline how this fits with the Social Innovation Competition theme of the great outdoors.

Things to consider:  
  
What is the social need, problem or issue that you have identified?  
What is the current scale of the problem or need?  
How many people are affected by this?   
How will your idea provide a solution?  
Who will benefit from your idea?  
How will you know what you are doing is making a difference?  
What steps will you take to measure impact?

**What makes your idea innovative?**

Tell how your idea is doing something new.

For example:

A new way of delivering a service

A new approach to the social problem

An idea that has not been done before, in your local area (or beyond)

**Add a link to your video pitch:**

For further detail about what should be included in the video pitch, please read our guidance document, available on our [download page](https://www.firstport.org.uk/category/downloads/). Please ensure the privacy setting on your video is set as either public or unlisted.

**How you will spend the money:**

**Item of expenditure 1:**

**Amount needed for item 1:**

**Item of expenditure 2:**

**Amount needed for item 2:**

**Item of expenditure 3:**

**Amount needed for item 3:**

**Item of expenditure 4:**

**Amount needed for item 4:**

**Item of expenditure 5:**

**Amount needed for item 5:**

**Item of expenditure 6:**

**Amount needed for item 6:**

**Total Amount Needed:**

**If you plan to use money from other sources, please specify here:**

**Source 1:**

**Source 1- Amount:**

**Source 1 – Expense:**

**Source 2:**

**Source 2- Amount:**

**Source 2 – Expense:**

**Bank Details:**

Please ensure these are filled out correctly, if the account or sort code is entered incorrectly it may impact the submission of your application.

Please note that for most of our funds we are funding the individual social entrepreneur, so it is your personal bank account details that need to be provided here.

If you are applying for Launch Me or Boost it and have a business bank account these are the details you should be filling in here.

**Bank Account Name:**

i.e. your name as it appears on the debit/credit card or cheque book associated with the account (NOT the name of your bank)

**Account Number:**

**Sort Code:**

**References:**

Provide the names and addresses of two referees.

Referees should know you and support your enterprising idea. At least one of the referees must have worked with you and acted in a supervisory or line management role. Referees cannot be a friend, relative, partner, or be involved with your enterprise.

If we believe any referee to be unsuitable, we will request details of a replacement.

Further guidance on suitable referees is detailed in our application guidance.

Before providing us with the contact details of referees, you should ensure that you have their permission to share their details. We will keep the information provided in this application, including referee details, on file for a period of seven years. This is for accounting purposes and in line with HMRC requirements.

**Referee 1**

**First Name:**

**Last Name:**

**Phone Number:**

**Email:**

**Address:**

**Job Title:**

**How do they know you?:**

**Referee 2**

**First Name:**

**Last Name:**

**Phone Number:**

**Email:**

**Address:**

**Job Title:**

**How do they know you?:**

All our staff, clients, partners, suppliers, and any other person we work with must follow our equal opportunities policy and not discriminate against anyone for any reason. Please help us monitor this policy by giving us the following deals. We will only use this information for statistical purposes, and it will not form part of your application assessment.

If there are any questions that you would prefer not answer, please leave the field blank.

**Gender Description:**

**Do you identify as Trans?**

**How would you describe your sexuality?**

**Age:**

**If you identify as having a disability, please give details of your disability here:**

**Ethnicity:**

**Employment Status:**

**Qualifications:**

**Is your organisation predominately BAME led, LGBTQ+ led, Disability led, or Women led? If so, please specify here (you can select more than one):**

**Beneficiaries:**

**Does your organisation target any specific group? For example, Older people, younger people, race, disability, sexual orientation, or gender. If so, please specify here:**

We will keep the information provided within this application on file for a period of ten years. It will then be deleted after the publication of Firstport’s annual accounts. This is in line with HMRC requirements.