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LONDON BOROUGH OF
HARROW

CREATING WELCOMING PARKS FOR ALL, ESPECIALLY GIRLS

UKSPF GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR HARROW PARK & NATURE GROUPS

Parks and open spaces are at the heart of life in Harrow. They offer places for exercise, connection, reflection – and for many, a daily dose of nature and wellbeing.

As volunteers and champions of these spaces, you play a vital role in shaping parks that meet the needs of everyone in our community.

As part of our Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2025–2030, and our commitment to Restoring Pride in Harrow, we're inviting you to be part of something special.

ABOUT THE UKSPF FUND

Harrow Council has allocated funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to support grassroots action that improves our parks and makes them more inclusive for girls and young women — while also strengthening our volunteer networks and community leadership.



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For the 2025–26 year, we are offering a grant fund of £39,000, open to:

- Constituted Park User Groups
- Harrow Nature Conservation Groups

Grants of up to £3,000 per park are available to support:

- **Health and Wellbeing** – promoting physical activity, social connection, and mental wellbeing
- **Make Space for Girls Themes** – designing spaces and activities that are more inclusive for girls and young women
- **Volunteer Recruitment** – helping more residents, especially young people and women, get involved in volunteering
- **Capacity Building** – supporting Park User and Volunteer Groups to grow, develop and increase participation from underrepresented communities.

Small community grants, training, and development support will be offered alongside the core funding to help build skills and grow confident, inclusive groups.



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Data Monitoring

What you will need to capture



To help us demonstrate the impact of this funding and meet our UKSPF commitments, successful applicants will be expected to collect some basic data, including:

- The number of **new** people attending your activity or event for the first time
- Volunteering numbers, especially **new** volunteers
- Equalities and Diversity data (e.g. ethnicity, gender, age group) to help us understand who is taking part and how inclusive your activity is

We'll provide a simple reporting template and can support you with how best to collect this information in a respectful and appropriate way. It's not about bureaucracy — it's about making sure we understand and celebrate the difference you're making in your community.



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Teaming Up: Collaborative Bids Welcome Enhancement



If your group is interested in teaming up with others, we'd love to hear your ideas. For example, if three parks wanted to co-deliver a programme of Sunrise Yoga sessions across different locations or work together to create safe and social spaces for girls, we would welcome a **joint bid**.

Each park involved can apply for up to £3,000, meaning a collaborative project across three parks could bid for up to £9,000, depending on the scope of the proposal. Just make sure the application clearly sets out what each group will deliver and how the project will be coordinated.



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What kind of projects can you run?

We're looking for ideas that support **health and wellbeing**, promote **volunteering**, and bring the themes of **Make Space for Girls** and **inclusive community development** to life in your local park. These could include:

- **Inclusive physical activity** – such as yoga, basketball, running clubs, cycling, gardening, or multi-sport sessions led by qualified facilitators
- **Skills-based or creative sessions** – like nature photography, outdoor crafts, wildlife identification, or confidence-building workshops
- **Small-scale improvements** – including better signage, seating, sheltered spots or social spaces that feel welcoming and safe
- **Projects shaped by girls and young people** – through conversations, co-design sessions, or youth-led ideas
- **Volunteering and leadership opportunities** – that help residents, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds, play an active role in shaping and supporting our parks

All activities must be delivered by appropriately qualified and insured facilitators, with safeguarding and public liability in place.



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Training and Support



To support this work, we're partnering with Make Space for Girls to deliver training to Harrow's Park User Forums. This session will explore how girls and young people experience parks, and how we can design activities and spaces that feel safe, inclusive and inviting.



At least one group member must attend a short online training session as part of the funding criteria.



Title: Make Space for Girls Training for Grant Applicants – Join Us to Rethink Inclusive Public Spaces

Date and Time: **1st July, 19:00-20:00**

Additional training will be offered throughout the year to help groups build capacity, strengthen governance and reach new volunteers.



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Key Information

- Grants Available: Up to £3,000 per park
- Total Fund: £39,000 for 2025-26
- Who Can Apply: Constituted Park User Groups or Nature Conservation Groups with a bank account, Public Liability Insurance and relevant policies.
- Collaborative Projects: Welcome - joint bids for multi-park initiatives encouraged
- Application Window: 4th July to 25th July
- Decision Announced: 4th August
- Project Delivery Deadline: Tuesday 31st March 2026



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How to Apply

Please visit:



www.harrow.gov.uk/wf_ukspfgrant

or if preferred please email your completed application form to:



community.engagement@harrow.gov.uk

If you have any questions or would like to talk through your ideas — whether applying as a single group or part of a joint bid — we're here to help.

By applying to this fund, you're not only helping to create more inclusive and welcoming parks — you're also growing Harrow's volunteer movement, building stronger community connections, and helping ensure every resident feels represented in the future of our green spaces.



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