



Restart Youth

Facilitator to a panel of young advisers on grants funding

Blaggrave is an independent charitable trust. We exist to bring lasting change to the lives of young people, investing in them as powerful voices for change in society. In the South East of England we make grants of around £1m per annum to exceptional youth charities serving young people in the poorest areas. We offer a combination of 3-year unrestricted grants for core work and time limited funding opportunities for specific goals. Our regional programme is focused on counties in the SE of England, outside London, specifically Berkshire, Hampshire, Kent, Sussex and Wiltshire.

We began a positive journey of more directly involving young people directly in our grant making decisions in the region last year with our Restart Youth grants programme. We employed a group of 6 paid youth advisers with experience of services in the region to make grant decisions and guide the programme. Now we want to take this work further and employ a further cohort of advisers who will have significant influence on our funding decisions in the region over the course of a year.

Their work will involve designing a strategy and recommending decisions for a discreet pot of funding, making monitoring visits to existing charity partners, and speaking to young people to learn about the impact of funded work. There may be other roles: we want our funding to invest in the work that young people prioritise and we are open to their challenge on traditional grant-making strategies, processes and recipients.

To support the advisers, Blaggrave is looking to appoint a skilled facilitator in the region who can work with them as they help shape Blaggrave's grant-making in the region. As an independent facilitator, you will play an essential role in ensuring all those involved in decision making have an equal voice, including Blaggrave.

Your work will begin in spring 2022 and involve regular meetings (in person and online) with the advisers for the year of their employment.

Desired criteria

As we consciously recruit a diverse group of advisers, it is essential that you are skilled enough to hold this space for young people, allowing for differences of opinion and a variety of experiences of social injustice.

We want someone who understands how intersectionality and lived experiences of the issues we fund can affect young people and, preferably, someone who brings their own lived experience. We welcome younger applicants, and applications from individuals from diverse communities

Additionally, you will be:

- A skilled and experienced facilitator of groups, particularly those where difficult or sensitive decisions need to be made
- Experienced in working with young people and committed to youth engagement and leadership
- Knowledgeable of the context for charitable funders
- Comfortable supporting people from all walks of life to work together
- Able to work with uncertainty and respond flexibly to emerging issues
- Thorough and diligent in your approach.
- Based in or knowledgeable about the context for our work in the South East (outside London).

And you will have:

- A love of creative methods for having meaningful, fun and energising conversations
- An awareness of how power and privilege play out in group conversations and a commitment to help the group work together – with an awareness of your own power in the group
- An ability to create a safe, warm atmosphere where people can relate as people, not just in their assigned roles
- A willingness to support honest conversations and disagreement; recognising that surfacing and dealing with difficult issues openly and with kindness can help deepen trust
- A knowledge of different decision-making methods for the group to experiment with

Geography

The young advisers will be drawn from across the South East of England and we anticipate that meetings will be a mixture of online and in-person according to

practicality. In person meetings will be important occasions, with meetings in a convenient location (eg Portsmouth) most likely.

Key tasks

The facilitator's role will be to support the young people and ourselves to play equal and cohesive parts in the development of the regional grants programme over the course of 2022.

These are some of the tasks we anticipate the Young Advisers will work on but they will be co-developed at the outset.

- Designing a grant-making strategy to spend at least £160,000 to benefit youth organisations in the South East of England reaching young people facing social injustice
- Reviewing grant applications and helping us to decide which applications are successful
- Visiting charities to understand their work better and deepen relationships with them
- Meeting with young people being supported by services to understand the impact of the work
- Pulling the learning together and sharing with Blagrove
- Potentially sharing the learning at external events, or on the Blagrove website

Terms

The role will be on a self-employed basis, so you will invoice Blagrove based on hours and tasks completed. Please let us know your hourly/daily rate; we anticipate paying up to £350 per day for your time.

Time frame and time commitments

This agreement runs for a year from April 2022- April 2023. The advisers will begin in June 2022 and they will be employed for a year. Your time commitment will vary with the demands of the work. At some points, we anticipate weekly meetings; at other points meetings might be monthly.

This is a rough timetable based on our experience with other programmes. Overall, we anticipate the role will need c.24 days of your time over the course of the year.

Please note: To accommodate young people's other commitments, we expect meetings will take place at evenings or weekends.

Timetable

<i>Task</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Anticipated number of days</i>
Induction and pre reading	April	1
Planning with the project manager, pre programme kick off	April – May	4
Support recruitment of the advisers	May	3
Planning and delivery of induction programme	June	2
Support regular meetings of advisers to plan for Restart Youth and make funding decisions	July – November	7
Support the set up of smaller project teams (called Sprint teams) to take on specific tasks eg monitoring visits, grant decisions or impact visits)	November – Jan 2023	1
Support the delivery of sprint teams	Feb – May 2023	3
Facilitate and draw together adviser learning	June – July 2023	2
Facilitate and support marketing/ comms	ongoing	1

Contact

You are welcome to contact Tessa Hibbert with any questions about the role: tessa.hibbert@blagravetrust.org or 07940 545505.

Applications close on 25 April 2022 and should consist of:

- a covering letter explaining your interest in and suitability for the role
- two recent examples of your facilitation work
- two references
- Your CV

To tessa.hibbert@blagravetrust.org

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