



Micro-Commissions Brief for Digital Youth Voice Pilot

Open Call Young People and Partners

Creative Youth Network is inviting youth organisations and community partners across Bristol to apply for **paid micro-commissions** as part of our new **Digital Youth Voice pilot** — a one-year, youth-led digital storytelling service.

This is an opportunity to support young people from your community to **share their experiences, perspectives and ideas**, while building skills in digital content creation and contributing to a wider city-wide youth voice platform.

About the Programme

The Digital Youth Voice pilot will bring together young people, youth organisations and creative partners to produce a consistent stream of **youth-led content** — from interviews and storytelling to podcasts, videos and social content.

Alongside a core youth media team, we will fund **12 micro-commissions** for organisations and groups across Bristol to contribute content that reflects their communities and lived experiences. The commissions invite young people to work with organisations to produce a piece of long-form content – *written, video, or*

audio content that explores a topic in depth and typically takes more than a few minutes to consume.

These commissions are designed to ensure that **seldom-heard voices across Bristol are represented**, including young people who may not otherwise access creative or media opportunities.

The Digital Youth Voice Pilot is funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and delivered on behalf of Bristol City Council.

What is a Micro-Commission?

Micro-commissions are small, flexible grants for youth organisations or groups to work with young people to create one piece of long-form digital content. **Long-form storytelling is content that takes 2 minutes or more to read, watch or listen to.**

Content could include interviews, creative storytelling, explainers, or highlighting local services and opportunities — with an emphasis on **authentic youth voice rather than formal reporting**.

- **Value:** £500 per commission with at least 50% available to the young person.
- **Number available:** 12 across the pilot (July 2026 to March 2027)
- **Content types:** Long-form content in video, audio, written, audio or mixed media formats.
- **Themes:** Led by young people studying, living or working in Bristol, focusing on issues, experiences, opportunities or stories that matter to them. These could feed into particular awareness campaigns such as Black History Month, Bristol Pride, Mental Health Awareness or explore stand alone issues.

How to apply:

Young people will have a tangible, paid opportunity to produce their own content with professional support from organisations. These commissions will offer authentic, relevant and high-quality content which can be shared as collaborative posts and amplified across digital channels.

We recommend young people and partners apply together where possible - but applications from young people who do not have a named organisation are welcomed. We will look to match young people applying on their own to appropriate organisations where possible.

Application link: <https://forms.gle/3MUfJ1BH7zgAP1Cn8>

Information for young people:

We welcome applications from young people aged 16-25 who are living, studying or working in Bristol. We are particularly keen to include commissions from young people from **under-represented or marginalised communities and those with lived experience of issues.**

- You do not need direct paid experience of producing content, but you do need demonstrate you can deliver to the brief.
- Passion and insight are the most important thing! You will need to tell us your area of focus at the stage of application.
- Have the time and capacity to work on the commissions, producing it to agreed deadlines. We anticipate each long-form content to take a maximum of 16 hours to produce.

Information for Organisations:

These commissions provide tangible opportunities for organisations to champion and support the idea of a young person struggling to access creative or media opportunities. We welcome a wide range of organisations to apply, with priority given to those who have identify a named young person who has an idea for content and form in mind.

Organisations must:

- Have experience and skills to be able to support the young person to create a piece of digital content to time and budget, offering support with any additional needs.
- Work within project guidance to ensure digital content is youth-led, safe, and reflects lived experience. The organisation must also have their own safeguarding procedures in place.
- Be able to manage the contract with and payment to the young content creator.
- Engage with light-touch support and feedback from the Youth Editorial Team and Creative Youth Network as project leads. The young person will need to attend a youth-led meeting at Creative Youth Network which will be approximately 2 hours of the allocated time.

What Support is Provided:

- A **commission fee** to support delivery. This fee will be received by the partner organisation to contract the young person. The total fee per commission is £500, and we recommend a 50% minimum (£250 or above) to be paid to the young person.
- **Guidance and mentoring** from partners and opportunities to attend the project's Editorial Steering Group of young people to receive guidance and feedback.
- Tailored support from the partner organisation. Additional support in **content development, storytelling, branding and technical skills** from our Content Coordinator, the partner organisation and Creative Youth Network's digital training opportunities.
- Opportunities to connect into a wider **city-wide youth digital communications network**
- Promotion through the **project's digital platforms and partner channels**

Micro-commissioned groups will also benefit from **feedback loops and light-touch support**, ensuring young people gain meaningful skills and confidence through participation.



Why Get Involved

This programme is designed to:

- Amplify **diverse youth perspectives** from across Bristol
- Create **accessible entry points** into digital and creative opportunities
- Build **skills, confidence and pathways** for young people
- Ensure youth insight feeds into **wider decision-making and local systems**

By taking part, your organisation will help strengthen Bristol's **youth voice infrastructure** while supporting young people to shape conversations about the issues affecting their lives

Timeline & Deadline

Commissions will run across the pilot period (June 25 to March 26), with flexible delivery timelines agreed with each partner and young person. Commissions that can be delivered between July and October will be prioritised in the first instance.

Application deadline:

Rolling deadlines. New applications will be reviewed every two weeks.

How to Apply

The main answers within our application form can be submitted in written, audio and video formats.

Please find our application form at: <https://forms.gle/3MUfJ1BH7zgAP1Cn8>

For any questions or if you require additional support with your application, please contact:

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