



30 July 2008

Dear Colleague,

myplace - youth facilities funding

I am writing to you to invite you to complete the enclosed Register of Interest form or the Service Providers survey for the **myplace** programme which is being administered by the Big Lottery Fund on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).

myplace is a DCSF scheme that aims to deliver world class youth facilities, driven by active participation of young people and their views and needs. The scheme is being run via a bidding process and endorsement of the Local Authority is a requirement. Nationally, **myplace** will deliver £190m of Government capital investment over the next three years through grants of between £1m and £5m. We are being invited to submit a bid by 30 September 2008. The bid may be led by the Local Authority, or by third sector not for profit organisation. £160m is to be released in year one, with a second round of bids being considered for year two, to allocate the remaining £30m and any funds that were not allocated in year one.

myplace will only fund projects that will deliver on all four of the specified outcomes which are

- more young people, parents and communities feel that young people have exciting and safe places to go in their leisure time where they can get involved in an attractive range of activities;
- more young people, particularly the most disadvantaged, participate in positive leisure time activities that support their personal and social development;
- more young people have access to information, advice and support services from within places they feel comfortable;
- stronger partnership working between local authorities, third, private and public sector partners to plan, deliver and operate financially sustainable youth facilities with and for young people.

Bids will need to demonstrate evidence of the real participation of young people, particularly disadvantaged young people, in the development, design and future of running of the project. All projects will need to demonstrate genuine cross-sector partnership between public sector bodies and third and/or private sector organisations. Bids will also have to show how they contribute to the Children and Young People's Plan and the Local Area Agreement.

Importantly, the programme will only fund capital costs; the organisation delivering the project will need to ensure the long-term sustainability through development of appropriate revenue funding streams.

Herefordshire Council Children and Young People's Directorate is identifying potential projects in Herefordshire. We have worked closely with young people to identify their ideal requirements. To help take forward this work, the enclosed **Register of Interest: myplace Youth Facilities** is enclosed to establish whether your organisation is interested in leading or being a main partner of a **myplace** bid.

The deadline for the return of the register of interest form is **15 August**. Submitted register of interest forms will then be considered by an appraisal panel, including young people, on 19 August to determine which organisations could lead or contribute to a bid for Herefordshire.

Herefordshire Council will be able to support a **myplace** bid by helping organisations identify potential service providers and develop partnership arrangements to deliver additional services for young people. The Council will also provide expertise to write the bid, should a single organisation be endorsed as the lead agency. Where necessary, there may also be an opportunity to access feasibility funding from **myplace** to enable you to work up your proposed facility if chosen to progress to full application.

If as an organisation you are not in a position to act as the lead or one of the main partners for the project, but wish to be considered as one of the contributing service providers, please can you return the **myplace Service Provider** survey. This survey will need to also be returned by **15 August**.

We will contact all organisations that return surveys after the 19 August 2008 to inform them of next steps.

I hope that I have provided enough information about **myplace**, if you need any further background information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Information is also available on the myplace website:
www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_myplace.htm

Yours sincerely

Jenny Lockwood
Assistant Manager, Community Youth Service