

Organisation Name		Reference code
Oasis Project		2025-10-YWG23
Organisation Address		
11 Richmond Place Brighton BN2 9NA UK		
Website Address		
https://www.oasisproject.org.uk/		
How did you hear about the Triangle Trust?		
Rosa		
Please describe your organisation's purpose in one or two sentences.		
Oasis Project gives hope and help to women, children & families affected by drug & alcohol problems. Alongside treatment and therapy, we have dedicated services for young women, sex workers and women who have had children removed from their care.		
Type of organisation? (tick all that apply and complete relevant details)		
Charity	Registered Charity Number	Date Registered
Yes	1065503	1997
Community Interest Company	Registered Companies House Number	Date Registered
No	03447762	Laur
Social Enterprise	Has your organisation been awarded the Social Enterprise Mark?	Year Awarded
No		
Grant Summary		
This grant will fund a dedicated Practitioner to provide flexible, trauma-informed, gender-specific support to young women aged 16-30 in Brighton who are engaged in or at risk of offending. Based in Oasis' Hope service, the role will offer 1:1 casework plus professional consultancy, bridging gaps in current provision for high-risk young women.		
Please describe the specific needs of the young women and girls you work with that this project will address		
<p>Among the services offered at Oasis Project is Hope: a dedicated range of services for young adults aged 16-25. Within our existing caseloads, waiting lists, and through local partnerships (including Brighton & Hove Youth Offending Service, RU-OK? Adolescent Service, the Police, YMCA, CAMHS, and schools/colleges), we are seeing increasing numbers of young women aged 16-30 who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are (or have been) involved in the Criminal Justice System - around 40% of all the women we currently work with have current or historic involvement. • Have multiple factors placing them at high risk of offending behaviour, including: • Care experience - 50% of women in our service for those who've had children removed are themselves care leavers. Around 70% of young people accessing our therapy have children's social work involvement, including Kinship Care. • Education risk factors - such as exclusion, persistent absence, and low attainment. • Low employment - most young women not in education are unemployed or on low incomes. • Anger management/violent behaviour - highly prevalent among young women we support, per risk assessment data. 		

- County Lines - young women are increasingly recruited into drug-dealing networks and face heightened risk of violence and sexual exploitation.
- Parental substance misuse - 100% of children in our young people's therapy service have experienced this; it's a common factor in women with entrenched criminal justice involvement.
- Mental health, self-harm, suicidal ideation - over 80% of the women we work with experience poor mental health; suicidal ideation is rising.
- Cuckooing and exploitation - particularly among mums who've had a child removed and are vulnerable due to housing and drug misuse.
- Sex work - we are seeing more young women referred into our specialist service at risk of exploitation and violence.
- Substance misuse - well-established links exist between problematic drug/alcohol use and female offending.
- Domestic abuse - nearly 70% of women across our services have experienced this, often alongside complex trauma.
- Youth Offending Service history - we receive referrals through YOS, but current provision doesn't always meet their needs.
- Poverty and unemployment - Brighton & Hove scores below the national average on multiple health determinants (JSNA), including deprivation, long-term unemployment, and crime.
- Neurodivergence - while not a risk factor in itself, we see trauma compounded by diagnosed or undiagnosed neurodivergence, which is often hard to disentangle.
- Social isolation - one of the most common experiences among the young women we support.

Through our work, we know these young women need intensive, flexible, long-term, gender-informed casework to support their holistic wellbeing and enable behaviour change. As the only local provider of gender-specific services for young women, Oasis is well placed to meet this need. However, our current funding criteria limit who we can support.

Evidence from the EIF shows that approaches grounded in therapeutic principles are the most effective in reducing youth violence and crime. While some young women engage with us through therapy or structured drug/alcohol treatment, those unable to demonstrate "readiness" for therapy are often excluded due to the complexity of their lives. Structured treatment does not suit everyone, particularly those not using substances or unable to commit to a rigid programme.

With this grant, we would employ a dedicated practitioner to work flexibly and intensively with a caseload of young women, using a person-centred, trauma-informed approach. In addition to direct work, the practitioner would offer consultancy to colleagues working with young women across other Oasis services, sharing expertise and building internal capacity.

The post would sit within Oasis's Hope service, offering clients direct access to other services whilst supporting the practitioner through joined-up risk management.

What are the key outcomes you will be seeking to achieve for young women and girls either at risk of offending or who are already caught up in the criminal justice system? How will you track the impact you are making?

We anticipate the project will achieve the following outcomes for young women aged 16-30 at risk of, or engaged in, offending behaviour:

- Reduced risk of offending
- Fewer incidents of reoffending
- Improved mental health and psychological wellbeing
- Increased attendance and attainment in education, and greater engagement in training or employment
- Increased pro-social behaviour and participation in positive activities
- Improved sense of identity and self-worth
- Reduced social isolation

- Increased resilience - including the ability to manage emotions and control behaviour through access to consistent and dependable support
- Improved relationships with partners, family (including children), and friends - or support to exit unsafe/unhealthy relationships
- Improved physical health and wellbeing, including reduced drug/alcohol use where relevant

To monitor progress, we will use established systems of data collection and outcome tracking. We will define key performance indicators aligned with the Triangle Trust's core impact areas (individual development, health and wellbeing, employability, education, and social/community cohesion), and map project outcomes against these. A mixed-method approach will be used to gather outputs and outcomes:

- Referral data - including source (e.g. PRUs, colleges, probation, CVS, Children's Services/Leaving Care), to track the effectiveness of referral routes and promotional activity
- Demographic and needs data - gathered at referral/assessment and stored in our InForm database, along with personalised care plans
- Engagement data - including frequency of contact and number of successful/planned exits to indicate retention, independence, and reduced reliance on services
- Criminal justice data - e.g. appointments attended, community sentences completed, offending incidents, and police contact, explored in ongoing casework
- Outcomes monitoring - using the Outcome Star tool to capture practitioner-observed and self-reported progress across areas such as health, wellbeing, relationships, and education/training; reviewed every 3 months to show distance travelled
- Case studies - to provide qualitative insight into the nuances of intervention and individual progress

In addition to client outcomes, we will also measure the number and quality of professional consultations provided by the practitioner to staff across Oasis. Outputs and professional feedback will help us assess the wider impact of the role and its contribution to improving practice across the organisation.

What are the key activities you will undertake with this funding to achieve these outcomes?

This funding will enable us to employ a dedicated practitioner to work directly with up to 40 young women (per year) aged 16-30 in Brighton & Hove who are:

- Currently involved in the criminal justice system and at risk of re-offending [e.g. those recently released from youth offender institutions or prison; placed on Out of Court Disposals or Community Sentences];

OR

- At risk of entering the criminal justice system [including those meeting the risk factors outlined earlier].

The practitioner will provide structured, trauma-informed support, ranging from early intervention to intensive casework, depending on the young woman's needs and circumstances.

We will utilise and expand our existing referral pathways, accepting self-referrals and professional referrals from:

- Local 6th Form Colleges
- Brighton PRU [particularly supporting girls leaving at 16]
- RuOK? Adolescent Service
- Children's Social Services, incl. Leaving Care Team
- Police and Probation
- Local voluntary sector partners incl. YMCA
- Domestic abuse services
- Oasis adult and Hope services
- CGL [Brighton's drug/alcohol treatment provider]

Following referral, the practitioner will conduct a rapid triage and full assessment to identify risks, protective factors, needs, and the young woman's own goals. A

personalised Care and Development Plan will be developed collaboratively and reviewed regularly. The practitioner will work closely with existing professionals to ensure a coordinated, wraparound response from the outset.

Ongoing support will be delivered via assertive outreach, 1:1 casework, groupwork, and participation in multi-agency forums. Interventions may include:

- Harm minimisation
- Trauma stabilisation
- Understanding the Cycle of Change
- Domestic abuse support [incl. DASH, safety planning, IDVA referrals]
- Housing and benefits advice
- Family and relationship work
- Substance misuse support
- Advocacy and accompaniment [e.g. to probation, GP, or police]
- Support with training/employment [e.g. via BHT or Recovery College]

Young women will also be supported to access wider Oasis services where appropriate, including 1:1 therapy, drug/alcohol treatment, detox/rehab, and our free on-site crèche.

The model is relational, long-term, and holistic. A trusted, non-judgemental relationship with the practitioner enables young women to reduce shame, build trust, stabilise, and consider change. It supports autonomy, increases self-worth and engagement, and improves stability. The option to meet in Oasis Project's women-only premises ensures a safe, trauma-informed setting.

In addition to client work, the practitioner will offer professional advice and consultancy to colleagues across Oasis. This will follow an AMBIT-informed model, enabling reflective practice and shared learning. This approach has been successful where practitioners bring specialist knowledge [e.g. in domestic abuse], helping to build team capacity and improve outcomes for young women at risk of offending.

Does your proposed project already exist or is this a new piece of work? If this project is already operating, please describe to us how you will use this as an opportunity to build on what you have achieved to date. If this is a new piece of work, please explain what this funding will enable you to do differently.

This is a new piece of work which will integrate with - and strengthen - the existing Hope service offer within Oasis Project.

About Oasis Project: Oasis Project gives hope and help to women, children and families affected by drug and alcohol problems. Since our inception nearly 30 years ago, we have taken a gender-specific approach in recognition of the barriers women face in accessing support - particularly those relating to experiences of domestic and sexual violence, parenting responsibilities, and the intergenerational impacts of substance misuse. We have developed dedicated services for young women, sex workers, and women who have had children removed from their care.

About the Hope service: The Hope offer currently includes:

- A specialist therapy service for young women with experiences of early trauma
 - A structured drug and alcohol treatment service for young women [and a small number of young men and non-binary individuals who are care-experienced or new to treatment] who want to reduce their substance use
 - A transitions therapy offer for young adults experiencing drug and alcohol problems
- Within our wider adult services, we also employ a dedicated Criminal Justice Lead who works with women aged 18+ who are in treatment, using drugs or alcohol, and are at risk of or already engaged in the criminal justice system.

While this existing provision enables us to support some young women therapeutically, our current psychotherapy offer can only be accessed by those able to demonstrate readiness for therapy - a stage many young women with complex, compounding needs are not yet able to reach. Although some young women are supported through structured treatment, this is only available to those using drugs or alcohol. There is currently no equivalent offer for young women who are not using substances, and the

structured nature of treatment is not always aligned with what young women want or need at that stage.

Lord Farmer's review identified that "healthy, supportive" relationships are "utterly indispensable" for women in - or at risk of entering - the criminal justice system. This project seeks to address that gap by drawing on Oasis' extensive specialist experience to provide earlier, more flexible support. The work will offer assertive, relationship-based support to young women, building motivational, trusting relationships as a foundation for sustained engagement. The model will be integrated with the Hope service but tailored to meet the needs of those young women who currently fall outside existing therapeutic or treatment pathways - ensuring timely, joined-up support grounded in understanding of trauma, gender and relational need.

What expertise and track record do you have to be able to deliver this work successfully? Please specifically mention your expertise linked to gender and trauma informed approaches.

Oasis Project has over 27 years' experience delivering services for women, and over a decade of focused work with young women. Our longstanding commitment to gender-responsive and trauma-informed approaches is central to all service delivery, including for young women at risk of or involved in offending behaviour. Whilst we hold the relevant expertise, structure, and partnership models to deliver this work, our current service lacks dedicated funding and capacity to scale up and meet growing demand from this group.

Oasis holds external accreditation as a Trauma-Informed Organisation, awarded by One Small Thing. This recognises that trauma-informed practice is embedded across our governance, leadership, and service delivery. Our trauma-informed model ensures that services for young women are designed to be safe, empowering, and built on trust. We have a dedicated, women-only premises in central Brighton from which we deliver our services. We have a separate building for delivery of therapy, and another for our creche. This model means that women can be seen from safe, accessible and trauma-informed spaces depending on their needs.

We are part of the commissioned drug & alcohol treatment partnership in Brighton & Hove, which sees us delivering care-coordination to around 500 women each year in treatment and includes a dedicated programme for parents whose children are open to social services as a result of parental substance misuse. We have a specialist sex worker outreach service and Looking Forward, a service for women who have had children removed from their care. Alongside all our services we offer a free creche so that childcare is never a barrier to women getting the support they need. Young Oasis includes a dedicated therapy service for children affected by parental substance misuse.

Oasis' Hope Service responds to the developmental and transitional needs of 18-25 year olds rather than offering a 'one-size fits all' service. This response was been implemented out of moral and ethical concerns; young adults should receive services early to prevent harm and entrenched issues in later adulthood.

We have well-established referral pathways, including self-referral, primary care, probation, CAMHS, schools, adult social care, children's services, and third sector providers [e.g. housing]. This enables us to respond flexibly to complex and intersecting needs, particularly among young women facing multiple vulnerabilities.

Please explain how the grant will be spent

The grant will be used to fund the delivery of a dedicated practitioner role supporting young women at risk of or involved in the criminal justice system. The breakdown of costs is as follows:

- Staffing Costs (£29,744): This includes salary, National Insurance, pension contributions and essential training for the practitioner.
- Clinical Supervision - Group (£500): To support practitioner wellbeing and safe, reflective practice.

- Travel / Expenses (£500): To enable outreach, in-reach and attendance at multi-agency meetings across Brighton & Hove.
 - InForm License (£200): Annual license cost for our case management system to securely record client data and outcomes.
 - Project Materials, Activities & Supplies (£2,350): To support client engagement, including group materials, practical supplies, and participation activities.
 - Contribution to Overheads (£6,659): Calculated at 20%, this covers a proportionate share of core costs including premises, senior management, HR, IT, finance, monitoring and project administration.
- Total per year: £39,953

Who will be responsible for overseeing and delivering this work?

The Young Women's Practitioner role would be responsible for the main delivery of the project. The role would be advertised internally in line with fair HR practice. We anticipate our current Criminal Justice Lead practitioner (whose role is funded until end March 2026) will apply. This practitioner has extensive professional experience spanning the local housing and criminal justice sectors. In her current role, she attends the MAPPA meeting, runs the DRR and has direct working relationships with probation and the police. Prior to being successfully appointed to her current role, she worked within the Oasis Hope treatment service which means she has excellent professional relationships with adolescent services locally and in both this role and with previous organisations gained experience in working with young women.

The Practitioner will be Line Managed by the Complex Needs Team Leader who oversees the Hope service. She has over fifteen years' experience working in a range of settings with those with complex needs, and a wealth of people management experience.

The Practitioner will also receive externally facilitated clinical supervision, monthly internally facilitated Reflective Practice, and participation in quarterly 'Time to Think' sessions where staff share areas of expertise. These are all important parts of delivering our trauma informed offer, ensuring that staff are equipped and supported to minimise the impact of vicarious trauma.

The Practitioner would be part of Oasis' Hope joint risk meetings, which take place weekly and are participated by Hope therapists and treatment workers to ensure practice is joined up, to share in case formulations around risk and safeguarding, to share best practice and skills.

Project Monitoring and Performance reporting will be overseen by Oasis; Head of Development and Fundraising, who has particular expertise in project management and data and impact monitoring, which will ensure the project is meeting its intended outputs and outcomes.

A note on Oasis Project's Leadership and Governance:

Oasis Project is led by a skilled Board of Trustees with expertise across Health and Social Care, Research, HR, Education, and Data. Leadership is delegated to the CEO and Senior Management Team. The CEO has over 20 years' experience in the VCSE sector, with a strong background in services for women and children. Senior staff bring additional expertise in operations, safeguarding, fundraising, and voluntary sector leadership.

Governance is maintained through three Board subgroups (Quality Assurance & Risk Management, HR & Health and Safety, and Finance & Fundraising), each with clear oversight responsibilities. Financial controls include regular reporting, annual audits, and policy compliance.

Oasis is CQC-registered (rated Good, with Outstanding for responsiveness), OFSTED-registered, and holds the Silver Trauma-Informed Quality Mark, Investors in People, and the Centre for Social Justice Award (2022)

How do you plan to continue this work once the grant ends?

Oasis has a good track record for attracting ongoing investment in our projects through

both Trust & Foundation and Statutory funding. We have a reputation for delivering work of high quality to agreed specification: both innovative and practical. We are committed to providing services that are sustainable and long term.

We plan to utilise learning and build on the capacity this project will offer to further contribute to the evidence base for what works to meet the needs of young women engaged in / at risk of offending, and to inform local strategy and policy in relation to the needs of young women. We would intend through this project to share impact reports locally, highlighting best practice in forums we already participate in, including:

- Violence Against Women and Girls Forum
- PAN Sussex Domestic Abuse Partnership group
- Brighton and Hove Community Safety Partnership
- Safeguarding Adults Board and Local Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board
- Community of Practice for professionals working with women who had children permanently removed from their care
- Sex Workers Steering Group
- Combatting Drugs Partnership Board

We would also seek opportunities to showcase the work through press releases distributed via specialist publications / platforms like Clinks, Agenda, One Small Thing and Rosa.

If successful, on the completion of the project we would hope to be able to utilise its evidenced success to seek longer-term investment in the service and the young women's practitioner as a core element of our organisational delivery.

Is your organisation led by women and are at least 80% of your organisation's total beneficiaries' women and girls? Please provide a breakdown of your beneficiary numbers for the past 2 years.

We are the only gender-specific provider of women's drug & alcohol treatment services alongside a free creche and dedicated services for children and young people in the UK. We remain committed to meeting the specific needs of women in all that we do. We are led by two female trustee co-chairs, a female CEO and a 93% female team.

All our services are for women, with the following exceptions:

- Babies and toddlers who are boys - in our creche
- Boys under 18 - in our therapy service
- Men who are fathers - in our Male POCAR (Parenting our Children, Addressing Risk) programme
- Young men who are care experienced or new to treatment through the Hope drug & alcohol treatment and transitions therapy services

In 2024-25, we worked with 1076 people in total:

- 938 women / girls (87%)
- 138 men/boys (13%)

In 2023-24, we worked with 1112 people in total:

- 989 women / girls
- 123 men/boys

Does your organisation have existing knowledge and expertise working across the criminal justice system?

We have 27+ years' experience working with female offenders and those at risk of offending. Around 45% of women using our adult services have current or historic involvement in the criminal justice system and we employ a Criminal Justice Lead in our adult services team. Oasis currently delivers the Women's DRR (Drug Rehabilitation Requirement) from our women-only premises for women in Brighton & Hove.

Our commissioned treatment provision supports key probation priorities: reducing reoffending is a treatment goal, and outcomes monitoring demonstrates our effectiveness in supporting rehabilitation. In 2024/25, 560 women were care-

coordinated by Oasis, with 98% retained in structured treatment for over 12 weeks and high positive completion rates for both drugs and alcohol. Our work tackles the root cause of problematic drug and alcohol use, helping build social capital and breaking intergenerational cycles of addiction and reoffending.

We were previously funded by the Knife Crime Community Fund to deliver therapeutic and group interventions to young people vulnerable to exploitation and coercion to become involved in violence, including those involved in County Lines drug trafficking operations.

We delivered the Fulfilling Lives programme in in East Sussex until 2023; part of a national project to deliver systems change for those with multiple and complex needs which included 'through the gate' work. From 2021 until recently when the funding ended, under Project ADDER, Oasis was commissioned by East Sussex County Council deliver the EMPOWER project and Adder Sex Worker Service in East Sussex; targeted, specialist interventions for women with crack/opiate addictions and criminal justice involvement, including in-reach at Bronzefield women's prison.

Our model is evidence-based and continually reviewed. We have a proven track record of delivering outcomes across recovery and desistance from offending. This was demonstrated through our previous participation in the Inspire Partnership under the Corston Agenda, and earlier delivery of DTTO services. An evaluation using Social Return on Investment methodology [A Wise Commission] showed that women's community services like Oasis are cost-effective alternatives to custody and contribute to long-term reductions in reoffending.

We have strong links with Probation and Police, and participate in both the MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) and the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) to represent and advocate for our clients. Some of our work is commissioned by the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and we are part of their Safe Space Network to ensure joined-up working with local providers in the women's and victims space. We receive referrals from - and have previously worked in partnership with - Brighton & Hove's Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and Youth Justice (Offending) Service and we currently work in partnership with RuOK? (Brighton's adolescent substance misuse service).

Will you be receiving funding from any other sources for this project?

This is not a match-funded project, but it complements our wider Hope service, which is sustained through Bloom Foundation, OHID/DATRIG via BHCC, and a subcontract with CGL for under-25s drug and alco

Do all staff have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks? If no please state why.

Yes

Reason why not all staff have DBS checks.

Total funding requested in this application (£10,000 to £80,000 with a maximum of £40,000 in one year)

£79906

Proposed grant start date

4/1/2026

Proposed grant duration in months

24

How much funding is required each year?

Year 1

£39953

Year 2

£39953

What was your organisation's expenditure in the most recent financial year?

£1473379

What was your organisation's annual income in the most recent financial year?

£1515237

What value of unrestricted reserves did your organisation have at the end of the most recent financial year?

£339189
