

# Glasgow Canal Stalled Spaces



## INTRODUCTION

In 2018, The Glasgow Regeneration Partnership launched the Canal Stalled Spaces programme. This is the second iteration of the programme that will be funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund's Great Place Scheme. This bid provides a unique opportunity to test out activities and innovation around Glasgow Canal while harnessing and celebrating its cultural, economic and environmental heritage. The Canal Stalled Spaces scheme forms an activity that is being rolled out as a grant scheme to support innovative projects for activating spaces in the gateway area of the Glasgow Canal Corridor. The scheme follows existing procedures in place for the Glasgow City Council Stalled Spaces scheme but with variation in criteria to reflect the heritage and long-term vision for the area. Details in the sections below.

## BACKGROUND

Glasgow's Canal is a scheduled monument of national importance and synonymous with Glasgow's industrial past. The canal's water space and tow paths function as a corridor of natural heritage, with the surrounding area rich in old and new cultural and architectural assets. Following years of industrial decline, the City is committed to breathing new life into this historic area and demonstrating its potential to stimulate new forms of inclusive social, cultural and economic prosperity.

Over the past few years, regeneration along the canal in Glasgow has been gaining momentum, with the introduction of new activities such as the urban water sports around Pinkston Basin and the area's growing prominence as a creative industry hub. The canal has also been the focus of charrettes seeking to engage with the diverse communities around the canal and explore the potential of the canal as a common catalyst for positive change in that area of the city. These interactions reveal a growing desire locally and across the city for showcasing the potential of the canal corridor for development –physical and economic, strengthening its accessibility and visibility, celebrating its cultural and economic heritage, promoting its wealth in ecology and link with other green networks in the city and creating opportunities to live, work and play, with the canal at the heart of this regeneration.

## CANAL OPPORTUNITIES

The development of Glasgow Canal as a vibrant urban space and a creative industries hub, building on the area's unique location, growth opportunities, low rental costs, flexible spaces and cultural heritage is key. Currently many of the connecting paths and spaces in and around the Canal are in poor or underused condition, all of which act as a detractor and barrier to the area's accessibility and quality of place.

The Canal Stalled Spaces programme is targeted towards improving such spaces and connections while harnessing the area's unique heritage for testing and growing new micro-economies and activities in the area. The programme covers an area along the Canal from Firhill Basin in the north to the Pinkston Basin in the south, abutting the motorway (See Focus Area Map). It is recognised that this area of the Canal, nested between areas of regeneration such as Port Dundas, Hamiltonhill, Possilpark, Firhill and Woodside and within walking distance of the City Centre, presents significant opportunities in terms of stalled spaces that can be used as exemplars to engage with the local communities and demonstrate / test out creative ideas for harnessing the social, economic and environmental potential of the area.

## CANAL STALLED SPACES SCHEME GUIDANCE

The Canal Stalled Spaces programme invites proposals from organisations, practices and groups in Glasgow to submit proposals for projects which use creative processes to activate sites and spaces in the Canal area, helping deliver the aspirations for the Canal and celebrating its unique heritage in imaginative and innovative ways. We are keen to encourage projects that involve cross-disciplinary groups - entrepreneurs, artists, architects, and other creative practitioners, that have a passion for and experience of social engagement with people and place, and that will contribute to the activation of stalled spaces in the area for the benefit of the local communities, the environment and the economy.

### 1. Key Aims

This scheme has been designed to encourage projects that:

- Are imaginative in the processes employed to improve and activate spaces.
- Create meaningful opportunities for social enterprises or creative practitioners to work with other professionals and communities within the area, focusing on testing ideas, activating spaces, encouraging production, building skills and fostering micro economies.
- Will generate a positive impact on the area, enhance and promote the Canal and the public realm, improve access to facilities and their use by local communities.
- Will act as exemplar projects to inspire and influence future practice for creative people, within communities.
- Will demonstrate the value of creativity and public engagement as a regenerative tool.

### 2. Areas of focus

The Canal Stalled Spaces scheme covers four priority areas within the scheme's focus area (map). Applications to the scheme must identify which of these areas the proposal covers.

1. Land earmarked for development but stalled;
2. Underutilised spaces;
3. Facades or elevations of buildings, prominent or visible from a street/path;
4. The canal waterway;
5. Streets, walkways or other public spaces;

For projects to be supported, information on ownership must be available and permission to use the site must either be agreed upon or under discussion at the time of application. For all successful projects a written permission to use / lease will be required before any grants are released. Support with securing a lease for a site can be provided by Development and Regeneration Services as part of this scheme.

### 3. Who Can Apply?

Creative groups or socially-motivated organisations that are either based in Glasgow or working in partnership with groups, organisations, businesses or individuals based in the Canal area are eligible to apply. Groups should:-

- be not-for-profit;
- have a managing body, management committee, or a similar body which meets regularly;
- have elected office bearers e.g. chairperson, secretary and treasurer;
- have a Governing Document (e.g. a constitution) that has been approved by the organisation and signed by an office bearer;
- have a bank account with at least 3 unrelated signatories.

### 4. Applying for the Canal Stalled Spaces Scheme

Under this programme you can apply for up to a maximum of £4,500 or minimum of £500. This fund may be used to realise your idea by purchasing equipment or materials, for sessional fees for work that needs to be done on a site, or other such purposes. These are just examples.

Applications must be submitted by the deadline dates (as indicated on the website) to allow proper and full consideration including the assessment and scoring process. Interested groups are encouraged to get in touch for pre-application discussion and advice. Once a decision has been taken you will be informed of the outcome in writing. If successful, there will be standard conditions, and in some cases there may be specific additional conditions applied to your grant offer.

### 5. Support

The initiative is intended to support and benefit from the local knowledge network and the successful partnership working in the area. There is therefore an opportunity for successful applicants to partner with or tap into resources available in the area for the successful delivery of their projects. This will be facilitated by the programme and may include (depending on the needs of the project) access to local meeting / presentation spaces, workshops, tools and other equipment from the tools library and design feedback/ support from subject experts.

### 6. Timescales

This is a one-off pilot grant scheme for the Canal area for 2018-20 and will not follow a regular funding cycle. The scheme does not affect the existing Glasgow City Council Stalled Spaces programme which will continue to operate on a twice yearly basis.