

বাংলাদেশ ইয়ুথ এন্ড



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Bangladesh Youth and Cultural Shomiti

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PRESS RELEASE, For Immediate Release

Bangladesh Youth and Cultural Shomiti Receives Over £500,000 for Infrastructure Upgrades

Bangladesh Youth and Cultural Shomiti (BYCS), a charitable organization in Leicester, has received over £500,000 in capital grants for essential repairs and development works at its Biddulph Street site. The funds were awarded by the Community Ownership Fund of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities, recently renamed as the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (£409,653 Capital Grant plus £24,000 Revenue Grant for alternative venue hire and storage during construction) and the Reaching Communities England Programme of The National Lottery Community Fund (£99,998 as match funding). BYCS will also provide an additional £2,415 from its unrestricted funding income to cover the shortfall in required match funding.

The purpose of this funding is to:

- Create additional capacity for learning and development
- Improve accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- Install heat-saving double-glazed doors, windows, a heat pump, and solar panels to reduce overall running costs and BYCS's carbon footprint.

Without these planned infrastructure upgrades, the asset is at risk of rapid deterioration. Once the improvements are complete, BYCS aims to enhance sustainable employment, community engagement, and societal contributions, particularly for individuals with limited skills and resources.

The building was transferred to BYCS from city council in 2020, as part of its community asset transfer scheme.

City Mayor Sir Peter Soulsby said: "This is excellent news. I would like to congratulate BYCS on their tireless and successful efforts to raise funds for these renovation works. I am delighted that the city council was able to kickstart the process by transferring the building to BYCS. The process of community asset transfer exists to secure community use of buildings and support development for community and voluntary organisations. This case is a superb example of how it can work to empower and benefit communities."

"We are incredibly grateful for this funding package," says Abdul Bari, Chair of BYCS. "These funds will enable us to enhance our services and support for the community, creating an environment that our community can take pride in."

For more information, please contact: Dr. Shofiqul Islam Chowdhury, Programme Development Manager at BYCS, via email: learn4life@bycs.org.uk or by land line :0116 275 5855 or mobile :07850 278422.



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