

➔ **Order, order**

Aim: For young people to explore the different criteria that might be used in awarding grants and to prioritise them.

The £5 exercise will have brought out many different bids for funding. Some may conflict with each other, some are just hard to compare. But if you are going to make decisions about how grants are awarded, you need criteria to judge by.

You will need

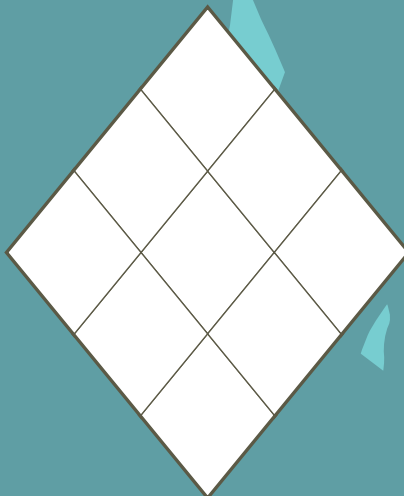
Square pieces of paper, card or sticky notes, and at least 45 minutes.


What to do

Simply get young people talking about the criteria that matter to them, by diamond ranking nine criteria written out on cards or sticky notes.

Diamond ranking is a way of getting things in a priority order, but without being too strict about the exact position of all the elements. The most important criteria goes at the top, the least important at the bottom.

In between come the others, more or less in descending order of importance, and arranged in a diamond shape:





Get the group to come up with as many criteria as they can. Here are a few ideas to help you prompt the group – write them on square pieces of paper, card or sticky notes.

Will it benefit young people? Will it benefit the community? Is there a maximum or minimum amount? Must it be young people led? Will it work? Will it make a difference? Will it benefit large numbers of young people?

If there are particular conditions applied to your funding then include these in your criteria. You may have to support individuals leaving care or projects in a particular area.

Once the group have a long list of criteria, you'll need to choose nine of them which, as a group, you will rank in a diamond shape.

Discussion

Either do the exercise together in one group or split into smaller groups and then come together so you can all compare, challenge and explain the choices.

Afterwards

You probably will not reach total agreement and are unlikely to have developed a fixed set of criteria. But you will have a much clearer idea of what you want your YouthBank to do and what its priorities are. Continue that process with the next exercise – 'In-out target'.