Item 7b Resoruces Committee October 2026

TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL
GRANTS AWARDED FEEDBACK FORM

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Organisation Name	Todmorden Makery (Scavenger Labs FM C.I.C)		
Date of Award		**Amount of Award**	**£2700**
Total Actual Project Cost	**7,802**	**Ref Number:** *(office use only)*	**Minute ref:**

Purpose of Grant	
☐Town Hall Hire	☒Community Cohesion
☒Project Delivery	☒Cultural Arts & Music
☒Core Funding	☐Town Centre Event
☐Civic Pride	☐Food Growing
☐Town Centre Improvement	☒Skills Development
☐Safety/Promotion	☐Voluntary Sector Youth Engagement
☒Environmental Projects	☒Social Exclusion/Economic Difficulties
☒Climate Change	☒Accessibility and Inclusivity – especially Dementia friendly
☒Community Benefit	☐Other (Please Specify)

Summary of project successes outcomes, benefits to Todmorden Community and Residents and numbers positively impacted by this Grant. If a more detailed appraisal is available for your project and its outcome, please attach to this feedback form.

The grant supported the consolidation of Todmorden Makery's core repair, reuse and making activity during 2025. It contributed to the coordination and practical running of regular volunteer-led drop-ins at Todmorden Learning Centre and Community Hub, including general repair, textiles, bike repair, electrical repair, woodwork and Tool Library activity.

Todmorden Makery was able to maintain 8 weekly, 2-3 hour- daytime, evening and weekend sessions, with a minimum of 2 up to 7 volunteers, and visitors ranging from 5-20 per event in the following established disciplines:

Upholstery, textiles, crafts, bikes, electricals, electronic devices, wood, 3D printing, and general household items.

Men in Sheds, wellbeing group, weekly. This nationwide initiative offers and encourages men to come together to learn, create and socialise. It commands a great deal of loyalty and commitment amongst our participants.

Womxn in Workshops, DIY session, monthly. This popular activity attracts those who may have felt disempowered to learn such skills- with many personal woodwork projects realised, plus the design, make and installation of the cladding of planters outside the College's recently reconfigured entrance.

The project delivered the central purpose described in our application: providing a welcoming, low-cost and inclusive

place where local people could repair household items, learn practical skills, share existing knowledge and take part in community activity. Volunteers supported people with repairs to clothing, bikes, household goods, electronics and other items, helping people avoid unnecessary replacement costs and reducing waste. Donated items were also assessed, repaired or reused where possible, including through our free or pay-as-you-feel provision.

A key benefit was the support and coordination provided to volunteers. The Makery relies on people with different levels of experience contributing what they can: from specialist repair skills to welcoming visitors, sorting materials, helping with events and learning alongside others. The funded activity helped sustain that shared effort, maintain a safe and usable workshop, respond to enquiries and offers of donations, and keep regular sessions accessible to the wider community.

The project also supported community connection and wellbeing. People came not only to fix things, but to meet others, contribute their skills, build confidence and take part in a constructive shared activity. This was particularly valuable for people facing financial pressures, isolation or a need for a welcoming route into volunteering.

Workshops

These additional complementary events, based on creative reuse or repair, were coordinated and overseen by the VC, including:

• Print and Weave, Todmorden College Open Day (September)

• Printing with Found Objects (October)

• Collage Making (December)

• Lantern Making (December)

• Beaded Festive Lights Making (December)

While not directly funded by the TTC grant some additional cycling workshops relied on the Makery as a base. Cycling UK Big Bike Revival, 10 x free Repair and Ride sessions (September–October)

Impact – if applicable and where known have benefited from project - complete where relevant.	**Numbers**
Residents engaged in project/ viewed outcome.	400
Volunteers engaged in project.	40
Todmorden residents benefitting from skills development.	1,250
Volunteers benefitting from skills development.	25
Town Centre and or other venue visits generated.	Not known
Youth persons involved in project.	25
Dementia friendly activities involved in the project	None specifically marketed but Wednesday night drop ins are suitable
Socially excluded/those with economic difficulties involved in the project.	200 (estimated)

We did not collect a separate count for this category. However, the project was designed to reduce financial barriers, with free or donation-based repair support, reuse of donated goods and activity alongside the Food Bank and other community provision.	

Financial Summary of Project/Event	**Expenditure**	**7802**	**Income**	**5102**

If possible, please provide a set of accounts in respect of this specific project and where applicable, a later set of audited accounts if these are now available since originally submitting your grant application.
Where accounts are not available a simple income and expenditure statement will suffice.
Please provide evidence of expenditure e.g. receipts and invoices via email to admin@todmorden-tc.gov.uk

Grant-supported expenditure related to the costs set out in the application: coordination of the workshop and volunteers, bookkeeping and accounting support, insurance, publicity and a contribution to rent.

How have you promoted the assistance of the Town Council in your project literature/Web Site and or Social Media? Please provide supporting evidence and where able to analytics of visits to site, opportunities to see.

Todmorden Town Council's support was acknowledged in our communications about the Makery and its activities, including website, social media posts, printed publicity and email newsletters. See evidence at http://todmordenmakery.org.uk and https://www.facebook.com/todmordenmakery

The Town Council's contribution was also recognised when communicating the importance of sustaining the Makery's regular repair, reuse and volunteer-led community provision. Supporting screenshots and examples are supplied with this form in the final section.

What lasting benefit do you think the Town Council Grant has made to your organisation?

The grant helped protect and strengthen the Makery's core capacity at a crucial point. Its lasting benefit is not limited to the individual sessions delivered during the grant period: it supported the volunteer relationships, practical systems, community confidence and regular programme from which continuing repair and reuse activity can grow.

It has helped maintain a locally rooted space where people can access tools, practical advice, donated materials and the knowledge of other residents. This makes it easier for people to repair rather than replace, develop skills over time and move from attending a session to contributing as a volunteer. The Makery remains a practical community asset for Todmorden, combining environmental action with mutual support and community connection.

The Volunteer Coordinator managed the participation of a growing community, our total number of members, now c800- the majority falling into 3 groups: those that join with a project in mind for which they need guidance and materials, for a period of a few sessions to several months, returning periodically; regulars numbering c60 at any one time, who attend their favourite sessions that match their skill set or interest; and skilled volunteers who make and repair, or ideally help participants in their endeavours.

Attendees arrive with myriad projects- they may want to fix a household item, create arts or crafts, or restore anything from a piece of furniture to a laptop. Sometimes attendees represent organisations who need our facilities to create for an event, including providing the location for a Manchester University film on therapeutic activities with dementia. Creative kits also remain available for those looking for inspiration- all equipment and materials are available at no cost.

We signed up on average 5 new members join each week of the grant period.

If you have received grants from the Town Council before, please advise how you intend to be more self-sustainable and reduce your reliance on Town Council funding for the future.

We recognise the importance of reducing reliance on grant funding. The Makery is working towards a more resilient mixed-income model, including member donations, fundraising activity, donations and sales of suitable refurbished or surplus items, project-specific grants and increased volunteer involvement in coordination and delivery.

We are also strengthening partnerships with local repair groups, community organisations and wider networks, so that skills, opportunities and resources can be shared. Our longer-term aim is to retain a small amount of paid coordination where necessary, while spreading practical responsibility across a wider and better-supported volunteer base. This will help keep the Makery sustainable without losing the inclusive, community-led nature of the project.

If your project had any impact on Climate Emergency what were these and how were they minimised ?

The project had a directly positive impact in relation to the climate emergency. Repair, reuse and sharing resources are at the heart of Todmorden Makery's work. Volunteers helped keep clothing, bikes, household goods, electronics, tools and materials in use for longer, reducing the need for replacement purchases and helping divert usable items from disposal.

The project also builds practical confidence: people learn that many items can be repaired, maintained, adapted or passed on rather than treated as disposable. Where items could not be repaired or reused, we aimed to identify appropriate routes for recycling, parts recovery or responsible disposal.

Environmental impact from delivery was kept low because activity was based in an existing local community venue and made extensive use of donated, second-hand and reclaimed tools and materials. The main resource supported by the grant was coordination of community activity, rather than the purchase of new equipment or materials.

Please attach visual evidence of the work that has been undertaken thanks to this grant. This can be photographs or videos of your work, your staff or your volunteers, recipients of services etc. Please ensure you have the permission of the people in the photographs or videos.
You can also consider attaching other visual material, such as any artwork that is created during the project, event posters, or certificates given to participants or volunteers.
These images may be used by Todmorden Town Council to share news about the project, and to publicise the work happening in our community. Images may be used in press releases, printed publicity, social media and published on Todmorden Town Council's website. We comply with GDPR law in regard to the storage of images.