



Ability Dogs 4 Young People



Sarah Preston
Communication & Funding Manager
Cowes Town Council
Northwood House, Ward Avenue
Cowes
Isle of Wight
PO31 8AZ

3 Howard Close
Niton
Isle of Wight
PO38 2EB

11th August 2026

Dear Sarah,

I am writing to ask if you would kindly consider our Charity application for grant funding.

Ability Dogs 4 Young People is providing services to disabled people on the Isle of Wight. We are improving the quality of life and wellbeing for beneficiaries with any disability and of any age, with 20% of our Working Ability Dogs placed in Cowes. Our services are on-going year-on-year. We are requesting funds to help us increase the provision of highly trained Ability Dogs (assistance Dogs).

All our Ability Dogs are trained here on the Isle of Wight by volunteers supported by a small core of paid staff. We now have 120 Ability Dogs, from young puppies in training, jacketed working assistance dogs, and School Therapy Dogs. These incredible Ability Dogs are helping people with wide ranging disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy, diabetes, epilepsy and sight disabilities, to name a few. They are helping people of any age, young and old, and many of them have complex disabilities with accompanying debilitating anxieties. They are even helping to stop self-harming behaviours which is saving lives.

As well as helping individuals, our Ability Dogs are helping the whole family, and in the case of School Therapy Ability Dogs, they are helping the students AND the staff. They are all making a real difference, and they are absolutely life-changing.

I am applying to Cowes Town Council as the Charity would benefit from grant funding input at this time. In 2018, the Charity gained the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services, and recently we have received further positive recognition. We have featured on the One Show and have a number of community awards.

Registered Address: 3 Howard Close, Niton, Isle of Wight, PO38 2EB

Phone: 01983 216246 Email: info@abilitydogs4yp.org.uk Website: www.abilitydogs4yp.org.uk

Ability Dogs 4 Young People IOW A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Registered Charity No. 1154896

Training assistance dogs for disabled young people on the Isle of Wight

I founded the Charity in 2012, and we have grown every year since then in a sustainable way. As well as increasing the number of Ability Dogs across the Island, we have increased our services to include Schools, dog phobia, and out-reach therapy. We 'weathered' the Covid crisis and the 'cost-of-living' crisis, and are now back on track and moving forward positively.

I have attached a completed Application Form. The Charity's Annual Accounts for 2025 and 2024 (which includes 2023) are attached. They have been independently examined and returned to the Charity Commission.

I have not applied for a specific amount. I am very happy to leave that to your judgement, and will be grateful for any amount. I am hoping that, after an initial grant, you may consider us for a multi-year grant, as our charitable work is on-going.

Thank you for considering our application. Please let me know if you need any more information.

With kind regards,



Carol Court
Founder & CEO