

Monthly Funding Information November 2024

This document includes information about current grants and funding opportunities primarily for Voluntary & Community Sector Groups and Organisations, Charities and Social Enterprises. Where the Grant title includes an asterisk (*), Local Authorities and other partner organisations may also be eligible to apply for the funding.

Please also note the grants that are **NEW** to the bulletin.

This document, along with information about other sources of funding and associated support, can also be accessed via the [Leicestershire Communities Grants and Funding page](#).

Please use the links in the contents table below to go directly to the relevant section:

[Funding for projects which support Adults \(including older people, veterans and adults with disabilities\)](#)

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Gardening with Disabilities Trust	30 th Nov 2024
Armed Forces Covenant – Fulfilling Futures Programme *	4 th Dec 2024
Armed Forces Covenant – Family Focus Programme *	18 th Dec 2024
Thomas Wall Trust (New)	6 th Jan 2025
Veterans Capital Housing Fund – Major Capital Grants	8 th Jan 2025
Armed Forces Covenant -Supporting Partners Programme (New)	8 th Jan 2025
Pink Ribbon Foundation	30 th May 2025
Charles Hayward Foundation – Small Grants (New)	Open
Wolfson Foundation - Hospice Care Home Training Programme (New)	Open

Funding for projects which support Young People (including young people with disabilities)

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
<u>Learning Through Landscapes – Local School Nature Grant</u>	8 th Nov 2024
<u>Weaver's Company Benevolent Fund</u>	14 th Nov 2024
<u>Toy Trust Fund</u>	Mid Nov 2024
<u>Forces Families Fund Early Years Programme</u> * (New)	20 th Nov 2024
<u>YHA Breaks Programme</u>	10 th Dec 2024
<u>Dept. For Education – Senior Mental Health Lead Training</u>	31 st Dec 2024
<u>Kelly Family Charitable Trust</u>	1 st March 2025
<u>BRIT Trust Grants</u> (New)	30 th April 2025
<u>Youth Endowment Fund</u> (New)	Open
<u>Wooden Spoon Society – Capital Grants</u> (New)	Open
<u>LoveReading4 Kids – Funding for Schools</u> (New)	Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Community Energy Fund – Midlands	8 th Nov 2024
ASDA Foundation	8 th Nov 2024
Groundwork/Comic Relief (New)	8 th Nov 2024
Leeds Building Society Foundation	11 th Nov 2024
The Quaker Housing Trust	13 th Nov 2024
Parkinson’s UK- Physical Activity Grants	15 th Nov 2024
Charnwood Borough Council – Community Grants (New)	15 th Nov 2024
Hospice UK- Improving Care	18 th Nov 2024
LGBT+ Futures – Equity Fund (New)	21 st Nov 2024
HM Govt. – Warm Homes Social Housing Fund *	25 th Nov 2024
Blaby District Council – Community Grants (New)	29 th Nov 2024
The DPO Centre – Charity and Community Fund (New)	30 th Nov 2024
The Tree Council – Branching out Fund	1 st Dec 2024
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	1 st Dec 2024
International Tree Foundation – UK Community Tree Planting *	13 th Dec 2024
Bentley Motors – Advancing Life Chances	20 th Dec 2024
Arnold Clark Community Fund	31 st Dec 2024
Yorkshire Building Society – Small Change Big Difference Fund (New)	31 st Dec 2024
Delamere Dairy Foundation	1 st Jan 2025
Peter Harrison Foundation - Active Lives Funding (New)	1 st Jan 2025
Woodland Trust – Free Trees	Jan 2025
Arts Council England - Creative People and Places 2026-29	16 th Jan 2025
Theatres Trust – Small Grants Programme *	17 th Jan 2025
The D’Oyly Carte Charitable Trust (New)	4 th Feb 2025
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council – Warm Welcome Grant	28 th Feb 2025
Turning Point – Community Innovation Fund (New)	24 th March 2025
Sport England – Grass Pitch Improvement Fund * (New)	Open
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation - Small Grants (New)	Open
Co-operative Bank - Customer Donation Fund	Open
Architectural Heritage Fund	Open
Midlands Net Zero Hub - Community Energy Fund	Open
Association of Independent Museums – Training Grant (New)	Open

Funding for projects which support Adults

[Gardening with Disabilities Trust](#)

Summary

Grants are available to individuals through the Gardening with Disabilities Trust to enable them to continue gardening despite advancing illness, age, or disability.

To apply for a grant, individuals must provide a letter from their doctor or other healthcare professional indicating their disability and a copy of another official document, such as a Personal Independence Payment (PIP) or a Blue Parking Badge.

The grants can be used for:

- Raised beds
- Poly Tunnels
- Greenhouses
- Tools
- Small-scale garden adaptations. e.g. access pathways.
- Plants or Shrubs
- Compost

Key Criteria

The Trust will only accept grant applications from March to May, and from September to November. It is unable to review or consider any applications received outside of these dates.

Amounts available: Items are purchased on behalf of the applicant. No grant monies are paid to the applicant.

Application deadlines: 30th November 2024

Armed Forces Covenant – Fulfilling Futures Programme *

Summary

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust has launched a new funding programme to improve the quality of life for veterans negatively impacted by issues related to their military service, which have created a barrier to or compromised their ability to have a fulfilling life after Service.

Projects should aim to achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- Veterans' experiences are acknowledged and understood, enabling them to progress on their recovery journey positively
- Veterans' isolation will be reduced, and their quality of life improved through gaining access to effective support
- Veterans can build a positive connection with the wider Armed Forces community and access support in the future, should they wish or be able to access other support mechanisms that are most relevant to them

Key Criteria

- Awarded projects to start between: 1st March 2025 and 1st June 2025
- Local authorities and other statutory organisations will be expected to work in partnership with other relevant organisations.
- Charities and CIC's should have been registered or incorporated for at least three years at the time of applying
- Organisations cannot submit more than one application to this programme in 2024-25 as the lead organisation. However, they may be partners in one or more applications.

Amounts available:

- Between £50,000 and £100,000 for projects lasting 12 to 18 months which meet at least one programme outcome
- Up to £300,000 for projects lasting three to four years which meet all the programme outcomes

Application deadlines: 4th December 2024

Armed Forces Covenant – Family Focus Programme *

Summary

Funding for projects lasting between twelve and eighteen months to support family members who care for wounded, injured or sick serving personnel and Veterans.

Projects should achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- Improved access to support for families, through information, advice & guidance.
- Improved family bonds, through meaningful opportunities together
- Increased resilience for family members with a caring role, through wellbeing activities
- Family members feel that their needs are recognised and that they can receive targeted support that addresses these changing needs over time
- Parents are better supported to respond to changes in family life, where there are children within the family unit
- Family carers have enhanced employability, through access to skills development which enables them to plan for the future
- Organisations and agencies can demonstrate that they are equipped with the skills and knowledge to address the specific needs of the families of wounded, injured and sick serving personnel and/or Veterans

Key Criteria

- Awarded projects to start between 1st April 2025 and 1st July 2025
- Local authorities and other statutory organisations would be expected to work in partnership with other relevant organisations.
- Charities and CIC's should have been registered or incorporated for at least three years at the time of applying
- Organisations cannot apply more than once to this programme in 2024-25

Amounts available: Between £50,000 and £100,000

Application deadlines: 18th December 2024 (decisions notified by the end of March 2025).

Thomas Wall Trust – NEW GRANT

Summary

Grants are available to registered charities to support projects that equip people (18 or older) from disadvantaged groups with the critical life skills necessary to gain employment.

Priority will be given to projects that target people experiencing multiple deprivation or other groups facing major hurdles to employment, especially women, people with physical, mental, or learning disabilities, refugees and asylum seekers.

Key Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be a UK charity that has been registered with the Charity Commission for at least 3 years
- Be a project or running costs for a charity that equips people (aged 18 and over) with the skills ready for employment
- Have an annual turnover of between £25,000 - £500,000

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 6th January 2025 (deadline for stage one /expression of interest)

Veterans Capital Housing Fund – Major Capital Grants

Summary

Grants for charities and registered social housing providers with at least five year's housing experience to support new builds and significant refurbishments, including extensions, of rental accommodation offering high quality support for veterans with a housing need.

Projects should:

- Enable major refurbishments of existing social rented or affordable rented homes for veterans.
- Enable extensions of existing buildings to increase the availability of veteran housing.
- Increase the number of new build, homes/housing units available to veterans at affordable or social rents.
- Ensure properties meet decent homes and energy efficiency standards.

Key Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be either a registered charity, that has been registered in the UK for at least three years and can show it works with Veterans or a registered social housing provider that can show it works with Veterans.
- Have ownership of the facility or a lease of 10 or more years.
- Have at least five years' relevant social housing experience.
- Be able to show the majority of their organisation's work is with veterans or the predominant beneficiaries of this specific project would be veterans.

Amounts available: Between £75,000 and £500,000

Application deadlines: Round 3 is now open for Expressions of Interest with a deadline of 8th January 2025

Armed Forces Covenant -Supporting Partners Programme – NEW GRANT

Summary

Grants are available for projects that find ways to reduce the challenges of service life for partners of serving armed forces personnel, including reservists.

Projects should look to address one or more of the following outcomes:

- Improve the mental health and wellbeing of spouses and partners of serving personnel
- Raise awareness, including (potential) employers, of the unique challenges spouses and partners can face, and improve access to provision to help overcome these challenges
- Identify and address known and emerging gaps in provision for spouses and partners of serving personnel, including spouses and partners who are non-UK nationals
- Provide opportunities for spouses and partners to explore new ways of working, upskill and/or change careers

Key Criteria

- Applications are accepted from Armed Forces units or bases, charities, community interest companies and universities or colleges in the UK
- Charities and CICs which do not have substantial recent experience of working with the Armed Forces community can apply. However, you must be planning for your project to be delivered in partnership with another organisation or organisations with substantial recent experience of working with Armed Forces communities or are Armed Forces-specific
- Organisation must have been registered or incorporated in the UK for at least three years at the time of your application and able to provide published accounts for all three years if requested
- Projects should start by 1st July 2025 and last between 12 and 24 months

Amounts available: Between £10,000 and £60,000

Application deadlines: 8th January 2025

Pink Ribbon Foundation

Summary

Grants are available to UK charities and constituted not-for-profit organisations to support practical projects and initiatives that aim to deliver good physical and mental health to individuals with and recovering from breast cancer.

For the 2025 grant period and with requests for assistance growing, the Foundation has decided to focus in the main on organisations with limited financial resources to deliver their services.

Key Criteria

- All applicants must be prepared to inform the Foundation of their projects progress at least twice in the year of the grant, unless it is to be used for a specific event then only one report is required.
- The Pink Ribbon Foundation will only accept one application per organisation for each year
- The Pink Ribbon Foundation does accept partnership bids

Amounts available: Maximum £6,000

Application deadlines: 30th May 2025 (Grants are awarded annually in late July).

Charles Hayward Foundation – Small Grants – NEW GRANT

Summary

Grants are available to charities in the UK to support preventative and early community-based intervention programmes that focus on helping older people stay in their own homes and maintain their independence.

The scheme is looking to support projects that:

- Address isolation and depression in older people through activities like informal daycare or social and recreational programmes
- Provide support and assistance for older individuals living in their own homes
- Cater to the emotional and practical needs of older caregivers
- Meet the specific requirements of people with dementia.

Key Criteria

- The Foundation favours projects that offer a consistent and sustained benefit rather than one-off events or short-lived activities.
- Applying charities income must be less than £350,000
- Charities that have previously received a grant are asked to wait two years from the date of the grant payment before re-applying.
- Charities that have applied unsuccessfully must wait one year from the date of declination before re-applying.

Amounts available: Maximum £7,000

Application deadlines: Open

Wolfson Foundation - Hospice Care Home Training Programme - NEW GRANT

Summary

Hospices across the UK are invited to apply for funding to deliver courses and study days specifically focused on dementia care for people nearing the end of life.

Grants are available to a hospice to run a training course at no cost or heavily discounted cost to local care home staff to raise the level of dementia care, knowledge, and skills in the hospice's area of operation.

Key Criteria

- Funding will be allocated on a first come, first served basis until the budget is fully allocated.
- Courses need to be CPD accredited.
- A hospice may submit more than one application during the year and may apply for funding to run repeat sessions of courses that have taken place before – or that have received funding previously.
- Hospices are eligible for a maximum of two grants per year
- Applications must be received at least one month before the training takes place as funding will not be awarded retrospectively.

Amounts available: Maximum £2,000 per course

Application deadlines: Open

Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

[Learning Through Landscapes – Local School Nature Grant](#)

Summary

Early Years, Infant, Primary and Secondary school settings in England, Scotland and Wales can apply for free outdoor resources and four hours of professional outdoor training to deliver outdoor learning and play.

Through the Local Schools Nature Grants Scheme LTL is looking for settings whose learners are passionate about making environmental improvements for the benefit of their pupils, staff and the community. We want to work with schools/settings who will make great use of the equipment and training supplied by this programme. The ideal partners will include children in the decision making and incorporate their local community

Key Criteria

Applying organisations must have their own dedicated building and employ more than five members of staff. Dedicated building means you must be able to leave your resources/equipment out and not have to pack them away at the end of the day

Applicants must be employed by the school. We are unable to accept applications on behalf of the school from PTA's, Governors, 'Friends of' groups etc

Amounts available: £500

Application deadlines: 8th November 2024

Weaver's Company Benevolent Fund

Summary

Grants are available for UK registered charities and charitable incorporated organisations based and working in the UK that can demonstrate impact with ex-offenders, young offenders or young people at risk of offending.

The funding is intended for registered charities working to:

- Support offenders and ex-offenders into work, specifically for those looking to build skills and capability to get into sustainable work.
- Help specific groups within the criminal justice sector that are less popular with funders than others.
- Support young people (up to 25 years) from disadvantaged and socio-economically challenged groups, such as immigrants, to ensure they are given every possible chance to realise their full potential and to participate fully in society.

Key Criteria

The funding can be used for:

- Pump-priming - particularly where the grant would support a project piloting new approaches and where that grant would form a major element of the funding or where it would be matched by other funders.
- Project funding - preference is to support projects where the grant is used for an identified purpose.
- Associated project costs - applicants should include the cost of any overheads associated with the work, such as office/secretarial support, so that the project is not under-funded.
- Core costs for new projects - including staff salaries, training and overheads that enable an organisation to develop and maintain expertise.
- Innovative or pioneering work – new ideas are encouraged and projects that could inspire similar work in other areas of the country.

Amounts available: Discretionary: Small Grants of up to £5,000 or Large Grants with no set limit.

Application deadlines: 14th November 2024 for consideration in February 2025

[Toy Trust Fund](#)

Summary

Grants are available to small, registered charities to fund equipment and services to support disabled and disadvantaged children under 13 across the UK.

The fund helps disadvantaged children and their families to alleviate suffering; support children through awful experiences; encourage achievement through adversity; purchase vital equipment; provide care; bolster existing initiatives; initiate brand new projects; and satisfy basic needs.

Key Criteria

Applicants should:

- have been running for a minimum of one full year
- have unrestricted net assets of not more than £200,000 or of less than one year's income

Successful applicants cannot reapply for funding for two years

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: Mid-November for December 2024 meeting

[Armed Forces Covenant – Forces Families Fund Early Years Programme](#) * - **NEW GRANT**

Summary

The grants are available to early childhood education and childcare providers, as well as Local Authorities and organisations that train childminders. Applications can only address the needs of children who are from currently serving Armed Forces families and who are aged 0-5 years and are not yet in primary school education.

The Trust wants to help Armed Forces families access good-quality early childhood education and childcare provision close to where they are living or serving.

The grants can be used to:

- Increase capacity at the setting to allow more service children to attend
- Provide better learning environments for service children
- Provide appropriate training and development of staff to support service children

Key Criteria

Applications will be accepted from:

- Early childhood education and childcare providers operating where Armed Forces families live or work and must offer group-based childcare and have at least 50% of Service children on roll (unless under a cluster of two or more settings of smaller numbers of Service children).
- Local authorities who wish to supply specific training to early childhood education and childcare providers supporting Service children aged 0-5 years.
- An appropriately constituted organisation which provides training for setting staff to support Service children.

Amounts available: Between £5,000 and £50,000

Application deadlines: Round 2 closes on 20th November 2024

YHA Breaks Programme

Summary

Charities, community groups and home education network groups can apply to take groups of young people (under 26) or groups of families who need additional support on residential trips to YHA hostels.

The Breaks Programme is arranged via application or referral from partner organisations and are tailored to beneficiaries.

Key Criteria

The programme cannot fund transport (home to hostel/back) or salary/expenses of volunteers or leaders.

The programme does not offer funding to individuals or individual families

Amounts available: Not disclosed, but the fund is intended to cover the cost of the stay at the YHA hostel either fully or partly depending on the group's circumstances and funding availability.

Application deadlines: 10th December 2024

Dept. For Education – Senior Mental Health Lead Training

Summary

The Department for Education (DfE) is offering grants for eligible state-funded schools and colleges in England to train a senior mental health lead to develop and implement a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

This training is not compulsory, but it is part of the government's commitment to offer this training to all eligible schools and colleges by 2025.

Grants will be provided to cover (or contribute to) the cost of attending a quality assured course and may also be used to hire supply staff whilst leads are engaged in training.

Key Criteria

All state-funded education settings that are in receipt of ESFA pre-16 revenue, high needs block, or 16 to 19 programme funding are eligible.

The training course must be a DfE assured senior mental health lead training course and the training must start by 31 March 2025.

Amounts available: Maximum £1,200

Application deadlines: 31st December 2024 (deadline to submit the initial application and reserve a grant for training). A second form needs to be submitted by 31st January 2025 to then claim the grant.

Kelly Family Charitable Trust

Summary

Registered charities whose activities support and encourage the family to work as a cohesive unit in tackling problems that face one or more of its members can apply for both capital and revenue grants.

The Trust is happy to support requests for core funding as well as project-based grants, and actively encourages applications from relatively new organisations to help them become established.

The three areas of activity that the charity wishes to support are:

- Interventions that support families and help them in ways that prevent the fracture of the family unit, e.g. practical family support, relationship counselling, mediation.
- Families where sexual abuse, physical abuse, domestic violence, alcohol abuse and drug abuse threaten the integrity of the family unit.
- Prisoners and in particular their families, during and after the period of imprisonment.

Key Criteria

The Trust prefers to support charities with an annual income below £500,000

The Trust will consider repeat funding requests, on receipt of satisfactory progress reports

Unsuccessful applicants must wait for 1 year before resubmitting an application

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 1st March 2025

BRIT Trust Grants – NEW GRANT

Summary

Funding is available from the BRIT Awards and Music Industry Trust Awards for organisations that use the power of music and the creative arts to improve the lives of young people of all backgrounds across the UK.

This funding supports music and arts initiatives that promote education, wellbeing, and community engagement, helping individuals realise their full potential, regardless of ability, ethnicity, gender, or sexuality.

Key Criteria

- The BRIT Trust it is not able to consider grants for individuals/scholarships nor make grants for any activity outside of the UK.
- Applicants must be a Registered Charity or a Charity Incorporated Company and have the support of a Music Industry contact to apply.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 30th April 2025 (NB the decision process completes in November 2025)

Youth Endowment Fund – NEW GRANT

Summary

The Youth Endowment Fund's Open Call funding round invites proposals from delivery organisations that work to reduce young people's involvement in violence and are ready for rigorous evaluation.

The Fund welcomes proposals that will help fill evidence gaps and build a robust understanding of what works to prevent children becoming involved in violence

Applications are open to projects working in one of the following sectors Youth sector, Children's services, Youth Justice, Policing, Neighbourhoods, Health and Education

Key Criteria

Projects must primarily support children and young people aged 10–18 who are either:

- At risk of crime or violence ('secondary prevention'), or
- Already affected by violence, offending or exploitation ('tertiary prevention').

Projects must recruit a minimum number of children and young people for evaluation. The exact number will depend on the intervention type, but as a guide:

- Secondary prevention projects should deliver the intervention to at least 200 participants and recruit 200 more for a control group (400 total).
- Tertiary prevention projects should deliver the intervention to at least 400 participants and recruit 400 for a control group (800 total).

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: Open

Wooden Spoon Society – Capital Grants – NEW GRANT

Summary

Schools and not-for-profit organisations can apply for funding to support projects that help mentally and physically disadvantaged children under the cognitive age of 25. Each year, the charity supports around 70 projects.

Projects must fall within Wooden Spoon's Vision Statement: "Through the power of rugby, every child and young person has access to the best life opportunities, no matter what their background"

Through the programme, funding is available for:

- Buildings and extensions
- Equipment and activity aids
- Sensory rooms and gardens
- Playgrounds and sports areas
- Soft playrooms

Key Criteria

- The grant contribution may be up to 100% of the cost, though beneficiary organisations will be encouraged, where practicable, to raise a proportion themselves.
- The Fund will not support revenue costs such as staffing and other ongoing costs.
- If a project is educational or disability sports focused there must be a key sporting element (preferably rugby) to engage children and young people
- If a project is a physical, tangible asset, of a permanent nature, it must have a minimum predicted life-span of five years (preferably ten years)
- It is considered unlikely that a project of a physical nature that is under £5,000 will have sufficient substance and scale to qualify under the 'projected lifespan' rule.

Amounts available: No maximum grant limit is provided but projects under £5,000 are unlikely to be considered

Application deadlines: Open

LoveReading4 Kids – Funding for Schools – NEW GRANT

Summary

UK schools and early years' settings can apply for grants to buy books for their libraries and encourage more children to read for pleasure. The Scheme will help schools to provide children with a range of non-curriculum books to improve their reading standards, particularly amongst children experiencing disadvantage or underrepresentation.

The Scheme accepts applications from state funded schools in the UK. Primaries, secondaries and early years' settings are all eligible to apply.

Key Criteria

PTAs are not eligible to apply, the application needs to come directly from the school.

If an application is declined, the school is eligible to reapply 12 months after the previous application date.

If an application is approved, the school is ineligible to apply for the Scheme for three years after the approval date due to intense competition.

Amounts available: Between £1,000 and £5,000

Please note that any grant awarded will be awarded as credit to be spent on www.lovereadng.co.uk or www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk and should be spent within six months of being awarded.

Application deadlines: Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Community Energy Fund – Midlands

Summary

The Community Energy Fund (CEF) is a £10 million grant scheme for urban and rural communities to develop community energy projects, including local renewable and low carbon energy projects (such as wind farms, hydro power and rural heat networks, community electric vehicle projects (such as electric vehicle charging points and electric car clubs) and energy efficiency retrofit and advice projects (where there is local need and a gap in existing services and where there is a business model for a sustainable service).

The Fund aims to empower local people to take control of their energy future by:

- Increasing the number of community-owned low-carbon energy assets
- Supporting communities to reduce energy cost and demand
- Generating local income through community-owned energy assets
- Reinvesting income locally and kickstarting private investment
- Supporting local jobs, growth and volunteering opportunities
- Enabling places to benefit from clean, renewable, local energy

Key Criteria

Applications must be led by legally constituted voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations. Town or Parish Councils are also eligible to apply.

Funding is provided in two stages:

- Stage 1 – Feasibility grants of up to £40,000.
- Stage 2 – Development grants of up to £100,000.

Stage 1 grants (of up to £40,000) can pay for professional support to scope project feasibility.

Stage 2 grants (of up to £100,000) are available for projects that have been found to be feasible, with a good chance of securing planning permission and being implemented, to cover more detailed investigation of the relevant technology, planning applications, advanced landowner agreements and development of a robust business case to attract sufficient investment.

Amounts available: Maximum £100,000

Application deadlines: 8th November 2024

[ASDA Foundation](#)

Summary

The Asda Foundation, which supports local communities through initiatives like children's welfare, local empowerment, and economic relief, has reopened several grant programmes for applications.

- Under 18 Better Starts Grant - for community groups working on initiatives focusing on the inclusion, poverty reduction, and well-being of young people.
- Empowering Local Communities Grant - grassroots organisations striving to improve community life by bringing people together and improving local amenities. Supporting people over the age of 18 in your community, or a mixture of children and adults.
- Cost of Living Grant - empowers local groups to respond to a rise in demand for their services, at the same time as a decline in income and rising running costs for the groups themselves.

Key Criteria

- Applicants must contact the Community and Customer Champion at their local Asda store to discuss funding needs.
- Applications need to have the endorsement of an Asda Community and Customer Champion
- All applications must be for the amount agreed with your Community and Customer Champion
- Applicants should have an annual income under £1million

Amounts available: Between £400 and £2,000

Application deadlines: 8th November 2024

[Groundwork/Comic Relief](#) – NEW GRANT

Summary

Funding is available for grassroots community organisations who deliver against one of the below areas:

- Tackling immediate impacts of hardship – for example foodbanks, community hubs, homeless shelters or welfare advice agencies.
- Building resilience to poverty and hardship – for example skills training, job search, volunteering, mental resilience and financial confidence skills.
- Working to support equity and inclusion - this could involve service or projects to tackle inequalities which can lead to poverty and exclusion including gender, sexuality, age, race, language or ability.
- Working to support climate justice - supporting activities that improve energy efficiency, environmental education and resilience-building within communities most vulnerable to the effects of climate change

Funding can be used for direct project costs or to support core running expenses.

Key Criteria

Applying organisations must have an income of under £250,000

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 8th November 2024

Leeds Building Society Foundation

Summary

The Leeds Building Society Foundation offers small grants to UK registered charities for projects which address one or more of the following themes:

- Financial stress - projects that help with bills or debt stress.
- Security and refuge - projects that support emergency accommodation.
- Quality and suitability of housing.
- Health and wellbeing support for those experiencing homelessness

Key Criteria

- Small grants are available for charities anywhere in the UK that have a turnover of less than £1 million.
- Grants may only be used for capital expenditure (that is, to purchase items used to directly help those in need).
- If you applied for a small grant, you can apply for funding again, but not for the same items of expenditure

Amounts available: Between £250 and £1,000

Application deadlines: 11th November 2024

The Quaker Housing Trust

Summary

Grants and interest-free loans are available to registered charities and small organisations providing affordable homes for vulnerable people in need in England, Scotland, Wales, the Channel Islands & Isle of Man.

There are two separate programmes to help housing projects that meet the needs of people undergoing transitions in their lives, such as those seeking asylum, recovering from addiction, leaving prison, or moving from domestic abuse.

- Best Practice Grant - for Environmental assessment and or Feasibility Study costs in the development of a project to ensure the project reaches the highest possible standards
- Main Grants and Loans Programme - to fund projects which create homes

Key Criteria

- Applying organisations must have a turnover of not more than £1 million
- For loans of over £20,000, applicants will require security against the loan and will need to have your own legal advice on the loan agreement
- It will fund projects for housing which the applying organisation must itself own or lease or have equivalent legal interest in
- It expects the length of occupancy in funded homes to be a minimum of three months
- It will not fund transient accommodation such as night-shelters
- It expects homes to be let at a realistic rent which low-income occupants can genuinely afford

Amounts available:

Best Practice Grant – Maximum £6,000

Main Grants and Loan programme – Maximum £50,000 (of which maximum grant would be £25,000)

Application deadlines: 13th November 2024

Parkinson's UK- Physical Activity Grants

Summary

Grants are available for activity providers, communities, networks and organisations across the UK to develop new opportunities for people with Parkinson's to become and stay active or help increase their levels of physical activity.

The funding is for projects that can demonstrate the following desired impact:

- People with Parkinson's become and stay active, and/or significantly increase their levels of activity if they are already active
- More physical activity provision for everyone with Parkinson's across the UK
- Improved social wellbeing in people with Parkinson's as a result of attending the project

Priority will be given to innovative and new projects that will help people with Parkinson's:

- Become and stay active, or
- Who are already active to significantly increase their levels of physical activity

Key Criteria

Applications will be accepted from activity providers, national governing bodies, Parkinson's groups and branches, and sports and healthcare professionals.

Projects must last for between three and 12 months and start within three months of receiving a grant.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Have a business bank account.
- Consult with a local staff member of Parkinson's UK and enter their name in the application form.
- Be able to explain how they intend to reach and engage with their target community or audience and how they will promote the project.
- Explain how they plan to continue the activities and ensure their longevity and continuing impact after the funding ends.

Amounts Available: Between £500 and £3,000

Application deadlines: 15th November 2024

Charnwood Borough Council – Community Grants – NEW GRANT

Summary

Charnwood Borough Council has three grant schemes for voluntary and community sector organisations which deliver community-based services, projects and activities that are specifically focused on improving the lives, health and wellbeing of vulnerable and disadvantaged people and communities in Charnwood.

- Small Grants - for the activities of properly constituted Voluntary and Community and Voluntary Sector (VCS) organisations and projects in Charnwood, including organisational running costs and projects (for up to one year), environmental projects and one-off contributions for equipment costs for projects with community benefit.
- Charnwood Community Grants - for organisations currently running projects with community benefit in Charnwood, including organisational running costs (for up to one year), environmental projects and one-off contributions for equipment costs.
- Community Facilities Grant - supports the renovation, improvement and new provision of community buildings including building works, extensions, updating facilities and enhancement of adjacent outside space

Key Criteria

- A maximum of 2 grants can be applied for across all grant programmes in 2024/25
- The Community Facilities grant is not able to support drainage works, routine maintenance, equipment or the costs of feasibility studies or other professional fees associated with any development project.

Amounts available:

- Small Grants maximum £750
- Community Grant maximum £5,000
- Community Facilities Grant maximum £20,000 (or maximum 50% of the project cost)

Application deadlines:

- Round 3 of the Charnwood Community Grant and Round 2 of the Community Facilities Grant will close on 15th November 2024
- Small Grant scheme is open to applications at any time, but will close on 31st January 2025

Hospice UK- Improving Care

Summary

This grants programme will support hospices to make long-term improvements to palliative and end of life care for people with progressive neurological conditions.

The grant to start a project from scratch, or use new approaches to improve an existing programme of work.

Projects should run over a period of 18 months. This includes a three-month set-up phase; one year of project delivery; and an extra three months to cover any unforeseen delays.

Key Criteria

It is expected that the project will be co-designed with current and future service users.

You can be an adult hospice, children's hospice or provide care for all ages.

Hospices that were awarded a grant in the Transitional Care for Young People programme in April 2024 are not eligible to apply for this grant.

Hospices must be:

- A member of Hospice UK
- An independent charitable hospice
- Based in England, Wales, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

Amounts available: Maximum £40,000

Application deadlines: 18th November 2024

LGBT+ Futures – Equity Fund – NEW GRANT

Summary

Not-for-profit organisations led by and for underrepresented groups within the LGBT+ community in England can apply for funding to help them remain well-resourced, sustainable, and resilient.

The Equity Fund will award grants to intersectional organisations working with the following communities of focus:

- D/deaf, Disabled, Neurodivergent LGBT+ people
- LGBTQIA+ Women
- LGBT+ People of the Global Majority
- Older LGBT+ People
- Trans and Non-Binary People

The grants can support organisational running costs, projects and organisational / leadership development.

Key Criteria

- Groups must be able to show they are led by and for the communities of focus listed above.
- If your organisation supports a wider group of people (e.g. all LGBT+ people), unfortunately your project is not eligible for this fund, even if you have a project to support one or more communities of focus. Your organisation must be set up to support one or more of the communities of focus.
- All grants must be fully spent by 30th October 2025.

Amounts available: Between £100 and £25,000

Application deadlines: 21st November 2024

HM Govt. – Warm Homes Social Housing Fund *

Summary

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero has announced the third wave of applications. The fund offers grants for local authorities and social housing landlords including charities to improve the energy performance of social housing in England by installing energy efficiency measures.

These measures will help to:

- deliver warm, energy efficient homes
- reduce carbon emissions
- tackle fuel poverty

Additional benefits:

- support green jobs
- develop the retrofit sector
- improve the comfort, health and well-being of social housing tenants

There are 2 routes to access funding under Wave 3:

- The Challenge Fund - Suited for all providers, including smaller landlords or those without previous retrofit experience. All applications which meet the minimum requirements of the scheme will be awarded some funding.
- Strategic Partnerships - Designed to help capable organisations deliver ambitious and innovative retrofit projects

Key Criteria

- All Wave 3 projects in the Challenge Fund should include a minimum of 100 eligible social housing properties at EPC band D to G, apart from in the case of small social housing landlords
- Small social housing landlords (those who own or manage fewer than 1,000 homes) can access funding with fewer than 100 homes. For such landlords, there is no minimum number of homes. We expect such landlords to try to reach 100 homes, or to actively consider joining a consortium given the benefits this can bring, where this is not possible.
- Social Housing Fund Wave 3 will run to September 2028.
- All grant funding for Wave 3 projects must be transferred to the grant recipient and spent by 31st March 2028

Amounts available:

- Wave 3 cost cap is £7,500 per home off the gas grid
- Wave 3 cost cap of £20,000 per home on the gas grid

Application deadlines: 25th November 2024 (successful projects notified early 2025)

Blaby District Council – Community Grants / Warm Spaces – NEW GRANT

Summary

The scheme supports the local voluntary and community sector (VCS) to develop and strengthen community facilities and activities for the benefit of Blaby District residents. The following grants are available to suit different project types:

- Capital Green Grants
- Large Capital Grants
- Small Capital Grants
- Revenue Grants
- Everyone Active Grants

However, the scheme for the current Round 3 is prioritising applications from organisations needing financial support to run Warm Spaces. This can be applied for via the Revenue Grant.

The same application form is used for all of the different grants.

Key Criteria

- Organisations can only be awarded one grant per financial year (April-March) and may only apply for one grant at a time
- An organisation is only likely to be awarded funding in a consecutive year if the application demonstrates a high level of need, as well as strong outcomes from the proposed project and a clear long-term plan for the organisation's sustainability
- The applying organisation must have and submit copies of its governing document and any appropriate policies with the application
- **Any grants awarded for Warm Spaces will be for a shorter funding period of six months during Winter. It is the only time that organisations are eligible to apply for a second grant in the same financial year**

Amounts available: Maximum grant varies per scheme:

Capital Green and Large Capital Grant - maximum £4,000

Small Capital, Revenue and Everyone Active Grants - maximum £500

Application deadlines: 29th November 2024

The DPO Centre – Charity and Community Fund – NEW GRANT

Summary

The DPO Centre provides a wide range of data protection consultancy services. The Charity and Community Fund provides charities and not-for-profit organisations with access to the data protection consultancy services at an 80% reduced rate.

Applicants will receive support from subject matter experts and data protection professionals to help decrease the potential for compliance failure across their organisation, leading to fewer data breaches.

Key Criteria

Applying organisations must:

- Be based in the UK
- Have a management committee in place of at least 3 unrelated people
- Have a bank account in the charity/NFP name
- Be able to attend a meeting with a DPO within 12 weeks of signing
- Be willing to carry out a case study once the consultancy work has been completed

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000

Application deadlines: 30th November 2024 (There are three application periods per year)

The Tree Council – Branching out Fund

Summary

Grants for Parish and Town Councils, community groups, schools, small registered charities, and Tree Warden Networks seeking to establish trees, hedgerows, and orchards.

Key Criteria

- Groups seeking retrospective funding for projects that have already started or have been completed are not eligible
- All projects must have planted and submitted a claim form before midnight on Sunday 16th March 2025
- Grants will be paid after planting has taken place, upon submission of a claim form, receipts and evidence of planting
- There are specific criteria on the size of tree, tree species and type of tree protection that will be funded

Amounts available: Between £250 and £2,500

Application deadlines: 1st December 2024

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund

Summary

UK charities, voluntary organisations, and schools can apply for grants to help children and adults suffering from severe learning difficulties.

Application for funding is normally considered for capital and revenue costs and for both specific projects and for general running/core costs.

Previous grants have been used to support capital works for residential, nursing and respite care, and schools; employment schemes including woodwork, crafts, printing and horticulture; play schemes and play therapy schemes; day and social activities centres; support for families, including respite schemes; independent living schemes; support in the community schemes

Key Criteria

- A further application from an organisation will not normally be considered for a period of at least two years after consideration of a previously successful grant
- Applicants for the General Grants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as they are able, rather than waiting for the deadline

Amounts available:

Small Grants – Between £250 and £5,000

General Grants – Minimum £9,000

Application deadlines: 1st December 2024 (for consideration of General Grant applications at the March 2025 meeting). The Small Grant programme has no application deadlines and applications are considered monthly.

[International Tree Foundation – UK Community Tree Planting](#) *

Summary

Grants are available for community-based organisations across the UK to deliver tree-planting projects that protect and restore indigenous trees and woodlands, support community engagement in tree planting, and increase awareness of the importance of trees and forests to environmental and human well-being.

There are two funding streams:

- Grants for community woodland/hedging projects that range from 100 to 25,000 trees planted per year, with a maximum price equivalent to £1.95 per tree.
- Grants for community orchard projects of up to 30 trees planted per year.

Key Criteria

Community-based organisations, such as a school, community group, social enterprise, non-governmental organisation, or parish council, can apply.

Projects should meet the following essential criteria:

- Plant trees in public/publicly accessible spaces: sites that are readily accessible to the public, including schools, parks, rights of way, and sites managed by community groups.
- Plant indigenous tree species: this may include traditional fruit trees and 'honorary' natives where appropriate.
- Engage community members in tree planting and enjoying the benefits of woodlands.
- Have clear plans for maintenance and sustainability.
- Have a signed permission from the owner or manager of the land indicating that their project meets legal requirements.

Amounts available: Grant amounts are per tree planted. Maximum amounts not disclosed

Application deadlines: 13th December 2024

Bentley Motors – Advancing Life Chances

Summary

Grants are for charitable organisations working with vulnerable, disadvantaged, or underrepresented communities within 20 miles of the 19 Bentley retail locations across the UK. This includes parts of Leicester and Leicestershire.

The programme's areas of focus are:

- Access - Remove the barriers and improve access to services, education and employability.
- Empowerment - Development of the life skills that enable people to be more self-confident, successful and thrive in life.
- Quality of Life - Provide support to live a healthier life both physically and mentally.
- Better Future - Safeguarding the environment, improving nature-deprived areas, driving improvement to "place" and boosting community spirit.

Key Criteria

- [Please check eligible postcodes](#)
- Grants must be spent within 12 months of the award
- Applying organisations should have an income of less than £1 million

Amounts available: Maximum £500

Application deadlines: Opens 7th October and closes 20th December 2024. There are four application windows per year.

Arnold Clark Community Fund

Summary

Grants are available for UK registered charities and other not-for-profit organisations for projects, including those whose work directly supports those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis, which are embedded in the communities in which Arnold Clark operates in England, Scotland or Wales.

Key Criteria

In 2024, the Arnold Clark Community Fund offers the following support:

- **Cost of Living Support** – funding to any registered UK charity or community group whose work directly supports those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis, such as foodbanks, accommodation, poverty relief and where people/communities in the UK are the primary and immediate focus of investment.
- **Our Communities Support** – funding to projects embedded in the communities in which Arnold Clark operates and is available to organisations who provide services widely accessible to those within Arnold Clark local communities, addressing the needs of those living within them.
- **Gear Up for Sport** – 150 sports kits given away each month to support youth sports teams across the UK. Any youth team with up to 30 members aged 4 to 15 years can apply.

Projects applying for 'Our Communities Support' must address one of the following categories:

- Animal welfare (benefiting humans)
- Arts and culture
- Community development
- Disability
- Education
- Recreation
- Relief support
- Mental health support

Applications are only eligible if they are made by an organisation that is based/operates solely in the UK and is located within 50 miles of an Arnold Clark branch.

Amounts available: Maximum £2,500

Application deadlines: 31st December 2024

[Yorkshire Building Society – Small Change Big Difference Fund](#) – NEW GRANT

Summary

Through the Fund, trustees consider nominations to charities that support its two priority areas:

- Alleviating poverty
- Improving health / Saving lives

Grants are unrestricted and can be used for project or core costs.

It particularly welcomes nominations of charities that are working in areas of deprivation, and charities that have an income turnover of less than £100,000.

Key Criteria

To be considered for a donation the charity must meet the following basic eligibility criteria:

- Registered with the Charity Commission,
- Nominated by a Yorkshire Building Society member or colleague
- Beneficiaries in the UK Have not received a YBS Charitable Foundation donation in the last 2 years
- Annual returns submitted to the Charity Commission

Amounts available: Between £250 and £2,500

Application deadlines: 31st December 2024

[Delamere Dairy Foundation](#)

Summary

The Foundation will provide support for charities, community groups, social enterprises and other not-for-profit organisations delivering projects that fit the objectives of the Foundation:

- The advancement of agriculture and environmental protection
- The advancement in life of young people by developing their capabilities so that they may mature as contributory members of society
- The relief of financial hardship
- The advancement of education
- The relief of sickness

Key Criteria

- There is no limit on the number of applications that an organisation can submit during a grant round. However, it is preferable to share just one.
- New groups without a constitution or bank account will need to nominate an established group that will be responsible for holding and administering the grant on their behalf.
- Applicant organisations do not need to be registered charities but their constitution or other governing document must show that they are set up for community benefit and their aims are broadly charitable.
- If project-based funding is being applied for, then the project must last no more than 12 months

Amounts available: Between £1,000 and £5,000

Application deadlines: 1st January 2025

Peter Harrison Foundation - Active Lives Funding – NEW GRANT

Summary

The Foundation supports organisations which use participation in grassroots sport/physical activity as a catalyst to develop personal and life skills, assisting individuals in discovering and fulfilling their potential.

It prioritises physical activity initiatives that:

- Offer high-impact, life-enhancing opportunities for those who live in the top 10% of areas of deprivation
- Remove barriers to participation for disabled or disadvantaged people
- Focus on grassroots involvement rather than elite participation in physical activity
- Focus on skills development and confidence building for individuals
- Incorporate effective strategies for wider impact, perhaps through training, partnerships and/or dissemination activities
- Demonstrate a high degree of involvement across the organisation from beneficiaries and those with lived experience
- Have a well-developed plan for sustainability and seek to deliver a legacy
- Reflect our values: Excellence, Entrepreneurship, Integrity, Sustainability

The Foundation will consider applications for capital, project or core funding.

Key Criteria

- Small grants prioritise organisations with a turnover under £500,000
- Major grants prioritise organisations with a turnover under £5 million
- Applicants should have significant experience using physical activity to engage disabled individuals and/or those who face severe and multiple disadvantage
- Applicants must be either a registered charity or a registered CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) and have been registered for two years or more

Amounts available:

Small Grants – Maximum £5,000

Major Grants – Between £5,001 and £30,000

Application deadlines: 1st January 2025 (there are four rounds of funding each year)

Woodland Trust – Free Trees

Summary

Hundreds of thousands of trees are being given away to help the UK reach its 2050 carbon net-zero target.

Schools, nurseries, colleges, universities, outdoor learning centres, and other groups such as resident associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts and guides from across the UK are among the organisations eligible to apply for up to 420 saplings to improve their local environment. There are a range of tree packs available including hedging, copse, wild harvest and urban trees.

The scheme is currently taking applications for tree packs to be delivered in March 2025.

Key Criteria

Applicants need to:

- Know the six-digit grid reference for the land you wish to plant using OS Maps
- Have permission from the legal landowner
- If you're applying as a school your trees should be planted on either the school grounds, land the school has arranged regular access to or in an area that is publicly accessible.
- If you're applying as a community group, the land needs to be accessible to the public. You should also make sure your local community are aware of your plans to plant and are happy for you to go ahead.
- The site must have genuine public access

Amounts Available: The scheme supplies young trees for free

Application deadlines: Applications are expected to close in January 2025, or sooner depending on stock availability

Arts Council England – Creative People and Places 2026-2029

Summary

The goal of the Arts Council's Creative People and Places programme is to ensure that everyone can access culture and express creativity, fostering thriving communities through inclusive and collaborative cultural approaches.

Funding is available to partnerships of organisations for a three-year period (from 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2029) for projects in the following eligible geographical areas:

- Leicester
- Hinckley & Bosworth
- North West Leicestershire
- Oadby & Wigston

Applications must be submitted by a consortium of partner organisations. Individual organisations cannot apply.

Key Criteria

Projects will need to achieve the following aims and outcomes:

- Engage more people from eligible places in a wide range of arts and cultural experiences as audiences and/or participants.
- Empower communities to lead and shape local cultural provision.
- Excellence and relevance in both the engagement process and the creative and cultural experiences on offer.
- Encourage partnerships between publicly funded, amateur, voluntary, community and commercial sectors, as well as collaboration across various cultural institutions.
- Take an Action Research approach to community engagement in arts, creativity, and culture; learn what works best and share that learning.

Amounts available: Minimum £750,000, Maximum £1 million

Application deadlines: Closes on 16th January 2025

[Theatres Trust – Small Grants Programme](#) *

Summary

The Programme funds small, essential projects that make a big impact to a not-for-profit theatre's resilience, sustainability, accessibility or improving the diversity of audiences.

Eligible projects include small capital works, the installation of key plant and machinery and works which make theatre buildings digital-ready.

This scheme will prioritise improvements to buildings that protect theatre use and remove barriers to participation and attendance.

Key Criteria

To be eligible to apply to the scheme, applicants must demonstrate that they:

- Are a not-for-profit organisation. This can include local authorities or Town and Borough Councils that own and/or operate a venue.
- Own or manage theatres with titles or signed leases of more than five years on buildings in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Run a year-round programme of live performance, of no less than 30 performances a year
- Have a lease with at least five years left to run.

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 17th January 2025

[The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust](#) – NEW GRANT

Summary

Grants are available for UK-registered charities that seek to enhance and improve people's lives by advancing the arts, health and medical welfare, and the environment.

The services provided to communities could include promoting access to the arts, conservation activities, music and art therapy to improve mental health and wellbeing and providing breaks for carers.

The fund can be used for project or core costs.

Key Criteria

- Charities that have been unsuccessful in their application must wait 2 years before re-applying
- The majority of grants are one-off grants for one year
- The Trustees seldom join in major fundraising campaigns or capital projects, preferring to direct their donations to those charities where their contribution will make a major difference. The Trustees favour small-scale, locally based initiatives

Amounts available: Between £500 and £6,000

Application deadlines: 4th February 2025 (There are three grant making decision meetings per year. Applications by 4th February will be considered in March 2025)

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council – Warm Welcome Grant

Summary

Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) or not for profit organisations based in Hinckley and Bosworth Borough can apply for a grant to support associated costs in respect of providing a Warm Welcome provision during the winter of 2024 to 2025.

Key Criteria

The grant must be spent before 31st March 2025.

The Warm Welcome provision must:

- Operate within the Borough of Hinckley & Bosworth.
- Be offered for a minimum of 8 hours a month, for a minimum of 4 months during the period October 2024 and March 2025.
- Be open to the general public and not refused on grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, occupation, religious, political or other beliefs.
- Parish and Town Councils are not able to apply

Amounts available: Maximum £1,500

Application deadlines: 28th February 2025 (unless all the funding allocated to the project has already been used, in which case it will close sooner).

Turning Point – Community Innovation Fund – NEW GRANT

Summary

Charities, community groups and social enterprises in England can apply for seed funding to support initiatives aimed at reducing social isolation and enhancing wellbeing for vulnerable people in their local areas. Eligible activities should focus on promoting physical activity, fostering social connections, learning new skills, support people to volunteer or mindfulness activities.

Key Criteria

Projects should be:

- Connected to one of Turning Point services as a member of staff, peer mentors and volunteers or a community group that is local to a Turning Point service. (community organisations need to be nominated by the local Turning Point service)
- Able to demonstrate a legacy beyond the fund
- Supporting one of the 5 ways of wellbeing
- A new project idea – (the fund can't support on-going activity costs)

Amounts available: Maximum £2,500

Application deadlines: 24th March 2025

Sport England – Grass Pitch Improvement Fund * – NEW GRANT

Summary

The Grass Pitch Improvement Fund (GPIF) aims to tackle inequalities by providing improved access to good quality, safe playing cricket facilities for targeted groups.

Priority will be given to applications which support cricket for the following groups:

- Women's and girls' cricket
- Cricket in diverse communities
- Disability cricket
- Low socio-economic groups (LSEG)

Investment will be targeted into three main areas:

- Improving the quality of squares and outfielders (for grass pitches rated 'unsuitable' or 'basic' to improve to at least 'good').
- Creating sustainable management of sites (through irrigation and machinery improvements).
- Installing hybrid pitches to increase playing capacity.

Key Criteria

- The fund is open to cricket clubs and other organisations affiliated to the ECB via their local County Cricket Board (CCB) or Cricket Foundation (CF)
- In addition, the ECB, CCBs or CFs may solicit applications from state funded Schools and Further Education establishments, Local Authorities, or targeted Community Groups in support of local strategies.
- To identify suitable projects, prior to submission of an application, all organisations will need to arrange for a County Pitch Adviser (CPA) to conduct a site visit to assess the current Performance Quality Standard (PQS) of the grass cricket pitch.
- Only organisations which receive ratings of 'unsuitable' or 'basic' will be able to apply for GPIF funding.
- Organisations which receive a higher rating of 'good', 'advanced' or high' may apply for an [England and Wales Cricket Trust \(EWCT\) Interest Free Loan](#) instead

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: Open - the scheme will run until March 2027 or whenever funding is fully allocated

Trusthouse Charitable Foundation - Small Grants - NEW GRANT

Summary

Charities and not for profit organisations in the UK can apply for small grants to address urban and rural deprivation in the UK. The grants can be used to help cover core costs, salaries, running and project costs to deliver essential services.

The preference is to fund front line organisations working directly with people in need.

Key Criteria

Your organisation's postcode falls within the following on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation:

- If you are located in an urban area, you must be in the bottom 15% most deprived areas
- If you are located in a rural area, you must be in the bottom 50% most deprived areas

Projects must have a focus on community support

Applicants' annual income must not exceed £250,000

Applicants must secure 50% of the total project costs from other sources

It is expected that beneficiaries of grants for salaries, core costs, running or project costs to start spending the grant within one to two months of the award being made. Please therefore do not apply too far in advance of the time when you need the funding, as your application is very likely to be unsuccessful.

Amounts available: Between £2,000 and £10,000

Application deadlines: Open

Co-operative Bank - Customer Donation Fund

Summary

Community Directplus customers (organisations: registered charities, co-operatives, credit unions and community-interest companies) can apply for a grant to support their special projects and fundraising activities.

Projects should enhance the community or the environment.

Key Criteria

To be eligible to apply for the fund you must hold a Community Directplus account.

Amounts available: Maximum £1000

Application deadlines: Open all year.

Applications received from 1st October to 31st March are assessed in April.

Architectural Heritage Fund

Summary

Funding is available to help not-for-profit organisations cover some of the costs of developing and co-ordinating their historic building project and taking it towards the start of work on site. To qualify, organisations must have established that the end use of the project is likely to be viable and have decided to take the project forward. At the end of the funded work, organisations should be at or closer to securing capital funding to enable the delivery of their project.

Key Criteria

Grants typically will support appointing professional advisors to work with the organisation to advance their plans. This can include:

- architects, surveyors, and engineers to develop the designs and plans for the historic building.
- additional support to build the capacity of the organisation by employing or contracting a project manager.
- support with refining the business plan, building community engagement and preparing funding bids.

Amounts available:

Project Viability Grants - up to £15,000 (for early-stage work on historic building projects)

Project Development Grants - up to £20,000 (for development work and coordination for historic building projects)

Application deadlines: Open for expressions of interest. Eligible organisations will then be invited to submit a full application, within three months.

Midlands Net Zero Hub - Community Energy Fund

Summary

The grant scheme for urban and rural communities to develop energy services to benefit their local area. The funding will help to kickstart clean energy projects including small-scale wind farms and rooftop solar partnerships, as well as battery storage, rural heat networks, electric vehicle charging points. It can also be used to fund fuel poverty alleviation schemes such as energy efficiency, retrofit, and advice projects.

The grant scheme aims to empower local people to take control of their energy future by:

- Increasing the number of community-owned low-carbon energy assets
- Supporting communities to reduce energy cost and demand
- Generating local income through community-owned energy assets
- Reinvesting income locally and kickstarting private investment
- Supporting local jobs, growth and volunteering opportunities
- Enabling places to benefit from clean, renewable, local energy

There are two grants available:

- Stage 1 Feasibility Grant - to produce a feasibility study to establish the technical and financial viability of a project
- Stage 2 Development Grant - for a more detailed investigation of the technology, for planning applications and to develop a business case.

Key Criteria

- The grant scheme is open to a wide range of community-based organisations including Sports Clubs, Faith Groups, Trusts, Charities and Parish and Town Councils.
- Applicants need to show that a good level of community engagement has been carried out and that there is genuine community support for the project, including plans for ongoing community engagement.

Amounts available:

Stage 1 Feasibility Grant up to £40,000

Stage 2 Development Grant of up to £100,000

Application deadlines: Open. The Midlands Hub has a rolling application process. Applications received by the hub will be reviewed at a board review meeting, the dates of the board review meetings are 9th August and 8th November.

Association of Independent Museums – Training Grant - NEW GRANT

Summary

Grants are available to support museums in developing the skills and expertise of their workforce.

The funding is made available through the Association of Independent Museums' (AIM) Training Grants programme, which will support member museums with training and development costs.

Priority will be given to smaller museums, staff members and volunteers that have not previously received a training grant.

Key Criteria

- AIM members can apply for funding, up to £350 per organisation per year. This can be achieved through multiple grant applications
- Organisations/ recipients of an AIM National Conference bursary will not be able to apply for an AIM Training Grant in the same calendar year.
- Payment of grant funding, if awarded, will be made retrospectively on receipt of a statement of expenses incurred, proof of expenditure

Amounts available: Maximum £350

Application deadlines: Open - Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but please note that AIM training grants awarded in 2024 must be completed and claimed before the 16th December 2024

Support available for Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise Sector organisations in Leicestershire

Voluntary Action Leicestershire



Leicestershire County Council has a contract with [Voluntary Action LeicesterShire](#) (VAL) to provide support to voluntary and community sector organisations in Leicestershire, including help with identifying and securing funding.

If you are a VCS organisation who is seeking to apply for funding, or bid for contracts, please contact VAL's Sector Support Team for assistance, advice, and guidance. VAL can provide assistance with searching for funding opportunities, checking the relevance of the fund to your funding aspirations, and a read and review of your bid.

You can also [sign up for further e-bulletins from VAL](#), including news, events, funding opportunities and updates from the Government and Charity Commission. There are currently two newsletters which you can select to receive by ticking the appropriate box. At present funding and commissioning items are included in the voluntary sector support newsletter.

Contact Details:

[VAL website](#)

Tel: 0116 2575050

Email: helpline@valonline.org.uk

CASE – Support for Social Enterprises in Leicestershire



Co-operative and Social Enterprise Development Agency (CASE) is a social enterprise and co-operative which provides advice, guidance, and support to existing and emerging co-operatives, social enterprises and community enterprises in Leicester and Leicestershire. CASE supports co-operatives and social enterprises to develop and grow, through the promotion of co-operative ways of working.

Leicestershire County Council has a contract with CASE to provide support to people currently running (or thinking of setting up) social enterprises in Leicestershire.

Contact Details:

[CASE website](#)

Tel: 0116 222 5010

Email: enquiries@case.coop

Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation



The Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation is a charity which helps local individuals and companies to give money, in a tax efficient way, directly to local needs. It does this by helping set up new local family and company charitable funds and then supports those donors to give grants to local charitable groups of their choice through the Making Local Life Better Fund (previously the Donor Matching Scheme).

The Community Foundation also administers local and national grant schemes on behalf of those organisations. These vary throughout the year, please check the website for the funds currently available.

Contact Details:

[Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation Website](#)

Tel: 0116 262 4916

Email: grants@llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk

Commissioning Opportunities



VCSE organisations are encouraged to explore opportunities to receive income through delivering contracts for services commissioned by the public sector. You can register to receive details of commissioning opportunities through the following websites:

[Source East Midlands](#)

[Due North](#)

[Gov UK Contract Finder](#)

Easy Fundraising



This is a leading fundraising platform that gives organisations access to an unlimited fundraising source, that helps you to raise FREE cashback donations through online shopping. Register your group/organisation as a good cause with easyfundraising to receive free cashback donations when anyone connected to that organisation shops online with 4,200 retailers including Argos, Amazon, Just eat and Booking.com. It doesn't cost the shopper a penny more so it's an easy way for your community to support your organisation just by shopping online as they usually would.

[Easy Fundraising Website](#)

Leicestershire Communities Website



The Leicestershire Communities website contains a range of useful information to help local people to actively participate in their communities, including information for people involved in community groups, charities and social enterprises. This section of the website provides a range of support, information and resources related to Grants and Funding, including Monthly Funding Bulletins, information from a range of funders, along with details of support provided to voluntary and community sector groups, charities and social enterprises, by other relevant organisations.

[Leicestershire Communities Grants and Funding Webpage](#)