

Monthly Funding Information October 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
Veterans' Foundation	8 th Oct 2024
Alzheimer's Research UK - Inspire Fund	14 th Oct 2024
Armed Forces Covenant - Free From Fear Programme	16 th Oct 2024
Home Instead Charities (New)	31 st Oct 2024
Gardening with Disabilities Trust (New)	30 th Nov 2024
Armed Forces Covenant – Fulfilling Futures Programme * (New)	4 th Dec 2024
Armed Forces Covenant – Family Focus Programme * (New)	18 th Dec 2024
Veterans Capital Housing Fund – Major Capital Grants	8 th Jan 2025
Pink Ribbon Foundation (New)	30 th May 2025

[Funding for projects which support Young People \(including young people with disabilities\)](#)

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Active Together - Young People Physical Activity & Sport Hardship Fund	6 th Oct 2024
Learning Through Landscapes – Local School Nature Grant (New)	8 th Nov 2024
Weaver's Company Benevolent Fund	14 th Nov 2024
Toy Trust Fund (New)	Mid Nov 2024
YHA Breaks Programme (New)	10 th Dec 2024
Dept. For Education – Senior Mental Health Lead Training	31 st Dec 2024
Kelly Family Charitable Trust (New)	1 st March 2025

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
OPCC - Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) (New)	14 th Oct 2024
Harborough District Council – Community Grant Fund	20 th Oct 2024
One Stop – Community Partnership Programme (New)	25 th Oct 2024
OPCC - People Zones Grant Fund (New)	28 th Oct 2024
National Garden Scheme - Community Garden Grant (New)	28 th Oct 2024
Leicestershire Ukrainian Community Grant 2024-25	30 th Oct 2024
WCIT Charity – IT4Good	31 st Oct 2024
Green King IPA – Proud to Pitch In	1 st Nov 2024
Road Safety Trust - Autumn Round *	1 st Nov 2024
Community Energy Fund – Midlands	8 th Nov 2024
ASDA Foundation (New)	8 th Nov 2024
Leeds Building Society Foundation	11 th Nov 2024
The Quaker Housing Trust (New)	13 th Nov 2024
Hospice UK- Improving Care (New)	18 th Nov 2024
HM Govt. – Warm Homes Social Housing Fund * (New)	25 th Nov 2024
The Tree Council – Branching out Fund	1 st Dec 2024
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund (New)	1 st Dec 2024
International Tree Foundation – UK Community Tree Planting *	13 th Dec 2024
Bentley Motors – Advancing Life Chances (New)	20 th Dec 2024
Arnold Clark Community Fund	31 st Dec 2024
Parkinson’s UK- Physical Activity Grants	31 st Dec 2024
Delamere Dairy Foundation (New)	1 st Jan 2025
Woodland Trust – Free Trees (New)	Jan 2025
Arts Council England - Creative People and Places 2026-29	16 th Jan 2025
Theatres Trust – Small Grants Programme * (New)	17 th Jan 2025
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council – Warm Welcome Grant (New)	28 th Feb 2025
Co-operative Bank - Customer Donation Fund	Open
Architectural Heritage Fund	Open
Midlands Net Zero Hub - Community Energy Fund	Open

Funding for projects which support Adults

[Veterans' Foundation](#)

Summary

Grants are available for small and medium-sized charities and not-for-profit organisations that provide support to those in need among serving Armed Forces personnel, veterans, operationally qualified seafarers and their immediate families across the UK.

Key Criteria

The funding can be used for projects covering a range of aspects of social care for the Armed Forces community, including but not limited to:

- Reducing homelessness.
- Increasing employment.
- Providing welfare and medical support.
- Increasing confidence and social interaction.
- Reducing dependence on alcohol and drugs.
- Reducing poverty.
- Disability.
- Mental health.
- Marriage guidance.
- Care during old age.

Amounts available: Maximum £75,000

Application deadlines: 8th October 2024 for a decision in December 2024. Further funding rounds will also take place between January and July 2025.

[Alzheimer's Research UK - Inspire Fund](#)

Summary

Alzheimer's Research UK provides funding for projects that engage the public with the topic of dementia and the life-changing research going on into the condition.

The Fund wants to encourage applications from people, organisations and communities with ideas, passion and ability to realise innovative public engagement projects on the topic of dementia. From those within or outside the research community, those with a track record in public engagement and those looking to apply their skills to this important issue for the first time.

It is especially interested in proposals led by community groups or organisations.

Key Criteria

Inspire Fund projects must meet both core criteria:

- Projects must engage with underserved audiences on the topic of dementia, such as minority ethnic communities, marginalised or socioeconomically disadvantaged people.
- Build knowledge and understanding about brain health (in the context of dementia risk reduction) and explore ways to encourage behaviour change.

Grants will not be awarded to:

- Projects where research is the primary purpose
- Projects providing dementia care or other front-line services (including arts therapy)
- Projects judged to be using the scheme to further the commercial interests of an organisation

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 14th October 2024

[Armed Forces Covenant - Free From Fear Programme](#)

Summary

Grants to address the impact of domestic abuse and support initiatives aimed at having a long-term effect in preventing domestic abuse in serving Armed Forces communities or assisting those affected.

Applications are welcomed from registered charities, CICs, and Armed Forces bases/units for projects lasting for up to two years.

Key Criteria

Projects will need to achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- Deliver effective, preventative and educational measures regarding domestic abuse within Armed Forces communities, by addressing emerging and current challenges.
- Provide clear routes, or remove barriers, to enable victim-survivors to access effective support, including the ability to recognise and report domestic abuse.
- Establish long-term, sustainable improvements and adaptation of support to meet the evolving needs of victim-survivors.

Amounts available: Between £75,000 and £150,000

Application deadlines: 16th October 2024

Home Instead Charities – NEW GRANT

Summary

Grants are available for small local charities and grass roots groups to support older people (aged 55 years and over). Activities and projects should support wellbeing or reduce social isolation and/or loneliness.

Types of activities and costs funded include:

- Regular weekly or monthly events and activities such as weekly cinema club, weekly knit and natter or Thursday lunch club
- One off activities, such as a day trip or a Christmas lunch
- Activities such as yoga or a guest speaker for your group such as a local historian

Key Criteria

- Organisations must be open and inclusive
- It will only fully fund organisations who hold no more than 3 months operating costs in reserve. If organisations have more than this, the charity will only co-fund the project up to a maximum 50% of the funding required.
- It will consider applications from groups, associations and charities that do not service the over 50s directly but the project they require funding for does, i.e., a local school wishes to hold a special afternoon tea for its local care home residents.
- The group must have a bank account in the same name of the Group you are applying for funding under

Amounts available: Maximum £1,500

Application deadlines: 31st October 2024 (Applications received in October will be processed and awarded in November). There are four application windows per year: January, April, July and October. Decisions are always on the following month.

Gardening with Disabilities Trust – NEW GRANT

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 * – NEW GRANT

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 * – NEW GRANT

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).

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

Pink Ribbon Foundation – NEW GRANT

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).

Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

Active Together - Young People Physical Activity & Sport Hardship Fund

Summary

Active Together is looking to support young people from Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, in the greatest financial need, to access physical activity and sport. The Fund is aimed at helping young people overcome financial constraints affecting their continued involvement in physical activity and sport in the following categories:

- **Participant** – for young people who are not able to access sport or physical activity due to the cost of membership fees/subs or who may need support with the purchase of kit or equipment required to participate.
- **Coach/Official** – for young people who have a passion for coaching or officiating in sport but are unable to access coaching or officiating courses/qualifications due to the cost of training.
- **Volunteer** – for committed young people who would like to give their time to volunteer in sport or physical activity, however they may face barriers such as the cost of transport to access the activity.
- **Talented sportsperson** – for young people who compete at a Regional, National or International level however cost is a barrier to travelling to competitions, purchasing equipment

Priority will be given to:

- A young person's financial need, including (but not limited to) household income, free school meal eligibility, nature and cost of the sport or activity.
- Applications from young people from low socio-economic backgrounds, ethnically diverse communities and those with a disability or long-term health condition.
- Young people who have not received funding from other organisations.

Key Criteria

- Young people should be aged 21 years or under on 31 March 2025, or up to the age of 25 for young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND).
- Young people must live in Leicestershire, Leicester or Rutland (i.e. pay council tax here).
- For young people under the age of 18, applications must be completed by a parent or guardian on their behalf.
- The scheme won't fund clubs/groups/organisations - this fund is aimed at individuals
- If your application is unsuccessful in the first round, you will not be eligible to resubmit an application for the second round.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines:

Round 1 closes 6th October 2024

Round 2 closes 2nd March 2025

Learning Through Landscapes – Local School Nature Grant – NEW 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 – NEW GRANT

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

YHA Breaks Programme – NEW GRANT

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 – NEW GRANT](#)

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

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

[OPCC - Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\)](#) – NEW GRANT

Summary

This new funding opportunity will support the roll-out of an educational programme throughout Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) to address the attitudes and behaviours that are the root cause of violence against women and girls.

The funding is open to community-based groups, grassroots organisations, charities and sports and youth clubs and will reimburse organisations for the time spent on training and delivering the programme.

Successful applicants will also receive educational packages and resources. As well as guidance, support and training to implement the sessions into their curriculum.

Key Criteria

Prioritised working with young people to prevent and raise awareness of sexual violence and is focusing work on young people between the ages of 10 and 19.

Ideally organisations should have:

- A strong existing relationship with young people and presents a clear plan for expanding or enhancing services through this programme
- Strong community ties, a commitment to youth education, and a willingness to learn and adapt to new content.

Amounts available: Maximum £1,870

Application deadlines: 14th October 2024

Harborough District Council – Community Grant Fund

Summary

The Community Grant Fund is a capital grant scheme for town and parish councils/meetings and community organisations in the Harborough district.

A share of the £1m Grant has been allocated to parishes and towns based on the local plan. This gives more resource to the areas which were allocated greater growth in the last local plan.

The fund can be used to support other grants offered by the council, such as Section 106.

Key Criteria

- All applications outside of Market Harborough need to be submitted or supported by the Parish Council or Parish Meeting.
- The funding can only go to groups that are constituted and have held a bank account in the name of the group for three years – this relates to the group delivering the project. Although many Parish Meetings will not meet these criteria, they can support an application on behalf of another group who does meet the criteria.
- More than one application can be submitted subject to applications not exceeding the allocated grant amount for that parish or town.
- Grants must be spent within one year of receipt

Amounts available:

The amounts have been apportioned to give some relative recognition of scale of growth but also spread to ensure as many communities as possible have access to some funds without a bidding process. [There is a document available which sets out the allocation.](#)

Application deadlines: 20th October 2024 There are three further closing dates in 2025 - 16th February, 25th May and 24th August.

One Stop – Community Partnership Programme – NEW GRANT

Summary

Community groups and other not for profit organisations within a two-mile radius of a One Stop shop can apply for a grant to support projects and initiatives that are:

- Tackling food poverty
- Supporting the vulnerable
- Supporting the elderly
- Supporting low-income families
- Supporting a healthier lifestyle, such as Youth sports teams

Alongside a grant, the One Stop Community Team and One Stop Store Team create a long-term tailored support programme for successful applicants.

Key Criteria

- Applications will be welcomed from various organisations including voluntary/community organisations, registered charities, schools, health bodies, Parish/Town councils, social enterprises, Community Interest Companies.
- Each One Stop store is able to create a partnership with one group only. Before you start your application, please use the [Store Locator](#) to check the distance from your local store and whether funding is currently available there.

Amounts available: Maximum £1,000

Application deadlines: 25th October 2024

OPCC - People Zones Grant Fund - NEW GRANT

Summary

This fund caters for the current existing People Zones in Leicester and Leicestershire: Bell Foundry, New Parks and Thringstone & Whitwick.

The purpose of this fund is to support the community in achieving their aspirations, by utilising the themes identified within the community consultation research reports. The themes for the specific People Zone vary and are identified on page 2 and 3 of the application form. Projects must state how they will meet one or more of the themes. These include:

- Health and Wellbeing - Including support for people's emotional wellbeing, support relating to unhealthy coping mechanisms such as drug use and Gambling related harms, as well as the perceived lack of resource in the area.
- Community Safety - Including issues such as people feeling safe outside of their homes, street lighting, anti-social behaviour, drug dealing and drug use, knife crime and public nuisance with motorbikes and scooters.
- Pride of Place - Enhanced pride in the community through tackling issues including littering and fly tipping as well as area enhancement projects.
- Youth Provision - Perceived poor access to youth activities for young people in the area, with residents believing this is a direct link to increased anti-social behaviour

Key Criteria

- Applicants must either be living, working, providing a service or looking to provide a service within one or more of these People Zones to be eligible to apply.
- Funding for multiple projects by the same organisation can be applied for, providing the total sum for all projects does not exceed £10,000.
- Applicants cannot apply for £10,000 in each Zone at the same time.
- Funding must be used to offer free projects/initiatives to the community, to ensure the project is as accessible as possible for all to attend.

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000

Application deadlines:

Round 2 open from 30th September to 28th October 2024

Round 3 open from 6th January to 3rd February 2025

National Garden Scheme - Community Garden Grant - NEW GRANT

Summary

The 2025 Community Garden Grants scheme is open for applications. these projects the “community” element of engaging people and socialising is paramount.

Key Criteria

- Applicants must be a fully set up community group, registered charity or Community Interest Company (CIC) with a functioning non-personal bank account
- Schools and local authorities , including Parish and Town councils are not eligible to apply
- Groups that were successful in securing a National Garden Scheme Community Garden Grant in the prior year will also not be considered
- Successful groups will be notified in March 2025.

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

Application deadlines: 28th October 2024

Leicestershire Ukrainian Community Grant 2024-25

Summary

Leicestershire County Council's is committed to supporting and improving the wellbeing, quality of life and social integration of Ukrainian guests and families living in Leicestershire.

VCSE (voluntary, community and social enterprise) sector organisations, along with Town/Parish Councils are able to apply for grants to deliver community-based projects, services and activities which are specifically targeted at improving the opportunities, wellbeing and social integration of Ukrainian families in Leicestershire.

The focus of the funding is to support projects and activities directly delivered to Ukrainian guests, along with support for people and households who host Ukrainian arrivals in Leicestershire.

The activities funded must support one or more of the following priorities:

- Reduce loneliness and social isolation
- Promote health, wellbeing and quality of life
- Address trauma
- Support the development of English language learning skills
- Support access to employment, training and education
- Improve access to volunteering opportunities
- Support access to appropriate and stable accommodation and housing
- Support the social integration of Ukrainian guests and contribute to community cohesion
- Provide support to people and families who host Ukrainian guests in Leicestershire
- Support education, learning and understanding of the issues faced by Ukrainian guests across communities more broadly

Key Criteria

- Applying organisations are expected to currently be working with Ukrainian guests, or have a clear and robust proposal in place for a project/activity which can be delivered for the benefit of Ukrainian guests
- Applicants need to have a bank account (in the name of the organisation), with at least two unrelated signatories, along with a constitution/governing document.
- Organisations that apply for funding will need to demonstrate why the funding is essential to enable them to deliver the project (i.e. demonstrate that they are unable to undertake the project activity with existing resources).
- Non-constituted community organisations are not eligible to apply for a grant
- Town/Parish Councils are eligible to apply

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines:

Round 1 closes 30th October 2024

Round 2 opens on 13th January 2025 and closes 26th February 2025

[WCIT Charity – IT4Good](#)

Summary

Grant for educational establishments and not-for-profit organisations across the UK to support IT projects and activities.

WCIT is more likely to fund the development and delivery of innovative new services, solutions, training, apps, analytics, AI, robotics, or accessibility features/hardware and projects where it is a material or sole funder.

WCIT is less likely to fund a hardware refresh (e.g. replacement of laptops/desktops), off the shelf software packages, websites, network and telephony costs, migration to cloud services, large national charities with significant income and reserves, or projects where its contribution and impact may be very small.

Key Criteria

- Projects need to demonstrate an innovative use of IT, be scalable for wider replication, and be sustainable over time.
- Core running costs (including the operational running costs of existing IT infrastructure) are not eligible.
- Local authorities or councils are not eligible.

Amounts available: Maximum £15,000

Application deadlines: 31st October 2024 (although applications can be submitted at any time and then considered at one of its four meetings per year)

[Green King IPA – Proud to Pitch In](#)

Summary

Grants are available for grassroots sports clubs and community organisations to deliver activities within local communities across the UK.

Individuals may nominate a sports club or organisation to receive a cash grant to continue delivering sports activities.

Examples of projects that have previously received funding include:

- Renovations of a club's facilities to make them more inclusive and accessible.
- Coaching qualifications and referee courses.
- New equipment and kit.

Key Criteria

- Funded projects should be delivered by 31st December 2024
- The project beneficiaries must be aged 18 and over.
- Priority will be given to organisations that can demonstrate how their sports club or project benefits members of the local community, and projects that will have a long-term impact.

Amounts available: Maximum £4,000

Application deadlines: Open to applications all year but the scheme closes 1st November 2024

Road Safety Trust - Autumn Round *

Summary

The Road Safety Trust has announced the grant theme for the Autumn 2024 round is 'Inequalities in Road Safety', and they have just published the guidance notes so that organisations may start to plan their applications in advance of the 26 September opening.

The funding is for projects that address one or more of the following areas:

- The impact of social determinants such as income and health and other demographic factors on local communities and their exposure to risk related to:
 - Illegal, dangerous and anti-social use of the roads, the effectiveness of current countermeasures and potential new methods for reduction
 - Rural areas and different age groups within such communities
 - Access to, and use of, technologies that make vehicles and roads safer
- Road safety issues for children with SEN and/or disabilities; and the issues for their carers.
- Improving the availability, quality and strategic use of demographic evidence and information, alongside other safety related evidence and information to support practitioners and policy makers in respect of road safety.

Two grants are available:

- Small Grants for practical projects or local pilots or trials
- Large Grants for research-based projects, and the development, implementation and evaluation of innovative interventions

Key Criteria

- Each application should have a lead organisation which must be a UK local public sector organisation (e.g., Local Authority, Police Force or Fire and Rescue), UK university, UK-based registered charity, not-for-profit, social enterprise or community interest company (must have a governing document with a clause describing their purpose and a dissolution clause).
- Match funding is required, either cash or in-kind
- An element of partnership or collaborative working is expected in all projects

Amounts available:

Small Grants from £10,000 to £50,000 over two years

Large Grants from £50,001 to £300,000 for up to two or three years

Application deadlines: Applications accepted between 26th September and 1st November 2024

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 – NEW GRANT

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

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 – NEW GRANT

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

Hospice UK- Improving Care – NEW GRANT

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

HM Govt. – Warm Homes Social Housing Fund * – NEW GRANT

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)

[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](#) – NEW GRANT

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 – NEW GRANT

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

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: Open until funds have been allocated. This is expected to be by end of December 2024.

Delamere Dairy Foundation – NEW GRANT

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

Woodland Trust – Free Trees – NEW GRANT

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 * - NEW GRANT

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

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council – Warm Welcome Grant - NEW 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).

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.

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.

Events and Training:

[Introduction to Funding Applications 15th October 2024](#) – Booking is required. This online introductory training session explains what is required in a basic funding application for charities and voluntary groups.

[Meet The Funders 30th October 2024](#) from 12.30pm to 6.30pm at the Marlene Reid Centre, Coalville. This is an invitation for Leicestershire based Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations to come along and meet local and national funders who are actively investing in community groups in your area. Booking is Required.

Contact Details:

[VAL website](#)

Tel: 0116 2575050

Email: helpline@valonline.org.uk

CASE – Support for Social Enterprises in Leicestershire

CASE

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@lrccommunityfoundation.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](#)