

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

September 2025

funding@halton.gov.uk



Funding News

In a landmark step to help children and young people stay safe and thrive, four of the UK's largest charitable funders have come together in a powerful new partnership.

The Youth Endowment Fund, The National Lottery Community Fund, BBC Children in Need and Sport England are the founding partners of the Serious Change Funders Partnership. This bold and ambitious initiative brings funders together with a shared goal: to prevent children from being harmed by or drawn into violence. They will do this by listening to children's experiences and deeply understanding what has changed things for children before.

Each funder already supports vital work in communities across the country. But this new partnership recognises that by working together, they can go further. By setting shared priorities, aligning funding with evidence and using their collective voice and influence, they can drive serious, lasting change.

And this is just the start. In time, the partnership will grow to include more funders who share the same commitment to keeping children safe and helping communities thrive. The Serious Change Funders Partnership will be formally launched ahead of a Youth Opportunity Summit, hosted by His Majesty The King, at St James's Palace on Tuesday 15th July 2025. Funding Bulletin will keep you updated when more news available.....

Visit Halton new e-brochure

Great news for the borough, A Taste of Halton new e-brochure has just been released.

Halton Borough Council's - Visit Halton online brochure of all quirky and interesting places to visit for a quick bite, cuppa, ice cream or leisurely meal.

It's the perfect time to explore Halton's thriving food scene and attractions. Whether you're planning a family day out or just fancy treating yourself to something tasty, the latest edition of A Taste of Halton is here to guide your foodie adventures.

You can find the latest version on www.visithalton.gov.uk in the Food and Drink section, please feel free to share on your socials and promote our wonderful borough of Halton as a great place to visit as there is so much going on, wonderful places to see and activities to take part in.



RUNCORN • WIDNES • DARESURY • MOORE • HALE VILLAGE • PRESTON BROOK • SANDYMOOR

STRATEGIC FUNDS & COUNCIL SPECIFIC

National Lottery Grants for Heritage

Deadline

- £10,000 to £250,000: open all year round
- £250,000 to £10m (both development and delivery phases): [quarterly application deadlines](#)

How to apply

All projects must also consider long-term environmental sustainability. Partnerships are encouraged. Up to 10% match funding is required. Visit: www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/how-to-apply

Funding Details

Not-for-profit organisations across the UK can now apply for grants of between £250,000 and £10 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for projects connecting people and communities to UK heritage.

We don't define heritage. We ask you to tell us what you think is important and should be preserved. From historic buildings, our industrial legacy and the natural environment, to collections, traditions, stories and more – heritage can be anything from the past that you value and want to pass on to future generations.

The funding can support a broad range of activities and project costs such as volunteer expenses, capital works, repairs, maintenance, conservation costs, professional fees, event costs, and the acquisition of heritage. maritime and transport – places and objects linked to our industrial, maritime and transport history.

Friends Provident Foundation

Deadline

This rolling programme runs until September 2027, with applications reviewed three times a year. The next application review date is the 12th January 2026.

How to apply

Visit: <https://friendsprovidentfoundation.org/grants/#new-programme>

Funding Details

Organisations working towards systemic economic change in the UK can apply for funding under two key strands of the Friends Provident Foundation grants programme. Grants range from £100,000 to £120,000 over two years.

The Transforming Financial System strand supports projects addressing structural issues within the financial system - such as banking, investment, and government regulation - to promote a fairer, more sustainable economy.

The New Economy Infrastructure strand offers long-term support to organisations driving systemic economic change, strengthening their capacity to challenge norms and build a resilient, equitable economy.

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COMMUNITY

National Lottery Community Fund – Solidarity Grant

Deadline

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis with no fixed deadlines.

How to apply

The Solidarity Fund | The National Lottery Community Fund

Funding Details

Charities and not-for-profit organisations in England can apply for grants of between £1 million and £5 million for projects tackling poverty, disadvantage, and discrimination lasting between 5 and 10 years. The funding is being made available through National Lottery Community Fund's Solidarity Fund and will support work that empowers communities, fosters collaboration, and amplifies community voices to influence public understanding of inequality. To be eligible, organisations must be led by, and accountable to support 10 organisations in its first year. Eligible costs include staff wages, training, governance improvements, IT upgrades, transport, utilities, volunteer expenses, evaluation, equipment, minor capital works, and translation services for non-English speakers.

Steve Morgan Foundation

Deadline

Applications are currently open, with no set deadline, but early submission is encouraged.

How to apply

To apply, organisations must complete the Foundation's online eligibility checker; those who meet the criteria will be directed to the application. Full guidance and the application <https://stevemorganfoundation.org.uk/regional-grants/>

Funding Details

Registered charities and other not-for-profit organisations with an annual income between £300,000 and £5 million can apply for grants ranging from £250,000 to £500,000 to tackle the root causes of social disadvantage.

The Steve Morgan Foundation's Regional Grants programme supports work across three key themes: education, access to provision (such as health, housing, and youth services), and employment. Funding can be used for core costs, salaries, and project delivery in Merseyside, North Wales, North Shropshire, and Cheshire (west of the M6).

To apply, organisations must complete the Foundation's online eligibility checker; those who meet the criteria will be directed to the application

COMMUNITY

Data Protection Office Grant

Deadline

Applications close 1st October 2025.

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.dpocentre.com/cc-fund/>

Funding Details

The DPO Centre, a leading Data Protection Officer Resource Centre that delivers expert data protection and privacy advice, is inviting applications to its Charity and Community Fund. The Fund provides charities and not-for-profit organisations with access to its data protection consultancy services at an 80% reduced rate.

Organisations can apply for funding of up to £10,000 to support a range of consultancy services, including data protection training, policy drafting and reviews, data sharing, impact assessments, and gap analysis.

Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust

Deadline

The next deadline is 1st December 2025.

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.jeansainsburyanimalwelfare.org.uk/>

Funding Details

Charities registered in the UK that work to provide sanctuary, rehoming, and rehabilitation for animals both domestically and/or internationally are invited to apply for grants of up to £10,000.

Organisations involved with wildlife conservation, the rescue, rehabilitation and (where possible) release of animals are eligible to apply.

The funding can be used for general running costs or capital purchases.

This funding opportunity is provided by the Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust, which welcome repeat applications from charities, subject availability.

Preference is given to smaller animal welfare charities.

The next deadline to apply is 1st December 2025, awards are usually made within 4 months of the application deadline.

COMMUNITY

Calisen Impact Charitable Trust

Deadline

The next closing date for applications is 30th September 2025.

How to apply

www.calisenimpactcharitabletrust.com/about-funding

Funding Details

UK registered charities can apply for grants to support projects that deliver positive environmental, social, or wellbeing outcomes for communities across the country.

The funding is provided by Calisen Impact Charitable Trust, which aims to drive economic and social development within communities by supporting initiatives that include partnerships with Eco-Schools, helping to fund Green Flag accreditation for schools and engaging children in environmental action, as well as Youth Zones, which provide nutritious meals for disadvantaged young people.

The Trust has an interest in supporting communities in the North West where Calisen operates, but funding is available for organisations across the UK.

The Animal Defence Trust

Deadline

The next closing date for applications is 31st March 2026.

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.animaldefencetrust.org/index.html>

Funding Details

The Animal Defence Trust, a UK based charity dedicated to animal welfare, provides funding to support approved animal welfare charities working to rescue and care for animals that have suffered cruelty. Eligible organisations must be registered charities with a proven track record in animal welfare work.

The Trust's main objectives are protecting animals from suffering and mistreatment, promoting research to reduce animal use in scientific experiments, and ensuring proper accommodation for animals during transportation. It provides grant funding to registered charities in the United Kingdom and internationally that are actively involved in animal rescue and rehabilitation efforts.

The grants, which are for capital projects and running costs, aim to support a wide range of activities, including providing shelter, medical treatment, and care for abused or neglected animals.

The Animal Defence Trust website provide no information on the minimum or maximum grants available.

COMMUNITY

The AB Charitable Trust Grant Foundation

Deadline

Applications must be UK registered charities with annual incomes between £150,000 and £1.5 million. The next deadline for applications to the Open Programme is the 24th October 2025.

How to apply

Visit: <https://abcharitabletrust.org.uk/our-priorities>

Funding Details

Funding for projects that defend Human Rights of Marginalised Groups. The AB Charitable Trust is a grant making foundation focused on promoting and defending human rights in the UK and supporting marginalised and excluded groups whose rights are at risk or under threat, has announced that its Open Programme is currently accepting applications from UK registered that address the root causes of injustice and inequality in the UK.

Through its Open Programme, ABCT offers grants ranging from £10,000 to £30,000 per year, for up to three years. The programme provides both core funding (unrestricted grants) and project funding (restricted grants), enabling charities to deliver essential activities that protect and promote human rights.

The Trust prioritises support for charities operating in the following thematic areas:

1) The Human Rights Framework, 2) Access to Justice, 3) The Criminal Legal System and Penal Reform, 4) Migrants and Refugees.

Sports England – Leading the Movement

Deadline

The programme will run until March 2029, those interested are encouraged to register for updates

How to apply

www.sportsengland.org/news-and-inspiration/new-scheme-help-leaders-tackle-inequalities

Funding Details

Sports England has launched the Leading the Movement programme to support and develop a more diverse network of leaders working to tackle inequalities in sport and physical activity. The £5 million National Lottery-funded programme aims to address the need for better representation and support among leader from under-represented backgrounds. The programme aims to:

- Understand the challenges faced by sector leaders working to tackle inequalities, and explore solutions through engagement, training, coaching and mentoring
- Better connect leaders and encourage the exchange of information, ideas and learning
- Provide targeted support to under-represented leaders, and leaders working with under-served communities

The programme is aimed at individuals of all levels, whether paid or volunteer, in either formal or informal roles, who are helping people to be active in places with limited opportunities.

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

National Lottery Community Fund and Department of Culture, Media & Sport – Phase 3 of Million Hours Fund

Deadline

The majority of funding must be spent by March 2026, with full completion required by March 2027. Applications close at 12 noon on 22 October 2025 but may close earlier if over subscribed (early subscription is strongly advised).

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/programmes/million-hours>

Funding Details

Offering grants of £30,000 to £100,000 to expand open-access youth work in areas of England with high levels of antisocial behaviour.

The £19 million programme aims to deliver an additional one million hours of supervised youth activities for young people aged 10-18 (or up to 25 for those with special educational needs or disabilities). The goal is to engage those at risk of antisocial behaviour in structured, inclusive environments promote wellbeing, safety, and personal development.

Examples of Open Access Youth Work:

- Drop in youth clubs
- After school creative and sport sessions
- Safe spaces for discussion and peer support
- Street based or outreach youth engagement

Funded activities must support young people to:

- Improve emotional wellbeing
- Develop practical and life skills
- Feel safer and form trusted relationships with adults

Projects must take place in eligible wards identified through police data and be delivered by trusted adults, such as qualified youth workers or trained volunteers.

Eligible applicants include charities, CIC's, CIO's, schools, local authorities, and community partnerships. Projects must be youth-led, inclusive, and demonstrate measurable impact.

The funding can be used for:

- Staff salaries and volunteer costs to deliver this work
- Training cost
- Other direct costs to deliver youth work, like materials, equipment and food.

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FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Baily Thomas General Grants Programme

Deadline

The next deadline for applications for the main programme is the 1st December 2025. Applications to the small grants programme can be made at any time.

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.bailythomas.org.uk/grants/general-programme>

Funding Details

UK charities, parent-teacher Associations, and schools can apply for grants to help children and adults suffering severe learning difficulties, including autism.

The funding is being made available through the Baily Thomas General grants programme and can be used to purchase equipment, support capital works, and cover project and core costs.

The fund does not currently accept appeals from Community Interest Companies.

There are two funding programmes. The main programme for grant of above £9,000 and a small grants programme for appeals below £9,000.

Rowing Foundation Grants Programme

Deadline

The next application deadline for equipment grants is noon on the 29th September 2025.

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.therowingfoundation.org.uk>

Funding Details

Organisations, clubs, and schools involved in rowing can apply for grants of between £500 and £4,000 (up to 50% of the overall cost of the project) from the Rowing Foundation to support junior & student rowers and adaptive rowing for all ages.

These grants are intended for groups who may have small funding requirements or be ineligible for other sources of funding such as the National Lottery.

The Rowing Foundation focuses on providing equipment such as boats, sculls, ergos, oars, and safety gear to encourage the participation of young people and the disabled in rowing. The funding is being made available through two funding programmes: · Equipment grants · Refurbishment grants.

To be eligible for funding, the projects or work must be non-elitist, for public benefit, and aim to benefit young people, those in education, or people with disabilities. The next application deadline for equipment grants is noon on the 29th September 2025. Applications for refurbishment grants can be made at any time.

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FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity Grants

Deadline

Charities interested in applying should first submit an expression of interest (EOI), which can be submitted any time. If shortlisted, applicants will be invited to complete a full application.

How to apply

Visit: <https://mcf.org.uk/get-support/grants-to-charities>

Funding Details

Funding is available for registered charities in England that support disadvantaged children and young people. The funding which is made available through the Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity Grants programme offers two type of grants.

- Small grants ranging from £1,000 to £5,000, are available to charities with an annual income between £25,000 and £500,000 and can be used for any purpose (unrestricted).
- Large grants ranging from £10,000 to £60,000, are available to charities with an annual income between £500,000 and £5 million. Funds may be spent on salaries, equipment, training, monitoring and administration.

Weaver's Company Criminal Justice Grants

Deadline

The next closing date for applications is the 13th November 2025.

How to apply

Visit: <https://weavers.org.uk/charity/charitable-grants/>

Funding Details

Registered charities, charitable incorporated organisations, and in exceptional circumstances Community Interest Companies can apply for grants for projects that support offenders and ex offenders as well as into work and helping specific less popular groups within the Criminal Justice sector.

The funding is being made available through the Weaver's Company. In allocating funding, priority is given to projects that support offenders into work and projects that work with less popular groups in society. A secondary priority is given to supporting projects that work with young people from disadvantaged and socio-economically challenged groups, such as immigrants, to ensure that they are given every possible chance to realise their full potential and to participate fully in society.

The company operates two funding streams:

- A Small Grants Programme that provides grant of up to £5,000
- A Main Grants Programme which has no maximum grant limit

The funding is available for both project and core cost. Applicants must show they have investigated other sources of funding and made plans for the future funding.

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ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

The Bagri Foundation

Deadline

There is a two stage application process. The deadline for stage 1 applications is 11pm on 3 October 2025. The deadline for stage 2 application is 11pm on 17th November 2025.

How to apply

Visit: https://bagrifoundation.org/funding-opportunities?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Funding Details

The Bagri Foundation, a UK charity dedicated to promoting an understanding of Asian cultures, has launched its 2025/26 Arts & Culture Grants programme. The Foundation is inviting UK non-profits to apply for funding for projects that explore and promote Asian arts and culture.

Grants range from £5,000 to £150,000, typically covering 10-40% of the total project cost. The scheme is open to registered charities, CIOs, CICs, exempt charities, and experienced creative collectives. Individuals are not eligible to apply.

Projects must focus on traditional or contemporary Asian culture and involve established or mid-career artists from Asia or its diasporas.

For funding requests over £75,000, applicants are advised to contact the Foundation in advance.

PRS Foundation – Beyond Borders Programme

Deadline

The application deadline is 6pm on 15th September 2025.

How to apply

Visit: <https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-for-organisations/beyond-borders/>

Funding Details

Beyond Borders is a co-commissioning and touring programme that aims to stimulate and strengthen cross border collaborations between music creators, performers and presenters. It supports the creation, touring and promotion of innovative and high-quality new music across all genres and encourages engagement with audiences across England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland through multiple performances and digital activity.

Funding of up to £20,000 is available for projects that include new commissions, recording and repeat performance of music written in the past five years. Support is given to up to 8-10 projects per year.

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CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

Veolia Environmental Trust – Community Grants Scheme

Deadline

The fund opens 21st August and deadline is 2nd October 2025

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.veoliatrust.org/funding/>

Funding Details

Veolia award grants towards projects that make improvements to community facilities and the natural environment.

To apply for a grant you will need to work through the 'Information', 'Guidance' and 'Apply' sections of our application process by clicking the links below in sequence, and following the instructions on each screen.

If you would like to discuss your project, please contact Veolia to check your post code is eligible.

Veolia Environmental Trust Community Grants Scheme is available to constituted not-for-profit organisations, Local Authorities and Environmental Bodies (EBs). Grants of between £10,000 and £75,000 are available to create or improve publicly accessible spaces for the benefit of the community.

Veolia Environmental Trust – Habitat and Biodiversity Grants Scheme

Deadline

The fund opens 21st August and deadline is 2nd October 2025

How to apply

Visit: <https://www.veoliatrust.org/funding/>

Funding Details

Habitat & Biodiversity Grants Scheme funds improvements to to or the creation of natural habitats and our vision is for a healthy environment where native species can thrive. This scheme is available to constituted not-for-profit organisations, Local Authorities and Environmental Bodies (EBs). The minimum grant we can consider is £10,000.

If you are an Environmental Body (EB)(registered with our Regulator ENTRUST, your project must have already been approved by them before you apply. You will be asked to upload a copy of your Approval and Project Details forms as part of the applicationb process.

If you would like to speak to Veolia regarding your potential project and post code for eligibility please visit website listed above.

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

National Lottery Community Fund – Climate Action Fund

Deadline

Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until at least 17th December 2025

How to apply

Visit: <https://tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/climate-action-fund-our-shared-future>

Funding Details

The National Lottery Community Fund has announced that the Climate Action Fund - Our Shared Future is open for applications. This fund is part of a broader, ten-year £100 million commitment to supporting climate related activities at the community level and aims to support projects that integrate climate action into everyday community life and aims to support projects that integrate climate action into everyday community life, particularly targeting groups and individuals who have not previously engaged with environmental issues.

Grants available through the programme range from £500,000 to £1.5million for most projects, with the possibility of up to £3 million for exceptional initiatives running over a period of up to seven years.

Organisations eligible to apply include: Voluntary and community organisations, registered charities, charitable, incorporated organisations, schools, colleges and universities, statutory bodies (including local authorities, town, parish, or community councils), other not for profits organisations.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to consult with NLCF prior to submission to ensure alignment with fund.