

Funding News



Pride in Place Runcorn Grants Programme

Pride in Place is a 10-year government programme giving communities the power and funding to improve local spaces, support culture, and boost pride in where they live. Runcorn is one of 250 areas that will have £20 million investment over 10 years. Through community consultation, local people have already identified key themes that they would like to see implemented in Runcorn Old Town

There are two sizes of grant pots available:

- Micro grants of up to £250 per project
- Grow grants of £1k – £5k per project

Closing date for applications: Friday 13th March 2026. Find out more:

<https://www.haltonsthelensvca.org.uk/updates/pride-place-runcorn-small-grants-2026-2027>

Funding News

Arts Council: Four Nations International Fund

The Four Nations International Fund is now open for applications – backed by co-investment by Arts Council England, Arts Council Northern Ireland, Arts Council of Wales / Wales Arts International and Creative Scotland.

The fund supports artists, creative practitioners and organisations across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to develop international partnerships in Europe and beyond, with grants of up to £7,500 for in-person, digital and hybrid activity.

Applications are open now, closing at 2pm on Wednesday 25 February 2026

<https://arts.wales/four-nations-international-fun>

Funding News

Arts Council Funds open to applications

- National Lottery Project Grants
- Supporting Grassroots music
- Research & Development for individuals
- Four Nations International Fund

National Lottery Funds open to applications:

- National Lottery Awards for All England
- Reaching Communities England
- The Solidarity Fund
- The UK Fund
- National Lottery Awards for All England-Environment
- Climate Action Fund – Food Systems

Funding News

Arts council: Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy has announced a £1.5 billion package for cultural organisations across the country. Within the package announced, the Arts Council will deliver the following programmes up to 2030:

£160 million investment into local and regional museums: The Museum Estate and Development Fund will return, continuing to help museums tackle maintenance backlogs.

A new £13.6 million Museum Transformation programme which will support organisations to move towards more sustainable business models.

£425 million for the Creative Foundations Fund, which will further support capital projects in arts venues across the country.

£27.5 million for the Libraries Improvement Fund, which supports public libraries to upgrade their buildings and technology to meet changing needs and better serve their communities

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/creative-matters/news/new-ps15-billion-investment-culture-secures-5-uplift-over-1000-arts-council-supported-organisations-and-more-museums-and-libraries>

COMMUNITY

Awards for All England

Deadline

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

- Submit your application at least 16 weeks before you need the funding.

How to apply

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/funding-programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-england/how-to-apply>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Constituted voluntary or community organisation, Constituted group or club, Registered charity, Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), Not-for-profit company
- Community interest company (CIC) limited by guarantee or limited by shares (if limited by shares, you must follow the Regulator of Community Interest Companies' guidance on sharing profits)
- School – can only fund your project if it mainly benefits and involves the communities around the school
- Statutory body (including local authorities, town, parish, and community councils)
- Community benefit society

Grant amount: £300 - £20,000

Fund projects that:

- Bring people together to build strong relationships in and across communities
- Improve the places and spaces that matter to communities
- Help more people to reach their potential, by supporting them at the earliest possible stage
- Support people, communities and organisations facing more demands and challenges because of the cost-of-living crisis

Organisations can use the funding to:

- Start a new activity or continue an existing one
- Help your organisation adapt to new challenges

COMMUNITY

Reaching Communities England

Deadline

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

How to apply

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/funding-programmes/reaching-communities-england>

Funding Details

- **Who can apply:** If your organisation works with communities in England and is a: Voluntary or community organisation with a written constitution, Registered charity, charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), Not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, community interest company (CIC), School, Public body (for example, local authority, town, parish or community council), Community benefit society (registered with the Financial Conduct Authority), co-operative society (also registered with the Financial Conduct Authority)

Grant amount: £20,001 - £20,000,000

Fund projects that:

- support places, people or communities experiencing poverty, disadvantage or discrimination
- support people and communities to shape the decisions that affect their life

The Solidarity Fund

Deadline

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

How to apply

www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/funding-programmes/the-solidarity-fund

Funding Details

Who can apply: Constituted voluntary or community organisation, Registered charity, Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), Not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, Community interest company (CIC), Community benefit society registered with the Financial Conduct Authority, Co-operative society registered with the Financial Conduct Authority.

You can also apply as a partnership, but only if you've worked together before on projects that support communities to lead change and address the root causes of inequality.

Grant amount: Between £1 million and £5 million

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.

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.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

COMMUNITY

The UK Fund

Deadline

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

How to apply

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/funding-programmes/the-uk-fund>

Funding Details

- Who can apply: Registered charity, company limited by guarantee (with a not-for-profit clause or registered as a charity), community interest company (CIC), charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), community benefit society, co-operative society (with a not-for-profit clause and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority, statutory body (such as a town, parish or community council), local authorities, universities

Grant amount: £500,000 to £5 million

The UK Fund offers larger amounts of funding to help you develop work that's already making a difference. To get funding you'll need to show what's working, how you know it's having a proven impact, and why it's ready to scale. We do not fund brand-new projects or services. Your work should also benefit communities across the UK, by working in different places or sharing learning between countries.

Your project should go beyond delivering a service. It should help change how systems work, leading to lasting benefits for communities.

The ABC Charitable Trust

Deadline

The next deadline for applications to the Open Programme is 24th April 2026. Decisions in July 2026

How to apply

<https://abcharitabletrust.org.uk/apply>

Funding Details

Organisations working in priority areas, supporting work that promotes human dignity and defends the human rights of the most marginalised and excluded people.

- 1) The Human Rights Framework
- 2) Access to justice
- 3) The criminal legal system and penal reform
- 4) Migrants and refugees

Funding decisions are made by the trusts Board and Grants Committee (a subgroup of four members of the Board), both of which meet quarterly. Grant decisions up to £30k pa are made by the Grants Committee, whereas anything above £30k pa is considered by the full Board.

COMMUNITY

Calisen Impact Charitable Trust

Deadline

The next application deadline is 31st March 2026

How to apply

<https://www.calisenimpactcharitabletrust.com/about-funding>

Funding Details

Who can apply: UK-registered charities can apply for grants for projects that demonstrate clear, measurable impact, through ways like lives improved, emissions reduced, or communities strengthened

Grant amount: Max £10,000 per project

Funding priorities:

- Youth Empowerment, Children's Play & Safe Spaces
- Hospice & Palliative Care
- Community-Based Social Benefit Projects
- Net-Zero & Energy Efficiency Projects

Fund initiatives that demonstrate clear, measurable impact, through ways like lives improved, emissions reduced, or communities strengthened. The Trustees retain full discretion to fund projects that they believe offer the greatest potential for meaningful impact.

Charles Hayward Foundation – Older People

Deadline

There are no deadlines and applications can be submitted at any time

How to apply

<https://charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk/grants/older-people/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: UK registered charities that have an annual income of less than 350k

Grant amount: Up to £7,000.

The projects must be in the UK and benefit older people (over 60's). Focusing on helping older people to stay in their own homes, remaining independent and improving their quality of life, offering a consistent and sustained benefit.

- Aim to alleviate isolation and depression in older people, including formal day care or regular social, physical and recreational activities
- Give practical help, assistance and support for older people living in their own homes
- Address the emotional and practical needs of people with dementia and their carers.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

COMMUNITY

The Clothworkers Foundation

Deadline

Applications can be submitted at any time. They are reviewed on a rolling basis.

How to apply

<https://www.clothworkersfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant#apply-process>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- UK-registered charities, or organisations that are able to demonstrate their not-for-profit status and with appropriate asset locks (e.g. CICs without share capital and Community Benefit Societies).
- With an annual turnover of less than £10 million if applying for a grant of more than £15,000 (a 'Large Grant')
- With an annual turnover of less than £2 million if applying for a grant of £15,000 or less (a 'Small Grant').
- Must be able to demonstrate that the work of your organisation fits within one or more of our Programme Areas below, and that at least 50% of service users benefiting from the capital project are from one or more of those groups.

Grant amount:

Small Grant = Up to £15,000 (One stage application process)

Large Grant = Over £15,000 (Has a two stage process)

Funds capital costs that support the infrastructure needs of small- and medium-sized charitable organisations working with disadvantaged and marginalised people and communities.

Programme areas:

- Communities experiencing racial inequalities
- Disabilities including mental health or visual impairment
- Domestic or sexual abuse
- Economic disadvantage
- Homelessness
- LGBT+ communities
- Older people facing disadvantage
- Prison rehabilitation
- Substance misuse and addiction
- Young people facing disadvantage

Eligible projects - capital projects:

- Building or refurbishment projects
- Fittings, Fixtures or equipment
- Digital Infrastructure
- Vehicles

COMMUNITY

Steve Morgan Foundation

Deadline

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

How to apply

Organisations must complete the Foundations online eligibility checker. Those who meet the criteria will be directed to the application - <https://stevemorganfoundation.org.uk/regional-grants/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Registered charities and other not-for-profit organisations with an annual income between £300,000 and £5 million

Grant amount: From £250,000 to £500,000

Aims 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.

Morrisons Foundation

Deadline

Applications can be made at any time

How to apply

<https://www.morrisonsfoundation.com/grant-funding-request/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Registered charities

Grant amount: Up to £10,000

Fund projects within three funding objectives.

- Tackling poverty and social deprivation.
- Enhancing community spaces, facilities and services.
- Improving health and wellbeing.

Prefer applications:

- From smaller charities (i.e. income of less than £1m).
- For projects in the communities Morrisons serves.
- For projects which create a lasting legacy or impact.
- For projects with a larger number of beneficiaries.

COMMUNITY

Forte Charitable Foundation

Deadline

There are no deadlines

How to apply

<https://www.fortecharitablefoundation.org.uk/our-grants>

Funding Details

Formerly Treehouse Charitable Foundation

Who can apply:

- Charitable organisations (including social enterprises, not-for-profit registered companies and voluntary organisations) in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- UK based small to medium sized local organisations with a demonstrable track record of success working to address local issues in communities of extreme urban deprivation and deprived rural districts

Large grants - Eligible organisation's with a total annual income up to £500,000

Grant amount:

- Small grants £2,000 - £10,000. For organisations with an income under £250,000. Must have a focus on community focused projects
- Large grants.
 1. Single year grants between £10,000 and £50,000 for core costs, salaries, running and project costs or
 2. Multi-year grants for a maximum of 3 years, not to exceed £100,000 in total over this period, for core costs, salaries, running or project costs.

No more than £50,000 can be applied for in any given year. Organisations should have a focus on Family Support

COMMUNITY

Matrix Causes Fund

Deadline

The fund only accepts applications for consideration in one of the following windows:

- Cycle 1 - 10am 01 January – midday on 31 March (UK time)
- Cycle 2 - 10am 01 July – midday on 30 September (UK time)

How to apply

<https://www.matrixlaw.co.uk/csr/matrix-causes-fund/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Organisations that meet all the following criteria:

- Have charitable or non-profit status
- Registered with HMRC as an exempt charity / non-profit organisation (UK applications only)
- Has an income (from all sources, including grant income and trading income) of less than £500,000 (GBP) per financial year
- Have available financial resources of less than £500,000 (GBP), e.g. money in the bank

Grant amount:

- A one-off grant of up to £6,500 (GBP), or
- A multi-year grant of up to £4,500 (GBP) a year, for up to three years (funds for years 2 and 3 will be released upon receipt of a grant report at the end of the previous year's cycle)

The MCF focuses its funding on projects that contribute to one or more of the following objectives:

- Access to justice
- Equality of opportunity
- Sustainable environment

While all applications which meet the criteria are welcome, priority will be given to those from organisations based in London, and / or those organisations who focus is on supporting the needs of vulnerable persons such as people (particularly children) with disabilities, women in refuges, refugees and asylum seekers, people with mental health difficulties, prisoners etc.

COMMUNITY

People's Postcode Lottery

Deadline

Funding round dates for 2026 are:

Round 1: 9am 25th March - 12 noon 1st April

Round 2: 9am 24th June - 12 noon 1st July

Round 3: 9am 24th September - 12 noon 1st October

How to apply

<https://www.postcodeneighbourhoodtrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- We offer three-year funding for Registered Charities, Community Interest Companies, and Charitable Community Benefit Societies with an annual income between £10,000 and £1 million.

To assist with decision-making, priority may be given to organisations that meet one or more of the following:

- Have an income of £250,000 or below
- Work in communities located in the top 15% of the English Index of Multiple Deprivation
- Organisations whose main activities are focused on supporting marginalised groups. This could include, but is not limited to, disabled people, communities experiencing racial inequity, and LGBT+ people.
- Are in areas that have not recently received funding. For this, we will primarily be looking at postcode areas (eg. EH9 XXX) that have not received funding in the last 12 months. You can find a list of organisations supported [here](#).

Grant amount: Up to £50,000

- Our [eligibility quiz](#) will tell you the maximum amount your organisation can apply for.
- Your request must be no more than 75% of your annual income listed on your most recent set of signed accounts.
- You need to have been operating for a minimum of 12 months and have signed annual accounts at the time of application.

<https://postcodelottery.my.site.com/CommunityGrants/s/#Start>

To be eligible for funding, your organisation's main aims and objectives must fit with one of the funding themes listed below:

- Enabling participation in the arts
- Preventing or reducing the impact of poverty
- Supporting marginalised groups and/or tackling inequality
- Improving mental health - Our focus will be on organisations that are actively supporting specific mental health issues, rather than general mental wellbeing activities.

COMMUNITY

Baily Thomas General Grants Programme

Deadline

Meetings of the Trustees are usually held in March, June and November of each year. The deadlines for submitting an appeal for funding of £9,000 and above are:-

- 31 March for consideration at the June meeting
- 31 August for consideration at the November meeting.

Keep checking the website as submission deadline dates may be subject to change.

There are no submission deadlines for applicants seeking funding below £9,000.

How to apply

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

Funding Details

Who can apply:

Charities and organisations who aim to aid the research into learning disability and to aid the care and relief of those affected by learning disability. For full clarity on the Fund's remit please refer to the [published eligibility information](#). [The Fund does not currently accept appeals from Community Interest Companies.](#)

Grant amount: from £250 and depend on a number of factors including the purpose, the total funding requirement and the potential sources of other funds including, in some cases, matching funding.

Applications for capital and revenue costs and for both specific projects and for general running/core costs are considered.

The following areas of work normally fall within the Fund's current policy providing they benefit the learning disabled:

- Capital building/renovation/refurbishment 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 including building costs and running costs;
- Support for families, including respite schemes;
- Independent living schemes;
- Support in the community schemes;
- Snoezelen rooms.

COMMUNITY

WCIT Charity – IT4Good Grant Programme

Deadline

Applications for funding may be submitted at any time and are considered by the Charitable Operations Committee at one of its four meetings a year

How to apply

<https://wcitcharity.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Registered charity
- Organisation with a formal not-for-profit constitution such as a community interest company
- CICs limited by shares may also apply, although please note the guidance on page five about Persons with Significant Control.

Refer to application guidelines:

<https://wcitcharity.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Application-guidelines-April-2025.pdf>

Grant amount: Up to £15,000

All projects must make use of information technology and relate to one or more priority areas - education, inclusion, tech for charities, and public understanding of technology.

Ideally, projects need to demonstrate an innovative use of technology, be scalable for wider replication, and be sustainable over time.

David Riddell Memorial CIO

Deadline

- Applications will be taken all year round and assessed on a rolling basis. It is expected that the turnaround time for a successful application from submission to funding will be around 3 months.

How to apply

<https://www.davidriddell.org/grants>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Applications will only be considered from charities, including CIOs, and Community Interest Companies limited by guarantee registered in the United Kingdom.

Applications from smaller charities are particularly encouraged. Charities with income of more than £1 million, or with unrestricted reserves of more than 12 months, are unlikely to be successful.

Grant amount: Between £5,000 - £25,000

Only fund suicide awareness and prevention programmes run for charitable purposes. Applications can include full cost recovery. Applications for core costs may be considered to the extent that the mission of the applicant organisation meets our grant criteria. Priority will be given to innovative projects.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

COMMUNITY

Sports England – Leading the Movement

Deadline

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

How to apply

<https://www.leadingthemovement.org>

Funding Details

Who can apply: 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.

Grant amount: Contact Sports England to obtain

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 leaders 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 D'oyly Carte Charitable Trust

Deadline

We will be opening again around the end of February with a new application portal and guidelines. The next grant making meeting will be on the 14th July 2026 and the final closing date for the submission of online applications for this meeting is at 11:59pm on the 26th May 2026.

How to apply

<https://doilycartecharitabletrust.org/how-to-apply/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: UK Registered Charities, operating in the UK for benefit of UK residents
Organisations annual returns to the Charity Commission must be up to date

Grant amount: £500 - £6,000

The Trustees will consider applications for core costs or projects.

Organisations work must align with the Trust's priorities for the next three years

Funding priorities:

- 1) The Arts - Access and participation choirs and singing, Engage with and inspire Young people through music and drama to improve employability, Performance development opportunities in early stages of careers.
- 2) Medical Welfare - Music & Art Therapy and non clinical interventions, Concerned with alleviating suffering of adults and children with medical conditions who have difficulty finding support through traditional sources, provision of breaks for carers
- 3) The Environment - social and therapeutic horticulture projects, active involvement in hands on conservation projects, Rural crafts and skills in heritage

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

COMMUNITY

National Deaf Childrens Society Community Grants

Deadline

- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with set assessment dates throughout the year.

How to apply

<https://www.ndcs.org.uk/community-grants>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

To be able to apply, all applicants must:

- Be based in the UK
- Be a group or organisation with a UK bank or building society account
- Have a safeguarding policy, procedures, training and checks in place (if you work with or are in contact with children and/or vulnerable adults)
- Conduct risk assessments as standard for all activities
- Have appropriate insurance in place
- Have a governing document or constitution
- Produce annual accounts

Grant amount: £1,000 - £10,000 For 12 months

Funder is specifically looking to support projects that support deaf children aged between 0 and 5 years old and their families. Your project can support early years children directly or indirectly.

Applications will also need to show how they meet the funders priorities:

- Understanding the needs of your community
- Working together to create a project idea and design
- Involving and engaging with new people and other organisations in your community.
- Increasing the number of deaf children and families being able to access opportunities.
- Ensuring projects are accessible for deaf children and their families
- Identifiable short and long term benefits that impact deaf children and their families, ensuring that no deaf child is held back

The grant is intended to cover the essential running costs of your project, such as venue hire, transport, promotional costs, wages for sessional workers, interpreters and language tutors and equipment that is essential for the project such as play equipment or technology.

Grants must not be used for services that are provided as standard by government funded education or health services

COMMUNITY

The Hospital Saturday Fund

Deadline

Organisations can apply for a standard grant by the 13th April 2026, or a large grant by the 16th March 2026.

How to apply

<https://hospitalsaturdayfund.org/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants to registered medical health charities within the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

The Hospital Saturday Fund will also consider giving grants to individuals within the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

Grant amount:

- Standard grants of up to £2,000
- Large grants of up to £10,000 (please note this is the maximum sum that HSF will grant)

Large grant applications should be towards specific projects, research or equipment rather than running costs.

For medically related charities, hospitals, hospices and medical clinics:

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants towards medical capital projects, medical care or research and in support of medical training. The Hospital Saturday Fund will also consider grants for running costs.

For Individuals:

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving partial or full grants to individuals for the following:

- Specialised mobility equipment, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, car adaptations, medical appliances and aids, hearing aids, nebulisers, specialised vision aids, specialised computer equipment, therapeutic equipment/treatment, orthopaedic beds, mattresses or pillows, riser /recliners chairs, lift hoist/aids.
- Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Acupuncture, Speech Therapy, Osteopathy, Chiropractic treatment, Reflexology, Massage Therapy and Aromatherapy.
- Home adaptations, walk in showers, accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, access ramps, non-slip flooring, stair lifts.

COMMUNITY

Veolia – Community Grants Scheme

Deadline

Next funding rounds - Submit by 12:00 midday

- Opens 26th February 2026, closes 2nd April 2026

Only one grant application may be submitted per project site, in a 12 month period.

How to apply

<https://www.veoliatrust.org/apply-for-funding/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: An organisation which:

- Is charitable and operated on a not-for-profit basis
- Is constituted, with a set of signed governing documents
- Has been established for a minimum of two years
- Has a minimum of two directors, trustees or committee members who are not related to each other
- Does not financially benefit directors, trustees, members
- An Environmental Body (see Project Registration details below)
- A Local Authority (County/City/Town/Parish Council)

Any grant awarded will incur an additional CTP cost:

****Contributing Third Party Payment (CTP Payment)**

If your application is successful, you will need to arrange a CTP payment of 10% of your grant amount, to the landfill operator, before your grant can be released. This payment is retained by the landfill operator to cover the 10% tax credit shortfall, it is never refunded.

Use funders online [Postcode Checker](#) and refer to eligibility criteria on website

Grant amount: £10,000 - £75,000

The Community Grant Scheme supports projects that are aiming to improve an indoor or outdoor community space. Projects should: encourage community action and wellbeing; be inclusive and accessible; promote sustainability; and protect nature.

When considering your application, the Trustees will want to see that your project:

- Promotes community action and wellbeing
- Is inclusive and accessible to everyone and anyone to use
- Inspires the creation of a sustainable carbon neutral community space
- Protects and enhances biodiversity and natural habitats

COMMUNITY

Covenant Fund Trust – Rise Programme

Deadline

Apply by noon 18 February 2026

How to apply

<https://covenantfund.org.uk/programme/rise-programme/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

As this is a pilot programme, it is open to small or medium armed forces charities only.

- Small charity – annual income of £10k – £100k
- Medium charity – annual income of £100k – £1m

Grant amount: Up to £30,000

The aim of this programme is to pilot a small number of grants to organisations to provide additional capacity to review their governance, strategic growth, maturity of impact measurement and financial resilience, to ensure they're better equipped to support their beneficiary cohort.

All projects must meet this overarching aim and the following programme outcome:

- The organisation has developed an actionable vision to more effectively provide its
- services to those in the UK armed forces community who've given the most.

The Veterans Foundation

Deadline

Standard and Salary grants schemes: 30 March 2026.

Applications to the small grants programme can be submitted at any time.

How to apply

<https://www.veteransfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

All registered charities and other not-for-profit organisations (as per the eligibility checker) that support our beneficiaries may apply.

Grant amount:

Small grants £500 - £5,000, Standard grants £5,001 - £30,000.

Salary grants: Up to £25,000 per year for up to 3 years (Max £75,000)

The Veterans' Foundation provides grants to eligible organisations that provide assistance to serving and former members of the armed forces community, operational qualified seafarers and their immediate families.

COMMUNITY – ANIMAL WELFARE

Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust

Deadline

The next deadline is 1st April 2026 (For summer meeting). Awards are usually made within 4 months of the application deadline.

How to apply

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

Funding Details

Who can apply: Charities registered in the UK that work to provide sanctuary, rehoming, and rehabilitation for animals both domestically and/or internationally

Grant amount: Up to £10,000.

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 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

Who can apply: 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.

Grant amount: The Animal Defence Trust website gives no information on the minimum or maximum grants available.

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.

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

The National Churches Trust

Deadline

Large grants - Next stage 1 deadline is 3rd March 2026

Medium and small grants - 14th April 2026

How to apply

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Listed and unlisted Christian places of worship, of any denomination in the UK. Grants awarded will never exceed 50% of the project cost.

Grant amount:

- Large grants - Grants are provided of up to £50,000 for urgent structural repair projects and for projects to install kitchens and toilets. The grant awarded will never exceed 50% of the project cost.
- Medium and small grants - Grants are provided of up to £10,000 to support urgent repair and maintenance issues and project development work. Also, small investigative works and surveys

Masonic Charitable Foundation Charity Grants

Deadline

Charities interested in applying should first submit an expression of interest (EOI), which can be submitted anytime. 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

Who can apply: Registered charities in England that support disadvantaged children and young people.

Grant amount:

- 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.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

UnLtd – Funding Futures Programme

Deadline

Application window opens 01.10.2025 - Application assessed Jan-Mar 2026

How to apply

<https://www.unltd.org.uk/awards/funding-futures-programme/>

Funding Details

To be considered for the Funding Futures Programme, you must:

- Have an idea or have been operating for less than 4 years
- Aged 16-30 years old
- Located in UK
- Focused on Financial inclusion sector

Grant amount:

- Starting up - Up to £8,000
- Scaling up - Up to £18,000

The Funding Futures Programme funds and supports 16-30 year olds with great ideas for solutions to help those sidelined by the financial system – giving them the tools they need to build financial resilience in their communities, so they become fairer places to live, with opportunities for all. Ideas could tackle financial exclusion directly or indirectly.

Arts-based Learning Fund

Deadline

Applications can be submitted at any time

How to apply

<https://www.phf.org.uk/funding/arts-based-learning-fund?tab=section53431#section53431>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Formal and cultural organisations working in partnership with formal education settings
- Arts organisations which can be charities, community organisations, social enterprises and not for profit companies active in the arts and culture sector
- Organisations led by people most impacted by oppression, including racism, ableism, classism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, and/or transphobia
- Organisations that are developing established programmes of work and/or testing new approach

Grant amount: £30,000 - £300,000. Up to £100,000 per year - Duration of 1-4 years for:

Funding available for:

- Core funding e.g. for salaries and organisational costs;
- Costs of delivering work such as artist practitioners' fees, teacher cover, equipment and materials;
- Training and ongoing professional development for freelancers and staff; or
- Costs of gathering and sharing evidence relating to this work.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Charles Hayward – Social & Criminal Justice

Deadline

There is a two stage application process: Next deadline for submission of application is 22nd May 2026.

The Grants Committee (a sub-group of the Foundation's trustees) meet three times a year to shortlist applications and decide which ones will progress to Stage 2. The Grants Committee meetings take place in March, July and November

How to apply

Submit proposal by email to grants@charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk. Refer to website to check your charity meets eligibility criteria and for further detail on information to be included in application.

<https://charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk/grants/social-criminal-justice/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

UK registered charities that have an annual income between £350,000 and £4,000,000. The funder is unlikely to make a grant to large charities which have endowments, make grants themselves, hold large reserves and/or have substantial contractual arrangements with the government.

Grants amount: £15,000 - £25,000 per year. The trustees will fund projects over 1-3 years.

Only fund projects in the following sub-categories:

- Targeted early intervention programmes aimed at reaching the most troubled and vulnerable families in a community.
- Tailored preventative and diversionary projects for young people at risk of offending, including interventions identifying and addressing the particular needs of girls and young women.
- Programmes combining prison-based and community interventions dealing with the rehabilitation of offenders, accommodation and support on release, maintaining family relationships, mentoring, and creating pathways to employment.
- Schemes offering viable alternatives to custody, in particular for women and young people.
- Programmes of support that alleviate the consequences of domestic abuse.

The trustees look for projects which:

- Address multiple and complex needs with a range of appropriate interventions.
- Are tailored to individual needs and local situations involving families and communities; these can be designed and delivered in partnership.
- Are of appropriate duration and intensity, have a clear rationale, and are properly monitored and evaluated.
- Have a plan for the future, including an 'exit strategy'.

The Foundation is also open to creative and specialist approaches and trialing new solutions.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Student Opportunities Programme

Deadline

The next deadline is 26th June 2026

How to apply

<https://www.artfund.org/professional/get-funding/programmes/student-opportunities>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Only accept applications from organisations whose primary purpose relates to objects and works of art. As a registered charity we can only pay grants to organisations who are registered for public interest, these include: Charities, Community Incorporated Organisations (CIO), Community Interest Companies (CIC), Charitable Community Benefit Societies.

Grants amount: Up to £10,000

Aim of funding is to help museums, galleries and visual arts organisations provide paid opportunities for full time university students to gain work experience

They will fund the costs associated with paying students for the time they spend supporting your organisation in delivering projects. This is based on the current National and London Living Wage rates.

Encourage applications that focus on facilitating public engagement with art – whether that be online or in real life.

The Allen Lane Foundation

Deadline

Young people's programme - Applications can be made at any time.

How to apply

<https://allenlane.org.uk/applying-for-funding/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Charities and not-for-profit organisations who work with young people aged 12-21 who are socially excluded or marginalised, and who may have experienced significant issues within their lives.

The Foundation will only fund smaller organisations. Organisations that work across a local area and have an annual income of less than £100,000. Organisations that work across the entire UK must have an annual income of less than £250,000.

Grant amount: £5,000-£15,000

Those that focus their work on:

- Young people within criminal justice system, Looked after children or care leavers, Those with mental health concerns or complex needs, Young people who have been traumatised by challenging family backgrounds, neglect, violence or abuse, Those that have fallen through gaps in care and/or education, Those already affected by, or vulnerable to exploitation, Whose experiences could seriously impact their transition into adulthood.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Sofronie Foundation

Deadline

Applications can be submitted at any time

How to apply

<http://sofronie.org/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

A registered charity or not for profit association and your work is focused on young people from disadvantaged backgrounds based in the UK, France or the Netherlands

Grant amount:

The Foundation does not indicate the minimum and maximum amount that can be applied for.

- Sofronie's main goal is to help young people by offering them the opportunities with which they can improve their employment chances – benefitting both their own lives and the lives of their future families.
- Funding to increase access to higher education
- Funding to increase access to vocational training
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

The JJ Charitable Trust – Literacy small grants

Deadline

- Spring grant round: applications by 4th March 2026

How to apply

https://sfct.powerappsportals.com/jjapplication/?dm_i=6MG6,1A8M6,6S49NU,63GUE,1

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- You must be a UK-based organisation.
- You need to be a registered charity, Community Interest Company, Charitable Incorporated Organisation or registered as an exempt charity.
- Priority is given to organisations with an annual income of less than £1 million – though we will consider organisations with a higher income where literacy is a new strand of work.

Grant amount:

You can apply for grants between £5,000 and £20,000 spread over a period of 1, 2 or 3 years. The maximum total amount is £20,000 and you can indicate how you'd like a multi-year grant to be split over the years.

- You don't need to have a new literacy project specific for the grant – you can apply for funding for your existing literacy work.

The scheme funds charities and community groups that directly help children and young people develop literacy skills, with a focus on supporting those with learning difficulties such as dyslexia. We are keen to see applications for projects that use volunteers and reading mentors and those that help during transitional points. For example: between primary and secondary school or transitioning to college or work. We will consider grants for literacy support at any primary or secondary key stage (between ages 5 and 18).

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Science Community Grant

Deadline

27th February 2026

How to apply

<https://royalsociety.org/grants/science-community-grant/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- The grant is open to applicants from UK-based STEM institutions or organisations that can demonstrate a significant track record of engagement with both schools/colleges and STEM professionals. Applications are welcomed from organisations as a whole, or from groups/departments/faculties within organisations.

Grant amount: A maximum of £105,000 payable over three years. There are ten Science Community Grants available.

The aims of the Science Community Grant are to:

- Support UK schools and colleges in undertaking more hands-on, inquiry-based learning and investigative STEM projects
- Allow students the opportunity to experience how science is done in practice
- Provide continuing professional development (CPD) training for teachers to enhance skills and confidence in running practical investigations
- Embed a collaborative community among schools and colleges to help support the delivery of practical science activities and to develop practical investigation and technical skills within students
- Embed a culture of lasting partnership between schools and colleges and STEM professionals
- Embed an outreach culture within universities or industry and develop the engagement skills of early-career STEM researchers

While the grant cannot be used to support direct staffing costs, it can be used to support coordination and administration of the grant by the organisation.

Funds may also be used for:

- Equipment to enable schools to undertake small-scale investigations
- School and college expenses related to their participation, such as teacher cover and travel costs
- STEM professional costs associated with training and travel costs for school/college visits
- Data collection and evaluation

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Ironmongers – Stem Projects

Deadline

The Foundation Committee meets two to three times per year.
We will next be accepting applications in January 2026

How to apply

<https://www.ironmongers.org/supporting-stem-projects>

Applications should be emailed to charities@ironmongers.org or sent to the postal address below, and must be no longer than four sides of A4.

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Grants are made to registered or exempt charities only. Applications will not be accepted from schools. Projects involving corporate partners must have charitable purposes and be for public benefit, not private gain

Preference will be given to projects engaging young people between the ages of 11 and 18 from disadvantaged backgrounds. Participants should be within this age range or be educators working with young people within this age range

Grant amount: Grants of under £10,000 are considered.

Projects must meet the following criteria:

- Activities must be within the UK, with a preference for urban areas outside London and particularly areas in the north and midlands with a manufacturing presence
- Activities must be additional to those funded by government or other sources e.g. covered by school budgets.
- Projects should have clear objectives and measurable outcomes, providing repeat engagement and focusing on how they will enhance the Science Capital of young learners from disadvantaged backgrounds. A written evaluation report demonstrating how impact has been measured must be provided on completion
- Items of equipment will only be funded as part of specific programmes of activity. Building/capital works are not eligible

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Paul Hamlyn Foundation – Youth Fund

Deadline

Applications can be submitted at any time

How to apply

<https://www.phf.org.uk/funding/youth-fund?tab=section56852>

Funding Details

Offering grants for organisations who work with young people aged 14-25 and complete targeted work with and for young people who face transitions in their lives which may be challenging or create barriers work that recognizes young peoples multiple and overlapping identities (for example race, gender, sexual orientation, class, faith, migration status, ability).

The Youth Fund is designed to be a strategic investment in your organisation, so only fund:

- For the full three years and at the amount appropriate to your plans to drive change
- Organisations where at least 50% of the organisation's focus is on work with and for 14–25 year olds
- Not-for-profit organisations which can be charities, community organisations, social enterprises and not-for-profit companies with a turnover over £30,000 and under £3.5 million.

Funding provided:

- Up to £50,000 per year for three years (max grant £150,000). They prefer to fund organisations at the maximum amount and term. We do not make grants of less than £30,000 per year;
- To cover core operating costs (salaries, organisation and delivery costs)
- To grow the impact of what you already do. They are not looking to fund new or untested approaches, projects or finite pieces of work.

The Weavers Company

Deadline

Thursday 12 March 2026 (to be considered in June 26)

How to apply

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

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- UK registered charities and charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs) only.
- We will consider funding organisations with income of up to £5 million

Grant amount:

Small grants programme: Up to £5,000

Main grants programme. Uncapped, , but you are advised to research typical grant sizes previously made through funders Charity Commission Annual Report

Funding areas: Supporting offenders into work, Helping specific groups within the criminal justice sector, Supporting young people.

Work Funded: Pump-priming. Project funding. Associated costs. Core costs, Innovative or pioneering work, Emergency or deficit funding.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

The 7 Stars Foundation

Deadline

30th April 2026

How to apply

<https://the7starsfoundation.co.uk/apply-for-funding>

Funding Details

1) Project Funding

Who can apply:

Registered UK charities, council-run children's homes or schools in England with turnover under £1.5m; must have operated pre-2020; not volunteer-led; with less than 30% free reserves.

Grant amount: One-off grants up to £5,000

Projects for vulnerable children under 18 that align with our core themes.

Tackling Homelessness | Supporting Child Carers | Combatting Abuse | Battling Addiction

2) Shine Bright Long Term Funding

Who can apply: Registered UK charities with a turnover under £1.5m, working with children aged 18 and under.

Grant amount: Two-year grants totaling £60,000 (£30,000 per year)

Delivering bold and innovative ideas that go beyond short-term fixes, targeting the underlying causes of issues facing vulnerable children. The awards are unrestricted, they can be used for any purpose that supports your organisation. Must align with one of the following: Tackling Homelessness | Supporting Child Carers | Combatting Abuse | Battling Addiction

3) Social Impact Funding

Who can apply: Registered UK charities with a turnover under £1.5m. One charity is selected per focus area, per year.

Grant amount: Two-year grants of £10,000 (£5,000 per year)

UK charities tackling key societal issues affecting young people. The awards are unrestricted; they can be used for any purpose that supports your organisation.

Funding Priorities: Throughout the year, we support projects focused on: Child Exploitation, Child Mental Health, LGBTQ+ Inclusion & Support, Anti-Racism, and Online Abuse. This round will accept applications related to: Child Exploitation | Child Mental Health.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

James Tudor Foundation

Deadline

Who can apply:

- June 2026 Board meeting - Grant round opens on 05/01/2026, Expression of Interest submission deadline: 06/02/2025 (17:00 hrs). Full Application invitations will be sent in the w/c 16/03/2026
- Full Application submission deadline: 24/04/2026 (17:00hrs)

How to apply

<https://www.jamestudor.org.uk/mental-health>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

June 2026 Board meeting:

- Grant round opens on 05/01/2026
- Expression of Interest submission deadline: 06/02/2025 (17:00 hrs)

We welcome applications from UK registered charities that work either regionally or nationally and:

- Have as their key focus preventing and/or reducing the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) – helping children and young people, and parents and caregivers – see the definition of ACEs above.
- Use trauma-informed approaches and evidence-based interventions
- Are actively patient led in shaping, running, and improving their services
- Can demonstrate real impact through their own evaluations or independent research
- Have an annual income of less than £20m and at least 5 years' audited or independently examined accounts

Grant amount: Up to £25,000

In the Mental Health programme, our two areas of support are:

1) Support for children and young people

Under this focus, we wish to partner with charities that solely support children and young people who have suffered one or more ACEs, and they do so through evidence-based, trauma-informed therapies.

We only support charities that have a specialist, single focus on one or more of the following:

- Childhood sexual abuse
- Living in a household where there is domestic violence, and/or physical and/or emotional neglect
- Living with a parent who has a mental illness and/or substance abuse
- Bereavement and complex loss, including children and young people bereaved by suicide, murder, manslaughter, substance addiction, or who have a parent in prison.

2) Support for parents

Under this focus, we wish to partner with specialist charities that solely focus on supporting parents and complex family challenges by delivering:

- Evidence-based, whole-family, trauma-informed programmes that help parents to confront their own ACEs and help to break the intergenerational cycle of trauma and abuse.
- Evidence-based, whole-family, trauma-informed programmes for families where a parent or caregiver has a mental illness or substance addiction and is at risk of harming their children.

Eligibility under the Parents category is limited to charities whose central focus is delivering dedicated programmes to help prevent ACEs affected parents from harming to their own children.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Royal Society of Chemistry–Outreach Fund (UK)

Deadline

The Outreach Fund is open for applications throughout 2026, with rolling deadlines.
The final deadline is 5pm on 2 October 2026.

How to apply

<https://www.rsc.org/funding-and-support/funding/outreach-fund>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

Applicants/applications to the outreach fund must:

- Be aged 18 and over
- Be a UK or Republic of Ireland (ROI) resident (with a UK or ROI address and bank account), or are applying on behalf of an organisation registered in the UK or ROI
- Not resubmit an unsuccessful Outreach Fund application unless invited to do so
- Be submitted in line with the specified deadlines for consideration in a particular funding round. If an application deadline is missed, it may still be submitted in the instance that the fund remains open to applications, but will not be reviewed by the assessment panel until after the next submission deadline
- Have a significant aspect which is related to the chemical sciences

Grant amount:

- Small grants of up to £5,000
- Large grants of £5,001 - £10,000

Through the Fund we aim to support projects or programmes that:

- Develop chemists' public engagement and science communication skills - building capacity and opportunities for chemists and chemical scientists to engage with schools and public audiences
- Engage with school students - inspiring and raising aspirations of student audiences to nurture a future generation passionate about the chemical sciences
- Engage with public audiences - involving a wide range of people in relevant contemporary issues in the chemical sciences
- Provide under-represented audiences, communities and places with inspiring chemistry engagement opportunities, delivered or coordinated by skilled people

We are currently prioritising funding for projects that have one or more of the following outcomes:

- Under-represented audiences are better connected with or represented by chemical science
- RSC members have opportunities to develop and/or use their engagement skills
- The project or partnership supports positive social outcomes such as an increase in wellbeing, improved confidence, and/or an increased sense of belonging
- Families and intergenerational audiences connect with chemistry in fun, creative and participatory ways
- Adults engage with chemists and chemistry to empower them to access, connect and respond to chemistry and societal issues

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Three Guineas Trust

Deadline

An Expression of Interest form will be available on the website from Monday 2 February until Friday 13 February at 5pm. Please enquire via the form once it is open.

How to apply

<https://threeguineastrust.org.uk/grants/holiday-schemes/>

Funding Details

Who can apply

To apply you will need to meet these conditions:

- The programme must provide activities for autistic children only, and their siblings.
- Be a not-for-profit organisation.
- Have a safeguarding policy ([what we expect on safeguarding](#)).
- Have Public Liability Insurance.
- If paying staff, have Employer's Liability Insurance.
- Pay staff the [Living Wage](#) or better (we will ask for details).
- Use professionally trained staff and volunteers (not parents/guardians)
- Staff and volunteers must have training on the following (we will ask for details):Autism awareness, Positive approaches to behaviour and communication support including de-escalation skills, Health and safety.
- Run with at least one staff member/volunteer present who is trained in first aid and medical needs support.
- Have a bank account with two unrelated people to authorise or check on payments.
- Have two years published accounts.

Grant amount: Up to £15,000

The 2026 round will only fund autistic-specific holiday schemes.

The programme will be for autistic-specific activity programmes that run in the school holidays in the UK, including sessions for siblings.

This programme only funds work based in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Creative careers service

Deadline

16th February 2026 9am

How to apply

<https://www.find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/grants/creative-careers-service-2627-2829-1#summary>

Funding Details

Who can apply

Applicants may apply as:

- A single organisation, with or without partners. Single applicants must make clear in their application whether they plan to procure any additional delivery partners.
- A joint application, such as a consortium, joint venture, unincorporated association, partnership, special purpose vehicle, or otherwise. This would apply for example, to entities who feel that alone they do not have the capacity or capability to address the department's requirements, and wish to bring in additional expertise to meet the department's required skills and experience for the role.

It is not possible to bid for part of this grant only if not part of a joint application (e.g. a single organisation bidding for provision of particular elements, such as the website or work experience provision) and DCMS will not combine separate bids.

Grant amount:

The government has committed to a UK-wide £9M creative careers service, £3M per year over financial years 26/27-28/29. Of this, approximately £1.6M will be designated for the DCMS-led communications campaign, and £400k for evaluation.

Grant recipients should provide a budget proposal which details how they would allocate funds to different programme activities and between the four nations in order to achieve the grant's objectives.

The objectives of this grant are as follows:

- To improve knowledge of pathways and opportunities in the Creative Industries (CIs) for young people (of school age, 11-18, or young people searching for work, 16-24) who engage with the programme and/or are in the campaign audience.
- To improve knowledge of pathways and opportunities in the CIs among young people's influencers who are engaged in the programme and/or are in the campaign audience (teachers, parents, careers advisors, work coaches).
- To stimulate sector investment and engagement in the talent pipeline.
- To provide opportunities for young people to directly interact with the sector, through encounters or work experience.
- To increase regional and demographic diversity in the entry-level workforce.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

FAITH, YOUTH, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

The Ouseley Church Music Trust

Deadline

The Trustees meet twice a year - usually in the spring and autumn. The respective closing dates for applications are 28 February and 30 June.

How to apply

<https://www.ouseleytrust.org.uk/apply/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

Applicants must clearly demonstrate how they will promote and maintain high standards of choral worship in the Church of England, the Church in Wales, and the Church of Ireland.

Grant amount: No grant size is specified

We support a wide range of projects from innovative schemes to core costs. The Trustees' policy is to make grants in the following areas:

- Grants towards the costs of musicians, scholarships, bursaries, and choral outreach/development schemes.
- Means-tested assistance towards the fees of individual choristers at cathedrals and choral foundations.
- Purchase of liturgical music (not hymn books or psalters).
- Courses for individuals and groups of church musicians.
- Where there is no specific choir school: grants towards chorister support costs, including theory, instrumental and vocal tuition, plus travel and subsistence associated with choristers at cathedrals and choral foundations.
- Other projects (e.g., outreach) of an innovative kind that are likely to further the Trust's object in a direct and effective way. In exceptional circumstances, these may include music commissions.

In EVERY case, the project must have a direct bearing on the promotion and maintenance of a high standard of choral worship.

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

National Lottery Project Grants

Deadline

Applications can be made at any time, with decisions expected within ten weeks of submission.

How to apply

<https://nlpg.artscouncil.org.uk>

Funding Details

Who can apply: Individuals and organisations can apply to National Lottery Project Grants.

Anyone who applies to Project Grants needs to:

- Be based within (live in or have a business address in) England or the wider UK
- Be at least 18 years old (organisations must have an accountable person who is at least 18)

You can apply for projects that last up to three years. All applications must be made through online application portal.

Grant amount: £1,000-£100,000+

- Activities supported through Project Grants must have a primary outcome that focuses on one or more of these disciplines: Combined arts, including festivals and carnivals, Dance, Libraries, for activity that delivers against at least one of the four Universal Library Offers, Literature, Music, Museums and collections, Theatre, Visual arts

Supporting Grassroots music

Deadline

Round 7 - 1st March 2026

How to apply

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/supporting-arts-museums-and-libraries/supporting-grassroots-music>

Funding Details

Who can apply: The fund is exclusively open to music venues, music festivals, promoters, recording studios, rehearsal studios/spaces and additionally to sector bodies operating in grassroots music.

They accept applications from organisations (both registered companies and unincorporated groups, with an appropriate governing document), and individuals (working either on their own behalf or as a sole trader).

Grant amount: £1,000 - £40,000 for projects up to 3 years in length

This investment programme currently supports venues, festivals and promoters, recording studios and rehearsal spaces as well as sector bodies operating in grassroots music. It also supports grassroots music sector bodies in their work to develop and support the sector.

Eligible projects support the transition of artists, bands and industry professionals to sustainable careers in music, as well as the development of new audiences and the grassroots music sector as a whole.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Four Nations International Fund

Deadline

25th February 2026 2PM

How to apply

<https://arts.wales/four-nations-international-fund>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

Artists, creative practitioners and organisations based in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales

Grant amount: Up to £7,500

The funding is designed for those seeking to collaborate with both counterparts in the other UK nations, along with those internationally to share ideas, co-create, and reach new audiences.

It supports in-person, digital and hybrid activity including exchanges, self-initiated residencies, partnership development, co-creation and networking; projects that experiment with new and innovative models of international collaboration; and artist-led proposals tackling pressing global issues such as social justice, gender identity, and environmental sustainability.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

funding@halton.gov.uk

February 2026

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Esmee Fairbairn Communities and Collections Fund

Deadline

December 2026 decisions:

- February 2026 onwards: contact the MA to discuss your ideas
- 22 July 2026: deadline for submission of the expression of interest form
- w/c 10 August 2026: confirmation of whether shortlisted for funding
- 4 November 2026: shortlisted applicants make a second stage application

How to apply

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/funding/efccf/>

Funding Details

Who can apply: The fund supports work with museum collections to improve inclusion and equitable working with community partners through core grants and partnership project grants

Grant amount: Up to £100,000 over a maximum of three years.

- 1) Core grants to single museum organisations - For strategic development of their inclusive collections work.
- 2) Partnership project grants for museums and community organisations working equitably with collections to achieve shared aims for inclusion.

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Theatres Trust

Deadline

The next round will have a September deadline and will reopen shortly.

How to apply

<https://www.theatretrust.org.uk/smallgrants>

Funding Details

Who can apply: To be eligible, venues must:

- Be a not for profit organisations. This can include local authorities or Town and Borough Councils that own and/or operate a venue.
- Present at least 30 performances of live public performance (theatre, dance, comedy, musicals) each year.
- Have a lease with at least five years left to run.
- Have the permission of the property owner to do the work required.

Grant amount: Up to £7,500

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.
- Priority will also be given to projects where the total project costs are less than £250k or where the grant is the sole external funder and/or achievable within the total fund awarded.

Please note that revenue and survey costs are ineligible. This fund is to support improvements and repairs to the building fabric, and the key plant and machinery or the purchase of key equipment (not software) to improve digital infrastructure.

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

The National Heritage Memorial Fund

Deadline

Contact funder to obtain

How to apply

<https://www.memorialfund.org.uk/funding/application-guidance>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Local authorities
- Other public sector organisations, such as a school or a university
- Some not-for-profit organisations which are not in the public sector

The National Heritage Memorial Fund exists as a fund of last resort to support the UK's most outstanding heritage, which is at risk of loss. It also exists to create a publicly accessible and timeless collection as a memorial for those who have given their lives for the UK. Help with the purchase, conservation or preservation of any heritage which meets our assessment standards.

Museum Fundamentals

Deadline

Closing date for expressions of interest 5pm Friday 6 February 2026. Full application spring round 5pm Friday 27 March 2026.

How to apply

<https://aim-museums.co.uk/grants/museum-fundamentals/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Be an AIM member
- Be a UK registered charity or,
- An organisation with exempt charitable status or,
- Recognised public body i.e., Local Authority Museum
- Be a small or medium museum
- Have fewer than 50,000 visitors per annum
- Own the collections that are the focus of the project.

Grant amount: Up to £20,000

The grant encourages small and medium sized museums to create projects based on their collection's needs, which improve knowledge, care and access to our nation's heritage.

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

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February 2026

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Idlewild Trust – Arts & Conservation Funds

Deadline

Round 2 2025: Applications open 1st December 2025, close 13th February 2026 Midday

Round 1 2026: Applications open 8th June 2026, close 05th September 2026 Midday

How to apply

<https://www.idlewildtrust.org.uk/apply-grant>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- UK Registered Charity with two or more annual returns submitted on time to the Charity Commission
- UK Publicly Exempt Charity: most museums/galleries are Registered Charities, but not all (refer to eligibility criteria in guidelines)

Grant amount: Awards grants of up to £7,000 to UK registered charities.

The Idlewild Trust supports 2 grant programmes:

1) Arts: Nurturing Early-Stage Professionals - Training opportunities for emerging professionals, working creatively and backstage, within the performing and visual arts, post-training, and at an early stage in their career.

2) Conservation: Objects and Works of Art - The conservation of cultural heritage of recognized national and international importance in museums, libraries, galleries, historic buildings, or landscapes accessible to the public.

- Priority will be given to applications that include a knowledge sharing element as an outcome of the project.
- A public engagement activity that helps to improve the public understanding of conservation practice is encouraged.
- Applications must include a treatment proposal from an accredited conservator.

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February 2026

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

Climate Action Fund – Food Systems

Deadline

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

How to apply

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/funding-programmes/climate-action-fund-food-systems>

Funding Details

Who can apply: You must apply as part of a partnership

- registered charity
- company limited by guarantee (with a not-for-profit clause or registered as a charity)
- community interest company (CIC)
- charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
- Scottish charitable incorporated organisation (SCIO)
- community benefit society
- co-operative society (with a not-for-profit clause and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority)
- public body (such as a local authority, town, parish or community council)
- school, college or university - as long as the project benefits the wider local community

Grant amount: £2,500,000 - £7,000,000

Climate Action Fund – Food Systems supports projects that strengthen our food system and reduce food insecurity for people and communities.

Your project must work towards systems change in the way that:

- community organisations grow and produce food – using agroecological methods
- food gets distributed – aiming for equitable access to healthy, affordable food for all
- offers people and communities different food options – especially those experiencing poverty, disadvantage or discrimination

You must show us that you'll:

- work in a partnership
- make a lasting impact on climate change, the environment and nature
- significantly increase access to healthy, affordable food – especially for those experiencing poverty, disadvantage or discrimination
- have firm plans to measure the impact of your work
- have firm plans to tell the story of your project to inspire others
- show how you'll meaningfully involve communities and organisations representing communities in your project

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

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February 2026

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

Veolia – Habitat & Biodiversity Grants Scheme

Deadline

- Opens 26th February 2026, closes 2nd April 2026 (12:00 midday)

Only one grant application may be submitted per project site, in a 12 month period.

How to apply

<https://www.veoliatrust.org/apply-for-funding/>

Funding Details

Who can apply:

- Is charitable and operated on a not-for-profit basis
- Is constituted, with a set of signed governing documents
- Has been established for a minimum of two years
- Has a minimum of two directors, trustees or committee members who are not related to each other
- Does not financially benefit directors, trustees, members
- An Environmental Body (see Project Registration details below)
- A Local Authority (County/City/Town/Parish Council)

A project which will take place on a single site – located within 10 miles of an eligible landfill site

Refer to eligibility criteria on website

Any grant awarded will incur an additional CTP cost:

****Contributing Third Party Payment (CTP Payment)**

If your application is successful, you will need to arrange a CTP payment of 10% of your grant amount, to the landfill operator, before your grant can be released. This payment is retained by the landfill operator to cover the 10% tax credit shortfall, it is never refunded.

Grant amount: £10,000 - £75,000

Fund improvements to or the creation of natural habitats and our vision is for a healthy environment where native species can thrive.

- Protects and enhances biodiversity and natural habitats
- Inspires the creation of a sustainable carbon neutral space
- Promotes community action and wellbeing
- Is inclusive and accessible to everyone and anyone to use

PROGRAMMES OFFICE FUNDING BULLETIN

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February 2026

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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