

Monthly Funding Information March 2026

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

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

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

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

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

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
McCarthy Stone Foundation – Dementia Grants (New)	13 th March 2026
Veterans Foundation – Major Grants (New)	20 th April 2026
Concertina Charitable Trust – Grants (New)	30 th April 2026
Pink Ribbon Foundation – Grants (New)	31 st May 2026

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

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Children’s Alliance – Grant Funding (New)	March 2026
Education Endowment Foundation – 16-19 Years	11 th March 2026
Education Endowment Foundation – Early Years (New)	11 th March 2026
Learning Through Landscapes – Local Schools Nature Grants (New)	13 th March 2026
Grow Wild - Youth Grants (New)	18 th March 2026
Youth Music – Catalyser Fund (New)	20 th March 2026
The Pawprint Trust – Adventurous Activities	31 st March 2026
Sasha Love Foundation (New)	1 st April 2026
Schroder Charity Trust (New)	30 th April 2026
The Brit Trust Grants (New)	30 th April 2026
Speech Language and Hearing Foundation (New)	Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
British Ecological Society – Outreach and Engagement Grants	10 th March 2026
Bagri Foundation – Arts and Culture Grants (New)	11 th March 2026
Ramblers Path Accessibility Fund	14 th March 2026
Hospital Saturday Fund	16 th March 2026
Jerwood Foundation (New)	18 th March 2026
The Souter Charitable Trust (New)	23 rd March 2026
Leicestershire County Council – Community Flood Grant (New)	23 rd March 2026
Finnis Scott Foundation	26 th March 2026
AiM – Collections Care and Conservation Grants *	27 th March 2026
Which? Fund	30 th March 2026
The Animal Defence Trust	31 st March 2026
The Matrix Causes Fund	31 st March 2026
Kilburn & Strode - Innovation For All Foundation (New)	31 st March 2026
HM Govt. - Ending Homelessness in Communities Fund (New)	31 st March 2026
One Stop Community Partnership Grants (New)	31 st March 2026
Woodroffe Benton Foundation - Small Grants (New)	31 st March 2026
Harborough District Council – Environment Grant (New)	1 st April 2026
Peoples National Postcode Trust	1 st April 2026
Easyfundraising – Impact Fund (New)	5 th April 2026
Hospice UK – Capital Improvement Grant *	13 th April 2026
Aviva Foundation	15 th April 2026
The National Archives – Seed Corn Grant (New)	17 th April 2026
MOD – Armed Forces Day Grant (New)	30 th April 2026
Music For All Awards (New)	7 th May 2026
Museums Association - Health and Wellbeing in Museums Fund (New)	May 2026
Charles Hayward Foundation – Social and Criminal Justice Grants (New)	22 nd May 2026
School for Social Entrepreneurs – Trading for Good (New)	Open
HM Govt. – School-Based Nursery Capital Grant *(New)	30 th Sept 2026

Funding for projects which support Adults

[McCarthy Stone Foundation – Dementia Grants](#) (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for registered charities, community groups, or community interest companies that run dementia clubs, memory cafes or other dementia support services across England, Scotland and Wales.

The work should support adults over 65 living with dementia and/or their carers.

Key Criteria

- Organisations should have an annual income of under £250,000
- Priority will be given to those working in areas of high deprivation

Amounts available: Maximum £7,500

Application deadlines: 13th March 2026

[Veterans Foundation – Major Grants](#) (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to organisations for activities that provide direct benefit to serving and former members of the UK armed forces, operationally qualified seafarers and their immediate families.

There are five thematic priorities:

- Community Relationships
- Employment, Education & Skills
- Health and Wellbeing
- Housing & Homelessness
- Tackling Disadvantage

Key Criteria

- Applicants must complete an online eligibility check before submitting a full application.
- It is anticipated that the grants will be awarded to partnerships of more than two organisations
- Each partnership should have a nominated lead organisation that is a registered UK charity or CIC Ltd by Guarantee* and has a minimum annual income of £100,000

Amounts available: Between £100,000 and £200,000 (for projects over one to three years)

Application deadlines: 20th April 2026 (for expressions of interest).

Concertina Charitable Trust - Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for charitable bodies that provide musical entertainment and related activities for the elderly.

Concertina is particularly keen to support smaller organisations which might otherwise find it difficult to gain funding.

Key Criteria

Applying organisations must include a copy of their accounts or financial statement with the application.

Amounts available: Maximum £250

Application deadlines: 30th April

Pink Ribbon Foundation - Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to UK charities and not-for-profit organisations working on practical projects and initiatives to improve the physical and mental health of individuals with or recovering from breast cancer.

This year, priority will be given to supporting organisations with limited financial resources to deliver their services.

Key Criteria

- A set of your most current accounts must accompany any grant application
- All applicants must be prepared to inform the Foundation of their projects progress at least twice in the year of the grant, unless it is to be used for a specific purchase or event then only one report is required

Amounts available: Maximum £6,000

Application deadlines: 31st May 2026 (Grants are awarded in July 2026).

Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

[Children's Alliance – Grant Funding \(NEW GRANT\)](#)

Summary

Funding is available for non-profit organisations, including schools and registered charities, to support water-based projects for disadvantaged children under 18.

These initiatives aim to enhance physical and mental wellbeing by providing access to aquatic environments and addressing concerns that over a million pupils may leave school unable to swim 25 metres unaided.

Key Criteria

- Projects should demonstrate clear measurable outcomes related to children and clearly show the relationship to water or water environments
- Organisation must have a safeguarding and/or a child protection policy that can be shown as part of the application

Amounts available: Maximum £15,000

Application deadlines: Open to applications in March and September 2026 only.

[Education Endowment Foundation – 16-19 Spring Funding Round](#)

Summary

Funding is available for FE colleges, sixth form colleges, school-based sixth forms and other 16 to 19 providers to support programmes which improve pupil attainment in post-16 education, particularly for those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The priority areas for this funding round are pilot projects which support:

- Improving attendance (for technical and vocational courses)
- Transition for learners (for technical and vocational courses) (with the exception of apprenticeships)

Key Criteria

Please note this funding is for programmes which will start in September 2027.

Projects should be:

- Well defined, with a clear explanation of what the programme is and how it will be implemented
- Clear with regards to how they will support children and young people from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 11th March 2026 (Decisions not until January 2027)

Education Endowment Foundation – Early Years Spring Funding Round (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for curriculum developers, early years providers, maintained nurseries, private, voluntary and independent (PVI) settings, childminders, and other formally registered organisations to support pilot projects and larger-scale trials designed to test and evaluate maths programmes for children aged 2–4.

This round has the following priorities:

- Geometry, spatial thinking and measurement
- Number concepts

Key Criteria

- Please note this funding is for programmes which will start in September 2027.
- The scheme can only fund programmes that will work for the benefit of pupils and settings in England and that are from legally constituted organisations, and not from individuals.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 11th March 2026 (Decisions not until January 2027)

Learning Through Landscapes – Local Schools Nature Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for schools in England, Scotland, and Wales, including Early Years, Infant, Primary and Secondary schools to support outdoor learning and play.

The scheme provides free outdoor equipment. Successful schools will also receive two hours of professional outdoor training.

Key Criteria

- Applications must be submitted by a member of school staff
- Applications from PTAs, governors, or “Friends of” groups cannot be accepted
- Ideal projects will include children in the decision making and incorporate their local community
- Equipment is selected at the application stage. Please choose the equipment that will bring the most benefit to your pupils, you will be unable to change this selection once your application has been submitted

Amounts available: Maximum £500 of free outdoor resources

Application deadlines: 13th March 2026

Grow Wild - Youth Grants * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for projects led by young people that celebrate UK native wildflowers, plants and fungi in exciting and engaging ways.

Projects should inspire communities and help people connect to each other and nature. Grants can be used for anything project-related, from basic materials and equipment to resources or training.

Key Criteria

- Young people aged 16 to 25 can apply directly as an individual or as a group, but will need to nominate a youth, community or education-focused organisation to support them with their project.
- Supporting organisations must be an established and relevant organisation that is charitable in purpose or not for profit including voluntary, youth or community group, education body, arts or environmental charity, local authority or other council body
- Supporting organisations must provide a member of staff or volunteer who will liaise with Grow Wild and support the young person/group as required e.g. with access to facilities and equipment, publicising activities, providing advice and guidance, safeguarding individuals under 18 or vulnerable adults.

Amounts available: Maximum £500

Application deadlines: 18th March 2026

Youth Music – Catalyser Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to organisations in England that want to support children and young people facing barriers to make, learn and earn in music.

A Catalyser programme will be sustaining work, scaling up-work or creating change in sector practice.

Programmes must focus on at least one of the following themes:

- Early years
- Disabled, d/Deaf and neurodivergent young people
- Youth justice system
- Young people facing barriers
- Young adults
- Organisations and the workforce

Key Criteria

- Organisations must be legally constituted and have been providing activity for at least one year before applying
- Schools, academies, sole traders and individuals are not eligible to apply
- Organisations cannot hold a Catalyser Fund grant at the same time as a Trailblazer Fund grant.
- Children and young people should be involved in the planning and development of programmes
- Programmes should last between 24 and 48 months and must start within 6 months of notification of the award

Amounts available: Between £30,001 and £300,000

Application deadlines: 20th March 2026 (for expressions of interest).

The Pawprint Trust – Adventurous Activities

Summary

Funding is available to enable young people from across the UK to participate in life-changing adventures that develop their skills, capacities, and capabilities. The funding will support young people aged 11-25 who need a bit of extra help with their fundraising for projects and activities both locally and abroad.

Each application should be accompanied by a supporting statement from someone who knows the young person well, such as a group leader or teacher.

Key Criteria

- Applicants must be aged 11-25 (inclusive) at the time of the project and be a resident in the UK
- Projects cannot be funded if they take place before 31st May in the application year

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026

Sasha Love Foundation (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to UK-based charitable organisations for projects supporting young people affected by depression, mental health challenges, and drug-related issues.

Grants be towards running costs (including salaries), projects, equipment or capital developments. The work can be new, continuing or a one-off initiative.

Key Criteria

- Applications must set out the expected outcomes from the project/program, how outcomes will be assessed and how they will be reported back to the Sasha Foundation trustees.
- Any attempt by an applicant to approach the trustees directly to solicit support for or influence the assessment of a specific application will most likely result in the application being rejected.
- Organisations must have governing document, a governing body of at least three unrelated individuals, and a bank account in the group's name with at least two unrelated signatories.
- Previously successful organisations cannot reapply unless all the required grant reports have been submitted

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000 (Grants may cover up to 50% of total project costs).

Application deadlines: 1st April 2026 and 1st October 2026

Schroder Charity Trust (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for registered charities undertaking work with the following two objectives:

- Enabling children and young adults from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive and achieve their potential in education and employment.
- Strengthening communities through services and opportunities which enhance the wellbeing and life outcomes of vulnerable and disadvantaged people.

Funding is for core or project costs.

Key Criteria

- Eligible organisations are UK-registered charities with an annual income between £150,000 and £1,000,000
- Charities less than one year old without a full year of audited accounts are not eligible to apply

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 30th April 2026 (Decisions within four months)

The Brit Trust Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for organisations that use music-focused activities to improve the lives of young people aged 16 and above across the UK.

Key Criteria

- The applicant organisation must be a registered charity
- The planned activity must be music-focused
- The planned activity must be aimed at ages 16 and above

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 30th April 2026 (Decisions in November 2026).

Speech Language and Hearing Foundation (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to small UK-registered charities that support children with speech, language, or hearing difficulties.

The Foundation supports charities working in the following areas:

- Children who have hearing impairment, speech delay, language or communication difficulties, or who have complex needs
- Medical innovation and new developments relating to these children
- Research in all topics relating to these children

Key Criteria

The Foundation will only consider applications from charities registered with the Charity Commission, or charities that hold a Certificate of Exemption from the Inland Revenue.

Amounts available: Not specified but recent awards have ranged from £500 to £15,000.

Application deadlines: Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

[British Ecological Society – Outreach and Engagement Grants](#)

Summary

Funding is available for individuals and organisations, such as schools, museums, libraries, and community groups to promote ecological science to a wide audience.

The programme funds activities that engage public audiences in innovative and creative ways and enhance others' skills in communicating ecology to those audiences.

All Grants must be for projects that meet at least one of the top-level BES aims:

- Communicate evidence-based messaging for what ecology is, how nature works, and the use of ecological science as a solution to local and global challenges
- Raise awareness and public understanding of ecological careers, their relevance and importance, breadth, and diversity, and show that anybody can become an ecologist
- Share how individuals can take action to benefit the environment, themselves, and society
- Increase the ability of others to deliver the above aims through outreach and engagement activities

Key Criteria

- Applications from schools must include significant outreach beyond the school. Projects aimed solely at delivering curriculum to school children will not be considered.
- Applicants must be BES members

Amounts available: Maximum £2,000

Application deadlines: 10th March 2026 (There are two grant rounds per year).

Bagri Foundation – Arts and Culture Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to UK not-for-profit organisations for projects that explore and promote Asian culture.

The Foundation supports initiatives focusing on traditional or contemporary Asian culture and featuring established or mid-career artists from Asia or its diasporas.

Key Criteria

Projects must fulfil all the requirements below to be eligible:

- Be hosted by established organisations with a track record of delivering artistic projects
- Promote the sharing of traditional or contemporary Asian culture
- Include established or mid-career level artists from Asia or the diasporas
- Result in a tangible public outcome
- Align with the Foundation's mission: to support and realise unique, high-quality programmes which share traditional and contemporary Asian culture

The grant is open to UK-based charities, CIOs, CICs, exempt charities, and experienced creative collectives. Grants will usually cover 10-30% of total project costs and organisations requesting grants over £75,000 should contact the Foundation before applying.

Amounts available: Between £5,000 and £100,000 (Average grant is £20,000).

Application deadlines: 11th March (For stage one applications).

Ramblers Path Accessibility Fund

Summary

Funding is available to landowners, parish councils, community groups, voluntary organisations, and individuals for projects that improve public rights of way across England, Scotland, and Wales, helping more people, especially those with limited mobility, enjoy walking outdoors.

The funding aims to support work to remove barriers such as stiles, steps, and overgrown paths, with improvements including accessible gates, widened entrances, and better path surfaces to make routes safer and easier to use.

Key Criteria

- All projects must have received written permission from the landowner or their representative
- Projects must take place on definitive public rights of way
- You should discuss the project with the relevant rights of way officer in your local highway authority

Amounts available: Average grant £2,500

Application deadlines: 14th March 2026 (For expressions of interest)

Hospital Saturday Fund

Summary

Funding is available for registered medical charities, hospices and medical organisations to support medical capital projects, care, research or medical training. It will also consider running costs.

The fund will also consider supporting individuals for the following:

- Equipment including specialised mobility equipment, 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.
- Treatments including Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Speech Therapy, Osteopathy, Chiropractic treatment, Reflexology, Massage Therapy
- Home adaptations including, walk in showers, accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, access ramps, non-slip flooring, stair lifts.

There are two grants Standard and Large. Large grants can be used towards specific projects, research or equipment.

Key Criteria

- Organisations must be registered with the Charities Commission or HMRC
- Organisations must be carrying out medically related activities

Amounts available:

- Standard Grant maximum: £2,000
- Large Grant maximum: £10,000

Application deadlines: There are four application windows per year. The next ones are:

- Standard Grant - 13th April 2026
- Large Grants - 16th March 2026

Jerwood Foundation (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to support projects that enhance public access to the arts and contribute to the professional development of artists.

Funding is available for a range of activities including exhibitions, performances, residencies, and other creative initiatives that demonstrate both artistic ambition and meaningful public engagement.

Key Criteria

- Projects should be starting from 1st July 2026
- The scheme does not accept applications for projects that have started or provide funding to individuals, fund educational courses, core organisational costs or capital endowments

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 18th March 2026 (Decisions 29th April 2026).

The Souter Charitable Trust (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for UK registered charities engaged in the relief of human suffering in all aspects in the UK and overseas - especially, but not exclusively, those with a Christian emphasis and ethos.

It funds groups that share its values and work with vulnerable or underserved communities, addressing both practical needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Key Criteria

- Grants are restricted to UK registered charities
- The Trust is not able to support capital building or renovation works or personal health or educational needs of individuals
- Projects should run for at least one calendar year

Amounts available: Not fixed but most awards range from £1,000 to £3,000

Application deadlines: 23rd March 2026 (The Trustees meet once a month to review applications).

Leicestershire County Council – Community Flood Grant (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to Parish and Town Councils and legally constituted community groups, to deliver small-scale projects that reduce flood risk or improve community flood resilience.

The scheme supports practical, locally led solutions that help communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from flooding, particularly in areas at higher risk.

Projects must:

- Deliver benefit to more than one property
- Create a clear community flood benefit
- Not increase flood risk elsewhere

Key Criteria

- Eligible organisations should submit an outline proposal form, which should detail the flooding issue, the proposed measures, and how the project will benefit the community.
- Individual residents are not able to apply directly but can discuss issues with their local parish or town council

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 23rd March 2026

Finnis Scott Foundation

Summary

Funding is available for UK charities and charitable organisations, including schools and colleges, to support projects in the areas of:

- Horticulture (Gardening) and Plant Sciences – supports an extremely broad range of projects.
- Fine Art and Art History – to promote the exhibition, conservation, or study of the art of previous centuries.

The Trustees are keen to support horticultural training through bursaries and apprenticeships.

Both capital and revenue costs are eligible

Key Criteria

- Individuals may not apply directly, applications should come from the sponsoring organisation
- Applications from mainstream schools are not accepted. The Trustees will consider applications from SEND / Special Schools submitted via their registered charity
- Grants are not offered for covering salary commitments (except for horticultural traineeships/apprenticeships)
- Unlikely to fund new organisations with no track record or published accounts

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000, (Most grants are currently £5,000 or less).

Application deadlines: 26th March 2026

AiM – Collections Care and Conservation Grants *

Summary

Funding is available to small and medium-sized museums, that are members of the Association of Independent Museums, to cover the cost of a three-day professional collections care audit.

These grants are a good starting point for smaller museums to understand their collection care needs and to develop future grant applications based on the recommendations of a conservator.

Key Criteria

Organisations should:

- Be either a UK registered charity, an organisation with exempt charitable status or a recognised public body such as a Local Authority Museum
- Have fewer than 50,000 visitors a year

Amounts available: Maximum £1,200

Application deadlines: 27th March 2026

Which? Fund

Summary

Funding is available for UK-registered charities, universities, and not-for-profit Community Interest Companies to support research projects examining adverse consumer experiences (harms) affecting diverse and disadvantaged groups.

The fund aims to improve understanding of these harms and support practical solutions that could influence policy, regulation, or everyday practice, benefiting large numbers of people.

This year's focus is on two themes:

- Next generation energy business models supporting the clean energy transition - We are keen to receive applications from organisations seeking to understand how the rollout of technologies and associated services to support flexible electricity consumption is affecting or is likely to affect diverse and disadvantaged communities or testing potential solutions which could help enhance the equity of these innovations.
- Online choice architecture - The design of websites, apps, digital services and devices can have a substantial effect on consumer behaviour, influencing decisions and choices. All consumers are affected by these decisions, but some communities may be more likely to experience harm. While there are clear theoretical reasons for believing this is likely to be the case, empirical evidence of the scale and nature of this harm is scarce. We are keen to support the development of this empirical evidence base, in order to inform effective regulatory interventions.

Key Criteria

- Charities must have objectives which align with those of the [Consumers Association](#)
- Applicants must have at least one set of published accounts, not be in serious financial deficit or have significant unrestricted reserves
- CIC's must have an asset lock and at least three independent non-executive directors
- Projects are expected to take twelve months to complete

Amounts available: Not disclosed. Total budget £75,000

Application deadlines: 30th March 2026 (Deadline for outline applications).

[The Animal Defence Trust](#)

Summary

Funding is available to support approved animal welfare charities working to rescue and care for animals that have suffered cruelty. 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.

Grants are generally for capital projects, but running costs may be considered.

Key Criteria

- All applications must be made via post. The Animal Defence Trust does not accept electronic copies.
- If planning permission is required to complete a project, then this should have been acquired, at least at outline level, prior to the application being submitted.
- A full report and supporting photographs (if appropriate) of the project should be submitted by 31st March of the year following the giving of the grant.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026 (to be considered in July 2026)

[The Matrix Causes Fund](#)

Summary

Funding is available for charitable organisations working to improve the lives of people facing disadvantage in the UK and internationally. The Fund supports initiatives that promote access to justice, equality of opportunity, and environmental sustainability, with a particular focus on those who are most vulnerable in society.

Funding can be used to support core organisational activities as well as frontline work that delivers meaningful impact.

Key Criteria

- Priority is given to projects that support people facing significant disadvantage, including prisoners and those leaving the criminal justice system, asylum seekers and refugees, individuals with mental health challenges, people with disabilities, and women living in refuges.
- Generally, thirty awards are made each round, with two of those being overseas

Amounts available:

- One-off grants maximum £6,500
- Multi-year grants maximum £4,500 (for up to three years)

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026

Kilburn & Strode - Innovation For All Foundation (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for registered charities to support projects that through innovation, empower positive benefit for those in need. A broad range of work areas is supported.

Previous initiatives supported include:

- Community Digital Inclusion Programme - A charity delivering free digital skills workshops for older adults and low-income families, including access to refurbished laptops and one-to-one tech support to reduce digital exclusion.
- Mental Health Support App for Young People - Development of a free, evidence-based mobile app offering early mental health support, mood tracking, and access to local services for teenagers.
- Creative Arts Therapy for Trauma Survivors - A programme using drama, music or visual arts therapy to support people recovering from domestic abuse or displacement.

Successful applicants will be chosen by a vote of Kilburn & Strode employees.

Key Criteria

- The scheme favours funding projects that are 'sustainable', meaning projects that are respectful of the environment and have a lasting impact.
- Funds are not usually awarded solely for general running/employment costs

Amounts available: Grants of £10,000, £20,000 and £30,000 are awarded

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026

HM Govt. - Ending Homelessness in Communities Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for the voluntary, community and faith sector to strengthen community-based support in the following areas:

- Increase community-based support to prevent and reduce the number of people experiencing rough sleeping
- Enhance or transform existing day support offers through staff, physical infrastructure, service development and partnership working
- Support individuals to live independently and prevent them returning to rough sleeping

Both revenue and capital funding is available.

Key Criteria

Eligible organisations must have a maximum annual income of £5 million and have delivered support to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness for at least three years.

Organisations must have a letter of endorsement from the local authority where services will be delivered as part of the application. This is to ensure alignment with local strategies and to avoid duplication of commissioned services. Letters must be from an officer responsible for homelessness and or rough sleeping; letters from elected members will not be accepted.

Amounts available:

- Revenue Funding of £50,000 - £200,000 per year for up to three years.
- Capital funding of £50,000 - £200,000 for projects working alongside the revenue funding in either year one or two.

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026

One Stop Community Partnership Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to a wide range of community-based organisations for projects which are:

- Addressing food poverty
- Helping vulnerable or elderly individuals
- Assisting low-income families
- Running youth sports teams
- Reducing and or recycling waste
- Improving the environment

Alongside a grant there is the opportunity to create a long-term tailored programme of support for successful applicants with their local One Stop Store Team.

Key Criteria

- Groups / organisations should be operating within a two-mile radius of a One Stop store
- The scheme is not able to support food bank or breakfast club projects that are requesting funding to purchase food items
- If you have received funding from One Stop Community Partnerships in the last 12 months you are ineligible to apply for funding

Amounts available: Maximum £1,000

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026 (Decisions in May 2026).

Woodroffe Benton Foundation - Small Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to UK-registered charities and educational institutions for intergenerational projects that bring people of different generations together to promote greater understanding and respect between generations, enhance opportunities for learning and wellbeing, and help build more cohesive communities.

Key Criteria

- Organisations should have at least two years of operational history and an annual income below £750,000
- Educational institutions include any school or university whether or not they are a registered charity

Amounts available: Between £500 and £2,500

Application deadlines: 31st March 2026 (may close sooner if 150 applications are received).
Decisions in April 2026.

Harborough District Council – Environment Grant (NEW GRANT)

Summary

The aim of the grant scheme is to encourage communities across the Harborough District to engage in capital projects that will have a positive and provable impact on the environment. The grant scheme is open to any constituted 'not for profit' organisations. This may include, but is not limited to, village/community groups, community enterprises, registered charities, and town/parish councils.

Successful applicants must demonstrate a clear public benefit and a positive, proven impact on the environment, aligning with one or more of the following outcomes:

- Reduce the carbon footprint of the community
- Reduce the waste produced in the community
- Create, or protect and enhance, biodiversity or environmental assets such as green spaces and waterways
- Educate and/or raise awareness of climate change that will result in one of the above outcomes

Key Criteria

- The project must be based in, and support, a village or major settlement in the Harborough District
- The application must be for a capital project. This means you must spend grants on lasting assets such as a building or equipment
- The project must have a minimum of 10% cash match funding and that funding must be from a source other than Harborough District Council
- The project must have a letter of support from someone, in a position of authority, who is going to champion the project (for example a letter from the parish council or a local councillor)

Amounts available: Between £5,000 and £20,000

Application deadlines: 1st April 2026

Peoples National Postcode Trust (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding will be available for charities and community organisations to support projects that improve the lives of disadvantaged and marginalised people across England, Scotland and Wales.

Focus on projects which aim to:

- Enable participation in the arts
- Prevent or reduce the impact of poverty
- Support marginalised groups or tackling inequality
- Improve mental health (focus will be on organisations that are actively supporting specific mental health issues, rather than general mental wellbeing activities).

Key Criteria

Applications must be submitted through one of six regional Trusts. Each Trust covers a specific area of the country and has its own application deadline. Leicestershire appears to be in the East of England Trust.

Priority will be given to organisations that:

- Have an annual income of £250,000 or less, (but should have an income of under £1 million)
- Work in communities ranked among the most deprived 15% in England, Scotland or Wales
- Focus on supporting marginalised groups, such as disabled people, communities experiencing racial inequality, and LGBT+ people
- Are based in areas that have not received funding recently

Amounts available: Maximum £50,000 (over three years)

Application deadlines:

- East of England opens 25th March to 1st April 2026
- Please [check your postcode](#) to determine which area you are in.

Easyfundraising – Impact Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for a wide range of not-for-profit organisations to help them continue or improve their services.

Funding is unrestricted and can therefore be used where organisations need it most including equipment, resources, volunteer costs, event expenses, small projects, or essential running costs.

Key Criteria

Eligible organisations include charities, sports clubs, youth organisations, faith-based organisations and schools.

Amounts available: Twenty grants of £500 will be awarded

Application deadlines: 5th April 2026

[Hospice UK – Capital Improvement Grant](#) *

Summary

Funding is available via the Screwfix Foundation for Hospices across the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to improve their end-of-life care facilities.

The grant can support capital costs, including LED lighting installation, boiler and heating improvements, EV charging points, environmentally friendly windows, and the creation of sensory gardens and accessible outdoor spaces.

The funding aims to enhance comfort for hospice users, while helping hospices improve energy efficiency and reduce operating costs.

Key Criteria

- Eligible applicants must be members of Hospice UK, including NHS Hospices
- Both Adult and Children's Hospices are eligible
- Only one application can be considered from each hospice
- Hospices that have been awarded a grant directly from the Screwfix Foundation within the past two years are not eligible to apply
- The Screwfix Foundation likes to support projects where they are the major or sole funder

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000

Application deadlines: 13th April 2026 (Decisions by end of May 2026)

[Aviva Foundation](#)

Summary

Aviva has brought together the Aviva Community Fund and its previous grant programmes under one structure.

The current focus is on two main funds across the UK:

- The Financial Futures Fund - supports larger UK-based organisations that are tackling financial insecurity over the long term with multiyear funding
- The Communities Fund - supports smaller, local charities and community organisations, building on the existing Aviva Community Fund. Focuses on projects that improve financial wellbeing and address climate action. Funding is provided through a matched-funding model.

Key Criteria

- Financial Futures Fund open to organisations with an annual income of £1 million or more
- Communities Fund open to UK organisations with an annual income of £1 million or less

Amounts available:

- Financial Futures Fund
- Communities Fund – match funding donations of up to £250 to a maximum of £25,000

Application deadlines:

- Financial Futures Fund closes 15th April 2026 and 7th October 2026
- Communities Fund – Open, applications can be submitted at any time

The National Archives – Seed Corn Grant (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for community groups, archives, and heritage organisations to support early-stage, exploratory projects that spark new ideas and approaches to community engagement with heritage.

The grants are particularly designed to help organisations test concepts, build partnerships, or pilot activities, with a strong emphasis on experimentation and learning.

By applying to a Seed Corn grant, organisations will also gain access to a dedicated skills development and training programme, offering a wide range of learning opportunities tailored to the unique challenges faced by organisations and practitioners in the sector. This will be made available to all applicants, whether successful or not.

Key Criteria

- Organisations need to be involved with, or linked to, the Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM) and/or wider Heritage sector. Higher education institutes and/or Independent research organisations (IROs) cannot be the lead on applications but can be listed as partners.
- Applying organisations cannot have received a Community Hub Seed Corn grant before
- Projects can last up to one year, with all funds required to be spent by December 2027

Amounts available: Between £500 and £5,000

Application deadlines: 17th April 2026 (Decisions in June 2026).

MOD – Armed Forces Day Grant (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to a range of organisations including local councils, voluntary and community organisations, schools and ex-service organisations, for events that honour and thank the Armed Forces community, as part of Armed Forces Day on the 27th June 2026.

The funding can be used for:

- Road closures required to hold an event, including to allow for parades and marches
- Decorations, flags and banners
- local or national newspapers/social media/radio advertisements to promote the event
- Marshalling, security and first aid arrangements for the event
- Insurance
- PA and communications systems such as hand-held radios or other forms of communication for event organiser

Key Criteria

- Organisations must first register their event on the Armed Forces Day website to apply. Once approved, a link to the grant application will be provided via email
- The event must be held within 2 weeks of the Armed Forces Day, which falls on 27 June 2026
- Eligible events must include "Armed Forces" in their title, provide free access to members of the Armed Forces community
- Events must focus on thanking rather than fundraising or recruitment
- The grant is match-funded and paid post event on submission and approval of event receipts and expenditure

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000 (Up to 50% of the eligible costs of the event).

Application deadlines: 30th April 2026

Music For All Awards (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for individuals, community groups, charities and schools to support projects that increase participation in music within disadvantaged and marginalised communities.

Grants are specifically to support the purchase of the following instruments and equipment:

- Electro acoustic guitars (to suit varying abilities/levels)
- Pbuzz instruments
- Ukuleles
- Keyboard bundles
- Drum kits
- Orange crush mini amps

Key Criteria

- Organisations should be registered and be delivering the proposed activities in the UK
- Individuals are not able to request support with purchasing Pbuzz instruments or Ukeleles
- Applications should be supported by a Witness Statement. This is someone who is external to your organisation who can vouch for and support the application. Witness Statement forms should be received by 12 noon on Monday 11th May 2026.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 7th May 2026 (Decisions within three months).

Museums Association - Health and Wellbeing in Museums Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for museums to support innovative health and wellbeing programmes including mental health initiatives, projects addressing loneliness or physical health, creative engagement activities, partnerships with health and community organisations, and staff training.

Key Criteria

- Interested museums should complete the application quiz to check eligibility before getting in touch via the link provided at the end of the quiz
- The final submission deadline will be shared with invited applicants and will provide adequate time to complete an application.
- The museum should be able to demonstrate a track record and strategic commitment to health and wellbeing.

Museums must:

- Have an existing, excellent health and wellbeing programme to develop and embed
- Build on an established and evidenced track record of health and wellbeing work
- Fit within a strategic commitment to future health and wellbeing work

Amounts available: Between £50,000 and £75,000 (Around ten grants will be awarded).

Application deadlines: Not disclosed (Decisions in September 2026).

Charles Hayward Foundation – Social and Criminal Justice Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to UK registered charities for projects that prevent criminal activity and rehabilitate offenders.

The Foundation will fund projects in the following sub-categories:

- Targeted early intervention programmes aimed at reaching the most troubled and vulnerable families in a community.
- Targeted 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.

Key Criteria

- Organisations should have an annual income between £350,000 and £4 million
- Smaller charities with incomes under £350,000 are encouraged to apply through the Foundation's separate Small Grant programme
- The Foundation does not fund, policy and research, short term interventions, generic youth programmes or capital projects

Amounts available: Between £15,000 and £25,000 (Per year for up to three years)

Application deadlines: 22nd May 2026

School for Social Entrepreneurs – Trading for Good (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to support community businesses to strengthen their impact through enterprise.

The scheme offers ten learning days across a year with expert advice, specialist support and mentoring. Some sessions will take place online and some in-person. There will be a Midlands cohort to minimise travel.

Training will support skills to:

- Generate income to be invested in your community through trading
- Create a resilient, growing community business
- Adapt to changes in external environments
- Develop emotional resourcefulness
- Build and benefit from new networks
- Positively impact your community

In addition, there will be a Match Trading grant which can be used flexibly, helping you to attend the programme and to put your learning into practice by developing your trading and community business.

Key Criteria

- Organisations must first register their interest on the [School for Social Entrepreneurs website](#)
- To claim the full grant, organisations will need to show that their trading income has increased by £4,000 over the year
- Organisations must be:
 - A community business or committed to and working towards being a community business (see below)
 - Based in England
 - Planning on starting or growing the income it makes from trading
 - Be at an earlier stage (see below)
 - Be for public benefit rather than private benefit

Amounts available: Maximum £4,000 (Match Trading)

Application deadlines: Scheme runs from 31st March to 30th September 2026

HM Govt. – School-Based Nursery Capital Grant * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for Local Authorities to expand early-years education capacity in areas where demand for childcare exceeds available provision.

Local Authorities may bid on behalf of state-funded primary schools, maintained nursery schools and Best Start Family Hub sites.

The route for submitting funding proposals will be confirmed through an update to the grant guidance by spring 2026.

Key Criteria

- Eligible activity includes new nursery provision, facility expansion or refurbishment, and projects increasing childcare capacity.
- Projects should be delivered between 2027 and 2030

Amounts available: Not disclosed but projects are expected to cost under £1 million.

Application deadlines: 30th September 2026

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

[Voluntary Action Leicestershire](#)



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

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

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

Please check the [Upcoming Events](#) page for the latest information on training opportunities.

Contact Details:

Tel: (0116) 257 5050

Email: helpline@valonline.org.uk

[CASE](#) – Support for Social Enterprises in Leicestershire



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

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

Contact Details:

Tel: (0116) 222 5010

Email: enquiries@case.coop

[Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation](#)



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

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

Contact Details:

Tel: (0116) 262 4916

Email: grants@llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk

Commissioning Opportunities



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

[Source East Midlands](#)

[Due North](#)

[Gov UK Contract Finder](#)

[Easy Fundraising](#)



This is a leading fundraising platform that gives organisations access to an unlimited fundraising source, that helps you to raise FREE cashback donations through online shopping. Register your group/organisation as a good cause with easyfundraising to receive free cashback donations when anyone connected to that organisation shops online with over 8000 retailers including Argos, Amazon, Just eat and Booking.com. It doesn't cost the shopper a penny more so it's an easy way for your community to support your organisation just by shopping online as they usually would.

[Leicestershire Communities Grants and Funding Webpage](#)



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