

Monthly Funding Information August 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
National Archives – Community Hub Skills Bursaries	3 rd Aug 2026
Henry Smith Foundation – Equity in Justice Fund	5 th Aug 2026
Thomas Wall Trust – Grants for Charities (New)	11 th Sept 2026
Armed Forces Covenant – Supporting Partners Programme	23 rd Sept 2026
Armed Forces Covenant – Free From Fear Programme * (New)	23 rd Sept 2026
Veterans Foundation – Small Grants (New)	30 th Sept 2026

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

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Youth Endowment Fund – Violence Against Women and Girls * (New)	2 nd Sept 2026
Henry Smith Foundation – Career Ready Fund (New)	2 nd Sept 2026
HM Govt. Nursery Capital Grant *	30 th Sept 2026
Sasha Love Foundation (New)	1 st Oct 2026
The Frederick Soddy School Awards	30 th Nov 2026
Wooden Spoon Society Grants (New)	Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
The Royal British Legion – Community Grants	2 nd Aug 2026
HM Govt. – Local News Fund (New)	7 th Aug 2026
AIM – Museum Fundamentals * (New)	7 th Aug 2026
Arts Council England - Creative Foundations Fund *	7 th Aug 2026
GSK – Community Health Programme (New)	10 th Aug 2026
Delamere Dairy Foundation (New)	14 th Aug 2026
National Archives – Engagement Grants * (New)	14 th Aug 2026
Worshipful Company of Information Technologists Grant	14 th Aug 2026
B&Q Foundation – Grants (New)	14 th Aug 2026
Grocers Charity - Open Grant	15 th Aug 2026
Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust (New)	15 th Aug 2026
Warburtons - Community Grant	17 th Aug 2026
FCC Environmental Action Fund *	19 th Aug 2026
King Charles III Charitable Fund – Small Grants (New)	19 th Aug 2026
Armed Forces Covenant – Place-based Grants *	19 th Aug 2026
North West Leicestershire District Council – Legacy Grant Fund (New)	21 st Aug 2026
Henry Smith Foundation – Welcome to Newcomers Fund (New)	26 th Aug 2026
UnLtd - Social Entrepreneurs Funding (New)	31 st Aug 2026
Woodroffe Benton Foundation – Small Grant Programme (New)	31 st Aug 2026
Baily Thomas - General Grants Programme	31 st Aug 2026
William and Jane Morris Fund	31 st Aug 2026
HM Govt. – Democratic Engagement Fund	31 st Aug 2026
James Tudor Foundation – Physical Health Programme	31 st Aug 2026
James Tudor Foundation – Mental Health Grants Programme (New)	31 st Aug 2026
Rewilding Britain – Rewilding Innovation Fund *	5 th Sept 2026
Lloyds Bank Foundation – New Beginnings Fund (New)	9 th Sept 2026
Freelands Foundation – Learning Through Making Fund *	11 th Sept 2026
Charles Hayward Foundation – Social and Criminal Justice Grants	18 th Sept 2026
HM Govt. – Green Heat Network Fund *	25 th Sept 2026
The Matrix Causes Fund (New)	30 th Sept 2026
School for Social Entrepreneurs – Trading for Good	30 th Sept 2026
CPF Trust – Supporting Charities	30 th Sept 2026
Arts Council England - Museum Transformation Programme *	30 th Sept 2026
Tree Council – Trees Outside Woodland Fund * (New)	31 st Oct 2026

Funding for projects which support Adults

[National Archives – Community Hub Skills Bursaries](#)

Summary

Bursaries are available for individuals across the UK who want to build their skills in community heritage work.

The bursaries can support a wide range of professional development activities, including training, mentoring, workshops, travel, learning resources, and placements in galleries, libraries, archives and museums.

Key Criteria

- Open to applicants at any stage of their career (over the age of 18)
- The individual must be involved in some way to the galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAM) or heritage sector
- The bursaries are intended to support those who may not have had access to professional development opportunities before
- We would expect bursary-funded projects to last between six months to a year. However, all projects must be completed, with all money spent, by December 2027

Amounts available: Maximum £1,000

Application deadlines: Next deadline is 3rd August 2026 (Decisions in September 2026).

Bursaries will be offered on a rolling basis from September 2025 to September 2027 and will be assessed quarterly by a panel.

[Henry Smith Foundation – Equity in Justice Fund](#)

Summary

Funding is available for UK-registered not-for-profit organisations that support young men, aged 18 to 25, from racially minoritised communities who are in contact with the criminal justice system. Eligible groups include young men from Black communities and other racially minoritised communities, as well as Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Jewish and Muslim communities.

Funding for project and general running costs.

Key Criteria

- Smaller organisations will be prioritised, especially those run by people from the communities they support
- The fund is targeting organisations which deliver specialist services to racially minoritised young men aged 18 to 25 in contact with the justice system, and have at least 18 months of experience

Amounts available: Maximum £200,000 (Over three to five years).

Application deadlines: 5th August 2026 (for expressions of interest)

Thomas Wall Trust – Grants for Charities (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for registered charities to support projects that equip people (18 or older) from disadvantaged groups with the communication skills necessary to gain employment.

Proposals are welcome from projects that target people experiencing multiple deprivation or other groups facing major hurdles to employment, especially women, people with physical, mental, or learning disabilities and refugees.

Key Criteria

- Beneficiaries must gain at least one accredited vocational qualification during delivery or within two months of project completion.
- Charities should have been registered with the Charity Commission for at least 3 years and have an annual turnover of between £25,000 and £500,000.

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000 (There is the possibility of annual repeat funding for up to 3 years – subject to satisfactory annual reviews of progress and impact).

Application deadlines: 11th September 2026 (Deadline for Stage 1 applications).

Armed Forces Covenant – Supporting Partners Programme

Summary

Funding is available to Armed Forces units or bases, charities, CIC's and universities or colleges for projects that develop ways to reduce the challenges of service life faced by partners of serving armed forces personnel, including reservists.

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

- Partners of serving personnel have increased their skills and confidence through additional opportunities to explore new ways of working and/or to change careers.
- Partners of serving personnel, including non-UK nationals, are better able to access and engage with employment support that reflects the challenges of service life, such as mobility and separation.
- Service providers and employers demonstrate improved understanding of the unique challenges of service life, enabling more informed and effective support for partners of serving personnel.
- Improved mental health and wellbeing for partners of serving personnel, leading to increased confidence and greater empowerment in personal and career choices that work within service life.

Key Criteria

- Charities and CIC's should have substantial recent experience of supporting armed forces communities
- Armed forces units or bases will be asked to provide a letter of support from their Commanding Officer as part of their application
- Project design should have involved people with lived experience

Amounts available: Between £10,000 and £150,000 (for projects lasting up to three years).

Application deadlines: 23rd September 2026 (Decisions due by end of November 2026).

Armed Forces Covenant – Free From Fear Programme * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to registered charities and local authorities for two-year projects preventing and responding to domestic abuse in UK armed forces communities. Projects can support serving personnel, veterans, reservists and their families.

Key Criteria

- Those lacking in armed forces expertise must partner with a specialist organisation
- UK-based charities should have been registered for a minimum of three years
- Local and combined authorities may also apply with specialist partners for work that is additional to their statutory duties
- Although CIC's are not eligible to apply, they can be project partners in applications submitted by an eligible organisation

Amounts available: Between £100,000 and £250,000

Application deadlines: 23rd September 2026

Veterans Foundation – Small Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for charities and not-for-profit groups to support serving personnel, veterans, operationally qualified seafarers and immediate families in need.

Applicants will need to complete an eligibility quiz before applying and may apply once per quarter on a rolling basis, with decisions expected within eight weeks.

The Foundation also has:

- Standard Grants between £5,001 and £30,000 – can be over one year or multi-year grants for up to three years
- Salary Grants up to £25,000 per year for up to three years

Key Criteria

- Organisations must have an annual income of £100,000 or less
- Grants must be spent within 12 months on appropriately costed community-based activities
- Salary costs are not eligible, though sessional worker costs may be considered
- Please note that the Foundation is unable to accept applications from organisations who have noted on Companies House that an individual has any type of significant control within a company

Amounts available: Between £500 and £5,000

Application deadlines: 30th September 2026. Next round opens on 1st October and closes on 31st December 2026. Please note that all applications can be submitted at any time, but will be taken to the next available quarterly decision meeting.

Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

Youth Endowment Fund – Violence Against Women and Girls Prevention * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Objective 2: Responding to Inappropriate and Problematic Attitudes and Behaviours on Gender Norms and Relationships in Educational Settings.

The programme is inviting applications from organisations delivering targeted interventions that identify and respond to inappropriate and problematic attitudes and behaviours around gender norms and relationships among children and young people aged 10–18.

This funding round focuses on secondary prevention: early, targeted support for children and young people who are beginning to show emerging concerns, before behaviours escalate to the point where statutory services such as children's social care, policing or youth justice are required.

Key Criteria

- Funding is available for registered charities, companies, statutory bodies or CICs
- Projects should primarily operate within educational settings, and support these settings' capacities and systems to identify and respond to these behaviours amongst pupils. Delivery may take place in community or partner settings where there is a clear and substantive link to an educational setting.
- Funded organisations must work with an independent evaluator throughout co-design, delivery and evaluation.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

Application deadlines: 2nd September 2026

Henry Smith Foundation – Career Ready Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for not-for-profit organisations, including charities, CIO's and CIC's, to support young people aged 14 and over with learning disabilities into paid employment. The scheme will help organisations deliver support in both mainstream and SEND school settings.

The fund will support work that:

- Embeds qualified job coaches within school settings
- Delivers early, structured vocational profiling
- Creates meaningful, well matched work experiences with employers
- Builds strong partnerships between schools, families, employers and specialist providers
- Strengthens pathways into supported internships, employment and paid work

Key Criteria

- Organisations should have an annual income of £3 million or less
- Organisations should have experience working with young people with learning disabilities
- Educational settings are not eligible to apply directly, but can be involved as partners

Amounts available: £200,000 (£50,000 per year for four years).

Application deadlines: 2nd September 2026 (For expressions of interest).

HM Govt. Nursery Capital Grant *

Summary

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

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

Eligible activity includes new nursery provision, facility expansion or refurbishment, and projects increasing childcare capacity.

Key Criteria

- Projects are expected to be delivered between 2027 and 2030
- Schools that were successful in phase 1 or phase 2 of the programme and received capital grant funding are eligible for this round (Phase 3). However, in such cases, local authorities should only propose projects that add new places beyond what was delivered in earlier phases and that represent good value for money.
- All Best Start Family Hub sites interested in the capital grant should have strong links to local schools

Amounts available: Not stated. Local Authorities can apply for the funds that are required. However most new build projects are expected to cost under £1 million and re-purposing existing spaces should cost no more than £500,000.

Application deadlines: 30th September 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 a 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 October 2026

The Frederick Soddy School Awards

Summary

Funding is available to schools in the UK and Ireland planning geography fieldwork and expeditions that include a strong element of human geography.

The grants aim to enable students aged 5 to 18 years to gain the valuable experience provided by fieldwork, regardless of background or circumstances.

Key Criteria

- Grants are awarded on the merits of each project, with priority given to schools who were not funded the previous year
- The grants cannot support the costs of physical resources
- Successful applicants will need to submit a risk assessment approved by their institution before funding can be released

Amounts available: Between £200 and £600

Application deadlines: 30th November 2026

Wooden Spoon Society Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

The Wooden Spoon is the Children's Charity of Rugby. Funding is available for schools, charities, and not-for-profit organisations to support equipment for mentally, physically, and socially disadvantaged children.

There are four themes: Giving children the chance to: Play, Learn, Thrive and Be Safe. Across all four themes, it will fund sensory rooms and gardens, specialist medical and sports equipment, aiming to improve health and wellbeing.

Both capital and revenue projects can be supported.

Key Criteria

- The project must enhance and support the lives of children and young people with a cognitive age under 25 that are disadvantaged physically, mentally, or socially.
- The project must work directly with children and young people and have a positive influence on their lives from the activities or service provided.
- The project beneficiaries must be a group. Wooden Spoon cannot make grants to individuals
- Physical and tangible assets supported with a capital grant must have a minimum expected life span of five years
- For revenue projects there must be a key educational, sporting or physical activity element preferably rugby to engage children and young people

Amounts available: No set maximum grant. However, applications for under £5,000 are likely to be considered

Application deadlines: Open – applications accepted on a rolling basis

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

[The Royal British Legion – Community Grants](#) (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to community groups for projects that give members of the Armed Forces community more and better opportunities to connect and come together in their local areas.

Examples of the types of projects which may be supported include:

- Projects that bring members of the Armed Forces Community together to share skills, experience and support.
- Community improvement projects that benefit the Armed Forces Community.
- Community arts and creative projects involving members of the Armed Forces Community.
- Community events that celebrate and showcase the contribution of the Armed Forces community to society.
- Youth groups and activities that help children from Armed Forces families meet others with similar backgrounds.
- Projects that reduce loneliness through regular social events, sport or shared activities, or that help members of the Armed Forces community connect with local welfare and wellbeing support.

Key Criteria

The programme is open to not-for-profit organisations with a formal constitution that can show their project will support people who meet The Royal British Legion's eligibility criteria.

Amounts available: Up to £25,000 per year for a maximum of two years. Small grants of up to £500 may also be available for one-off costs such as a community event.

Application deadlines: 2nd August 2026 (May close earlier if demand is high. Decisions are expected in October 2026).

HM Govt. – Local News Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for local news organisations including local newspapers, online publishers, and independent television and radio stations in England and Wales to strengthen their long-term financial sustainability.

Key Criteria

Eligible applicants must be based in England or Wales and meet the following criteria:

- Organisations must be providers of high-quality local news and information relating to a defined geographical area within England or Wales
- Organisations must be able to demonstrate a recent and sustained track record in the provision of local news and information, by having published at least one local story each month over the past 12 months.
- Organisations must be able to demonstrate that their content is editorially accountable, meaning that: Broadcast organisations in either TV or radio must be Ofcom-licensed. All other organisations must have a named person responsible for deciding to publish content and for determining how it is presented, as well as a published editorial policy or set of guidelines
- Organisations must be legally incorporated, with a published registered office or other business address in the UK and have been trading for at least 12 months.

Amounts available: Maximum £125,000

Application deadlines: 7th August 2026

AIM – Museum Fundamentals * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for small and medium sized museums to improve the care, preservation and use of their collections.

Successful applicants will be given the opportunity to work with mentors, who can offer up to 2-3 days of support, to help guide and support them to deliver their project successfully.

Key Criteria

Applicants:

- Must be AIM members, operate as UK-registered charities or public bodies
- Should receive fewer than 50,000 visitors a year
- Should own the collections that are the focus of the project

Amounts available: Maximum £20,000

Application deadlines: 7th August 2026 (For expression of interest)

Arts Council England - Creative Foundations Fund * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for not-for-profit creative and cultural organisations based and registered in England to improve, repair, upgrade or adapt buildings and equipment where the work is essential to the organisation's future operation.

There are two strands:

- Strand 1 covering Building Projects, Equipment purchases or a combination of both
- Strand 2 covering Building Projects or combined Building Projects and Equipment Purchases (Equipment only projects are not permitted in Strand 2)

Key Criteria

- Organisations must demonstrate through their governance documents that their primary aims are cultural and that the activities they are applying for fall within the remit of Arts Council England.
- Cultural organisations can only submit one Expression of Interest to either Strand 1 or 2 for this fund (not both). More than one Expression of Interest will be accepted from statutory bodies and other public bodies that run or maintain cultural services.
- Museums, libraries, individuals and profit-distributing organisations cannot apply
- Projects must not start before 1st April 2027. Projects must end no later than 31st March 2030

Amounts available:

- Strand 1 Between £100,000 and £1million
- Strand 2 Between £1million and £10million

Application deadlines: 7th August 2026 (For expressions of interest)

GSK – Community Health Programme (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for small UK registered charities working to improve health outcomes for disadvantaged groups, including ethnic minority communities, disabled people, LGBTQ+ communities and others experiencing inequality.

The charities offered funding will be invited to attend an online leadership programme. Up to 10 places are available. The programme will be delivered by The King's Fund and provide participants with the opportunity to develop their capability and confidence to lead both operationally and strategically.

Key Criteria

Charities should be at least one year old with a total annual income between £20,000 and £150,000

Amounts available: Maximum £10,000

Application deadlines: 10th August 2026 (Decisions by mid-October 2026).

Delamere Dairy Foundation (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for charities and other not-for-profit organisations based in England, Scotland and Wales whose work benefits local communities, and whose purpose aligns with the Foundation's objects:

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

Key Criteria

- Organisations may apply once per calendar year
- New groups without a constitution or bank account will need to nominate an established group that will be responsible for holding and administering the grant on their behalf
- If project-based funding is being applied for, then the project must last no more than 12 months

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

Application deadlines: 14th August 2026. If you have not heard back by 30th September 2026 then you have not been successful. Next round opens on 1st January 2027.

National Archives – Engagement Grants * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for outreach and engagement projects that use archives housed in museums, local authorities, universities, charities, community organisations, etc to help people and communities understand their place in shared histories, identities and local life, and to foster connection, inclusion and pride.

Eligible costs include exhibitions, events, online or digital engagement, materials, staff time, travel and subsistence, and materials or software

Key Criteria

- Engagement Grants are open to archivists and heritage professionals working with archival collections in England or Wales
- The programme is open to all public sector bodies, not-for-profit organisations including registered charities, and for-profit organisations including business archives.
- Repeat applications are not possible for this programme
- The programme cannot fund overheads, management fees, collections acquisition or the core work of an archive service

Amounts available: Maximum £3,000

Application deadlines: 14th August 2026.

Worshipful Company of Information Technologists Grant

Summary

Funding is available to registered charities, community interest companies, and other not-for-profit organisations for IT projects that benefit communities across the UK.

The grants programme aims to support innovative projects and activities that use information technology (IT) to create positive impact through education, digital inclusion, charitable, and public engagement initiatives. This could include developing and delivering innovative new services, solutions, training, apps, analytics, AI, robotics, or accessibility features/hardware.

Key Criteria

- Organisations which are new start-ups, less than a year old, have no income or accounts and those with an annual income of over £1million are not eligible
- There is a focus on projects with the greatest impact so projects benefitting fewer than 25 people directly or those where the service cost per beneficiary is over £300 are not eligible
- The fund will not support projects where the financial request is less than 25% of the entire budget

Amounts available: Maximum £15,000

Application deadlines: 14th August 2026 (Decisions in September 2026).

B&Q Foundation – Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to registered charities for projects that improve homes and accommodation, or provide home-starter kits, for people in need. The fund aims to help individuals and families facing homelessness, domestic abuse, disability, illness, or financial hardship feel safer, more settled, and better supported. There are two funds available:

- Home Improvement Fund - supports essential repairs, decorating, and other indoor and outdoor improvements.
- Home-Starter Kits - helps charities purchase and distribute essential household items. Eligible items include white goods, small electrical goods, curtains, and basic repair materials.

Key Criteria

- Charities must support individuals in need within the UK
- Eligible charities should provide accommodation or support people transitioning into their own homes
- Only charity-managed properties qualify for home and accommodation improvements
- Charities must demonstrate a minimum of one year's operation with published annual accounts
- A current safeguarding policy is required for all applicants
- All projects are required to be finished within 12 months, unless otherwise agreed

Amounts available:

- Home Improvement Fund - Maximum £10,000
- Home-Starter Kits – Maximum £500 per kit with a maximum of £10,000 per organisation

Application deadlines: 14th August 2026. There is a further round which opens on 19th October 2026 and closes on 13th November 2026.

Grocers Charity - Open Grant

Summary

Funding is available to UK-registered charities working to reduce disadvantage and improve quality of life for vulnerable people. Funding is available for projects across a range of priority areas, including poverty relief, disability inclusion, and health and wellbeing. It also supports work with children and young people, older people and veterans, as well as projects in the arts, heritage and environment.

Key Criteria

- Eligible applicants include small and grassroots charities with an annual turnover below £500,000, as well as medical charities with an income below £15 million.
- Places of worship and educational establishments are not eligible
- There are separate criteria for each of the funding categories

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 15th August 2026 for expressions of interest

Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for organisations involved in horticulture, gardening, or botany to support projects that promote horticulture, conserve the environment through biodiversity, develop public gardens, and advance horticultural education.

Eligible projects include the restoration of historic gardens, creation of new public garden spaces, horticultural research, publications, and plant study expeditions.

Key Criteria

To be successful applicants need to demonstrate horticultural competence and ability as the Trust does not support applications from places or individuals where horticulture is only a minor part of their operation.

The Trust will not make grants for projects relating to commercial agriculture initiatives, commercial crop production, forestry, payment of wages or salaries or tuition fees for students taking academic or diploma courses or for pure 'gap year' travel.

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 15th August 2026

Warburtons - Community Grant

Summary

Funding is available to charitable organisations for projects that directly impact families and solve significant social issues in communities across England, Scotland and Wales.

The scheme will support a range of activities that support families under the following key outcomes:

- Health – supporting families to care for each other and lead healthier lives
- Place – supporting families to flourish in communities that are safer, greener and more inclusive
- Skills – supporting families to gain useful skills for life and work

Key Criteria

- Organisations which are not charitable and do not operate as not-for-profit are not eligible
- Applications cannot be solely for salary costs. However, a proportion of funding could be used for sessional worker fees where they are directly linked to the funded project /activity delivery
- Applications cannot solely seek to purchase large or significant items. Small, low-cost items are however eligible

Amounts available: Maximum £400

Application deadlines: 17th August 2026. Decisions by 30th September (Applications are considered every quarter).

FCC Environmental Action Fund *

Summary

Funding is available to a range of not-for-profit organisations including charities and local authorities for improvements to community amenities, conservation and biodiversity projects.

Eligible projects include community buildings, play areas, MUGAs, skate/BMX parks, sports facilities, hireable church spaces, parks/woodlands, nature reserves and museums.

Key Criteria

- Projects must be located on a single site within 10 miles of an FCC Environment facility. Please use the [distance checker](#) to check for eligibility.
- The closest FCC sites appear to be at Colsterworth and Leadenham in Lincolnshire and Eastcroft in Nottinghamshire
- Applying organisations must own or lease the land on which the project is to take place. If the land is leased there must be a minimum of five years remaining
- The sites must be open and accessible to the public
- Projects should have a maximum cost of £250,000

Amounts available: Between £10,000 and £100,000

Application deadlines: 19th August 2026 (Decision in 16 weeks).

King Charles III Charitable Fund – Small Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for UK-registered non-profit organisations that make a meaningful difference in key areas such as social inclusion, health and wellbeing, education, environment, countryside, and heritage and conservation.

This round will support projects under the Fund's Education and Heritage Conservation funding themes.

Within the Education Theme the Scheme will prioritise:

- Improving educational (and social) outcomes for young people aged 5-18 through projects that take place outside of the traditional educational framework but provide supportive education and life skills e.g. forest schools, farms, mentoring schemes, digital skills, applied skills
- Improving employability: training and career opportunities for those that are not eligible to receive employability support and entrepreneurial skills through King Trust's employability programmes which focus on 11 to 30-year-olds. For example, providing employability skills to veterans.

Heritage and Conservation - For the preservation of historic and culturally important buildings and traditional craftsmanship, together with the sustainable regeneration of communities and the built environment across the globe.

Key Criteria

Organisations should have:

- An annual income between £25,000 and £500,000
- Completed two years of activity
- Less than six months unrestricted free reserves
- Waited at least two years from the date of any previous unsuccessful application

Amounts available: Maximum £3,000 (per year for up to three years).

Application deadlines: The scheme opens to applications on 5th August and closes on 19th August 2026.

Armed Forces Covenant – Place-Based Grants*

Summary

Funding is available for UK-registered charities and local authorities to improve support for serving Armed Forces families affected by separation and relocation.

The aim is to help families of serving personnel and reservists access more effective local support, reduce isolation, improve wellbeing, and strengthen coordination between services.

The portfolio grants will be awarded to single lead organisations (the Portfolio Lead), which hold the funding and coordinate a number of funded and unfunded delivery partners in a defined place, all working together to deliver the programme outcomes. It is not expected that the full grant value would be held within one organisation.

Key Criteria

- Registered charities should have been registered in the UK for at least three years at the time of application, with substantial recent experience of supporting armed forces communities.
- Successful applicants will be expected to undertake a discovery or development phase at the start of the project, lasting up to six months
- Projects are expected to deliver targeted support for families facing challenges in a specific geographical area/locality of the UK

Amounts available: Maximum £350,000 for over a period of up to 3.5 years.

Application deadlines: 19th August 2026 (For expressions of interest with decisions by the end of November 2026).

North West Leicestershire District Council – Legacy Grant Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to a range of community-based organisations (including charities, social enterprises, community groups, sports clubs and Parish and Town Councils) in North West Leicestershire for projects that:

- Bring communities together
- Improve health, wellbeing and inclusion
- Enhance local facilities and spaces
- Support environmental and climate improvements
- Create opportunities for people of all ages

There are two grants available:

- Revenue Grant - for activities and services, such as:
 - Community projects and events
 - Programmes or outreach work
 - Short-term projects with clear outcomes
- Capital Grant - for physical improvements and long-term assets, such as:
 - Community buildings or facilities
 - Parks, play areas and outdoor spaces
 - Energy efficiency or environmental improvements
 - Equipment or infrastructure

Key Criteria

- Applicants will need to create an account with North West Leicestershire District Council before they apply
- Organisations must be based in or working in North West Leicestershire
- Projects must benefit local residents and address a local need
- Projects should be realistic, well planned and good value for money

Amounts available:

- Revenue Grant between £2,500 and £25,000
- Capital Grant between £10,000 and £250,000

Application deadlines:

21st August 2026 for Capital Grant expressions of interest
11th September 2026 for Revenue Grant applications

Henry Smith Foundation – Welcome to Newcomers Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to organisations and partnerships supporting newcomers to the UK to rebuild their lives, feel at home and become active members of their local communities.

The fund will award around 20 grants to organisations and partnerships delivering specialist support and activities that help refugees, people seeking asylum and other migrants build a sense of belonging. This could include immigration advice, housing and welfare support, health and wellbeing services, English language provision, employment support, volunteering, sports, arts and social groups.

Key Criteria

Organisations should have:

- A record of provision for at least 18 months in the three core elements of welcome work
- A charitable purpose, mission or objects to support newcomers to the UK
- An ongoing, long-term access to a safe, accessible physical space or spaces where the work is delivered

Amounts available: Maximum £200,000 (Over three years)

Application deadlines: 26th August 2026 (Closing date for expressions of interest)

UnLtd - Social Entrepreneurs Funding (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for social entrepreneurs across the UK to start or grow community-focused business ventures. There are two funding streams:

- The Funding Futures Programme - supports young social entrepreneurs aged 16 to 30 who are working to improve financial inclusion, such as access to financial services and support, for disadvantaged or marginalised people affected by the cost-of-living crisis.
- The Millenium Awards - supports social entrepreneurs aged 16 and over who are tackling a wider range of social issues.

Successful applicants will also receive personalised non-financial support, including a dedicated support manager, peer learning, expert advice and legal consultancy.

Key Criteria

- There is an [eligibility checker](#) which helps match applicants to the most suitable award and programme
- The social venture must be clearly driven by a social purpose
- The social venture should not be incorporated or have been incorporated for less than 4 years
- Scaling Up applicants should have an annual turnover of less than £250,000

Amounts available:

Both Funding Streams have:

- Start Up Award maximum £8,000
- Scaling up Award maximum £18,000

Application deadlines: 31st August 2026

Woodroffe Benton Foundation – Small Grant Programme (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for UK charities and educational institutions to help people with severe physical or learning disabilities access nature and outdoor activities.

The funding is primarily for core operating costs rather than for a specific project. However, the latter will not be excluded.

Key Criteria

- Organisations must have an annual income below £750,000 and at least one full set of accounts
- Educational organisations can apply even if they are not a charity

Amounts available: Between £500 and £2,500

Application deadlines: Opens on 1st August and closes on 31st August 2026 or when 150 applications have been received.

Baily Thomas - General Grants Programme

Summary

Funding is available for UK charities, parent-teacher associations, and schools to help children and adults with severe learning difficulties, including autism.

The funding can be used to purchase equipment, support capital works, and cover project and core costs.

Key Criteria

- A further application from an organisation will not normally be considered for a period of at least two years after consideration of a previously successful grant (if your previous application was unsuccessful, this period is one year)
- CIC's are not currently eligible to apply

Amounts available:

- Small Grants - up to £5,000
- Main Grants - £5,000 or over

Application deadlines:

- Main Grants deadline of 31st August 2026 (Decisions in November 2026).
- Small Grants – applications can be made at any time.

William and Jane Morris Fund

Summary

Funding is available for churches, chapels and other places of worship, built before 1896, to carry out small programmes of conservation work to decorative features and monuments.

Eligible work includes, but is not limited to, stained glass windows, sculpture, furniture, internal monuments, tombs, and wall paintings.

Key Criteria

- All work funded must be directed by a professional architect or established conservator and completed according to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) principles
- The object being restored must have been made no later than 1896

Amounts available: Between £500 and £5,000

Application deadlines: 31st August 2026 (Decisions in November 2026).

HM Govt. – Democratic Engagement Fund

Summary

Funding is available to UK-based voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations for local, politically neutral activities that help people understand democracy and take part in democratic life.

Key objectives are to:

- Build a robust evidence base on ‘what works’ - focuses on identifying what works to improve awareness, motivation and participation especially among underrepresented groups
- Prevent or overcome barriers for less engaged groups - enable and support organisations to design, test and deliver interventions that identify, prevent or overcome barriers to democratic engagement among less engaged demographic groups.
- Improve democratic participation and engagement - support to deliver projects that improve awareness and understanding of democratic processes and institutions, strengthen positive attitudes towards them, and improve motivation to participate, both among the general public and targeted under-engaged groups.

Key Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be non-governmental, non-profit and deliver their work in England
- Have been operating for at least two years and have an annual income of £50,000 to £1 million
- Operate independently of political parties and avoid any activity that promotes or endorses a political agenda
- Projects must start no earlier than January 2027, and all funded activity must be completed on or before 31st October 2027.

Amounts available: Maximum £25,000

Application deadlines: 31st August 2026. Funding will be awarded in January 2027.

James Tudor Foundation – Physical Health Programme

Summary

Funding is available for UK registered health charities to support physical health services or projects delivered in the UK.

All services delivered by the charity must fall entirely within one of the eligible categories listed below:

- Evidence-based physical therapies for people living with neurodegenerative physical conditions and / or neuromuscular conditions, physical disabilities or recovering from life-changing injuries
- Specialist, single-condition charities
- Charities whose main focus is delivering direct healthcare to people experiencing homelessness, street sex workers and vulnerable migrants
- Air ambulance services (emergency response only and only those operating in South West England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland)

Key Criteria

- Organisations must have an annual income under £20million and at least five years of audited or independently examined accounts
- For charities providing condition-specific information, the fund prioritises those that are members of the Patient Information Forum (PIF) and/or hold PIF Tick certification
- Charities solely supporting carers, community transport, cancer wellbeing or running care homes, hospices or community centres are not eligible to apply

Amounts available: Maximum £25,000

Application deadlines: 31st August 2026 (Deadline for Expression of Interest).

James Tudor Foundation – Mental Health Grants Programme (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for UK registered charities that support children and young people recovering from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and parents affected by ACEs, mental illness, or addiction.

The programme has two areas of support:

- Support for children and young people - funding 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.

Within this theme it will 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.
- Support for parents - 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.

Key Criteria

- Eligibility for the Children and Young People category is limited to charities with a children first approach. This means charities that work primarily with children and young people affected by ACEs.
- 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.
- Charities that provide generalist support and wellbeing activities are not eligible
- The programme will not support pilot projects from charities that it has not supported before

Amounts available: Maximum £25,000

Application deadlines: 31st August 2026 (Deadline for Expression of Interest for the February 2027 Board meeting).

Rewilding Britain – Rewilding Innovation Fund *

Summary

Funding is available to public and private landowners for innovative projects seeking to create new opportunities for large-scale nature restoration.

The fund aims to remove barriers to rewilding across Britain. Whether your site or project is in the early planning stages or looking to try out a new approach. Funds can also be used to pay for direct interventions or expertise that the project requires.

It will prioritise projects that will have the highest impact on people and nature, on land and sea, with opportunities for shared learning with the Rewilding Network.

Key Criteria

- Applicants must be members of the Rewilding Network (applicants may join at the point of application).
- Land-based projects must cover at least 40 hectares of contiguous land
- The funding cannot be used for land purchase or capital costs such as fencing.

Amounts available: Maximum £15,000

Application deadlines: 5th September 2026

Lloyds Bank Foundation – Good Place to Live - New Beginnings Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available to charities, charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs) and community interest companies (CICs) for projects that prevent people from becoming homeless. It will support organisations working with people leaving:

- Prison
- The care system
- Abusive relationships
- The asylum system

Alongside the grant, successful organisations alongside tailored development support, practical tools and valuable connections.

Key Criteria

- Organisations must have an annual income of between £25,000 and £2 million with at least one set of annual accounts
- Charities and CIO's should have a Board of at least three trustees in place who are not related to other Board members
- CIC's should have at least three unrelated Directors sitting on your Board who are registered with Companies House. No Director should hold more than 50% of the company's voting rights, have significant control or have the sole right to remove other Directors.
- Organisations should have a track record of delivering services, for at least one year, for people who are one or more of the above categories

Amounts available:

- For organisation with an income of less than £100,000 - Maximum £100,000 (Unrestricted grant over four years, at £25,000 per year).
- For organisation with an income between £100,000 and £2 million – Maximum £200,000 (Unrestricted grant over four years, at £50,000 per year).

Application deadlines: 9th September 2026 (Shortlisting by November 14th and final decision by 18th December 2026).

[Freelands Foundation – Learning Through Making Fund](#) *

Summary

Funding is available for a range of community organisations including charities, CIC's and local authority galleries or museums to support hands-on visual arts education projects that creatively engage audiences with the process of making and exploration of materials.

Funding can support materials, transport, specialist expertise, access to facilities, research that tests new ideas through hands-on activity, workshops, events, learning activities, or new hands-on making activities added to existing programmes.

Proposed projects can be of any length, from a few days to activity that takes place over a number of months, but they must be take place between 1st January and 31st December 2027.

Key Criteria

- Only visual arts organisations which are run with a charitable purpose and for public benefit are eligible for funding.
- CIC's must have asset lock provisions in the organisation's governing document. Other criteria also apply.

Amounts available: Maximum £25,000

Application deadlines: 11th September 2026 (Outcomes by end of November 2026).

[Charles Hayward Foundation – Social and Criminal Justice Grants](#)

Summary

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

Projects should fit under one of four 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

- Charities should have an income of between £350,000 and £4million. Smaller charities with incomes under £350,000 are encouraged to apply through the separate Small Grant programme which is open all year round.
- The grant fund does not support generic youth activity or uniformed organisation, short term interventions or trips, policy, research or capital projects.

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

Application deadlines: 18th September 2026

HM Govt. – Green Heat Network Fund *

Summary

Capital funding is available for public, private and third-sector organisations in England to help new and existing heat networks move to low and zero-carbon technologies.

The fund will support the rollout of low-carbon technologies like heat pumps and solar and geothermal energy to help networks deliver clean heating to homes, offices, commercial and public buildings.

Applicants are encouraged to seek financing options from the National Wealth Fund (NWF) alongside their Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF) grant application.

Key Criteria

- Individuals, households and sole traders cannot apply to the fund.
- For the purposes of GHNF, a heat network is defined as a network of pipes that, by distributing a liquid or a gas, enables the transfer of thermal energy for the purpose of supplying heating, cooling or hot water to at least two buildings or at least two customers in at least one building.
- Local Authorities applying to the GHNF can access lending from NWF. NWF provides loans to Local Authorities at preferential rates and seeks to support an increase in the scale and ambition of net-zero and regional local growth-supporting infrastructure developments.
- Funding must provide additionality and GHNF should only support heat networks that would not be developed without government support.

Amounts available: Maximum £1million (Up to a maximum of 50% of the projects total combined commercialisation and construction costs).

Application deadlines: 25th September 2026 (Round 12 deadline).

The Matrix Causes Fund (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for not-for-profit organisations which promote access to justice, equality of opportunity, or a sustainable environment.

While all applications which meet the criteria are welcome, priority will be given to projects where the benefit can be most widely felt, and 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 or prisoners.

Key Criteria

- There should be at least three years from the completion of a funded project before another application is submitted by the same organisation for consideration.
- The organisational income from all sources must be less than £500,000 per year and have less than that amount available in financial resources

Amounts available:

- Up to £8,000 for one-off projects or
- Up to £5,000 per year for up to three years

Application deadlines: 30th September 2026.

School for Social Entrepreneurs – Trading for Good

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.

CPF Trust – Supporting Charities

Summary

Small one-year grants are available for registered charities working in areas such as the arts, education, health, disability, animal welfare, and support for older people, carers, and disadvantaged children and young people.

The grants can be used towards revenue or capital costs, and for project or core funding.

Key Criteria

- Grant applications are only accepted by email
- The application must not exceed 500 words in total

Amounts available: Between £1,000 and £3,000

Application deadlines: 30th September 2026

Arts Council England - Museum Transformation Programme *

Summary

Funding is available to support local authority museums and museums with a local authority link in addressing long-term pressures and developing more sustainable operating models.

Funding will support longer-term activity, enabling museums to rethink their operations in a range of ways, including:

- Digital transformation: Improving data analytics, digitising collections, or development/improvement of CRM
- Organisational change: Development of cross-functional teams, setting up more dynamic ways of working
- Organisational restructuring: Consolidating priorities, exploring shared spaces, and workforce restructuring
- Income generation and resilience: Diversifying income generation, development of philanthropic giving, exploring alternative finance
- Community and inclusion: Co-curation activities with the local community, development of accessibility-first approaches, and equity-focused interpretation
- Sustainability: Development of sustainable exhibition design, energy efficient systems, collections review

Key Criteria

Museums must meet both of the following criteria:

- Be an Arts Council England Accredited museum in England (excluding National Museums), whether funded via the Arts Council's National Portfolio or not.
- Be able to evidence that the museum has an established relationship with a Local Authority (LA)

Capital works including building and maintenance repairs are not eligible

There is no match funding requirement for museums to apply for Museum Transformation funding. However, all applicants will be expected to demonstrate their organisations' current financial position as part of the application process.

Activity must take place between 1st January 2027 and 31st March 2030.

Amounts available: Between £50,000 and £1 million

Application deadlines: Opens on 1st September and closes on 30th September 2026.

Tree Council – Trees Outside Woodland Fund * (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for local authorities and registered charities to establish trees outside woodland to create or enhance green spaces using a range of tree sizes, species and planting types.

The funding is intended for projects which are planned for the 2026/27 planting season.

Key Criteria

- Registered charities planning to deliver the project in England must have an annual income or turnover of more than £100,000.
- Projects must comply with biosecure tree sourcing requirements
- Projects must be completed, and all reporting submitted, by 5th March 2027
- Organisations should ensure that public liability insurance is in place for every planting event
- Organisations should obtain written landowner permission for each planting site before planting takes place

Amounts available: Between £10,000 and £40,000

Application deadlines: The fund will remain open until 31st October 2026, or until all funding has been allocated. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received; early applications are strongly encouraged.

The Access Foundation – Digital Divide Grants (NEW GRANT)

Summary

Funding is available for UK charities and other not-for-profit organisations working to improve digital access, skills and support for disadvantaged and vulnerable people in their communities.

Key Criteria

- Applications must be for specific services, activities, initiatives or projects with clearly identified measurable outcomes
- Projects should last for a year

Amounts available: Between £20,000 and £50,000

Application deadlines: Open. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis with decisions typically made within 16 weeks.

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.