



# Monthly Funding Information September 2024

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

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

This document, along with information about other sources of funding and associated support, can also be accessed via the <u>Leicestershire Communities Grants and Funding page</u>.

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
Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust – Hidden Voices Programme	11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
McCarthy Stone Foundation - Christmas Connections 2024 (New)	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2024
Support for Serving Families Programme	25 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Service Women: Seen and Heard Programme	25 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Embedding Prevention of Veteran Suicide Programme	2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct 2024
<u>Veterans' Foundation</u>	8 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024
Alzheimer's Research UK - Inspire Fund (New)	14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024
Armed Forces Covenant - Free From Fear Programme (New)	16th Oct 2024
Veterans Capital Housing Fund – Major Capital Grants	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2025

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

Grant Fund	<b>Closest Deadline</b>
Barclays Community Football Fund	15 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Art Fund – Student Opportunities	25 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Twinkl - Community Collection Prize Draw (New)	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Active Together - Young People Physical Activity & Sport Hardship Fund (New)	6 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024
Weaver's Company Benevolent Fund	14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2024
Dept. For Education – Senior Mental Health Lead Training	31st Dec 2024
Leslie Sell Charitable Trust (New)	Open

# Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Grant Fund	<b>Closest Deadline</b>
Leeds Building Society Foundation	9 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
SCOPS Arts Trust (New)	10 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Community Energy Fund – Midlands	13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Neat Streets * (New)	13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Matthew Good Foundation	15 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Which? Fund	16 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Esmée Fairbairn – Collections Fund	16 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Serving Families – On The Move Programme 2024-25	18 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
HM Govt Community Automated External Defibrillators Fund	21st Sept 2024
Change X - World Mental Health Day Community Fund (New)	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept 2024
HM Govt. – Memorial Grant	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
The Naturesave Trust (New)	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
NFU Mutual Charitable Trust	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024
Harborough District Council - Community Grant Fund (New)	20th Oct 2024
Leicestershire Ukrainian Community Grant 2024-25 (New)	30 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2024
WCIT Charity – IT4Good (New)	31st Oct 2024
Green King IPA – Proud to Pitch In	1 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2024
Road Safety Trust - Autumn Round *	1 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2024
The Tree Council – Branching out Fund (New)	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2024
International Tree Foundation – UK Community Tree Planting *	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2024
Arnold Clark Community Fund	31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2024
Parkinson's UK- Physical Activity Grants	31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2024
Arts Council England - Creative People and Places 2026-29	16 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2025
Co-operative Bank - Customer Donation Fund (New)	Open
Architectural Heritage Fund	Open
Midlands Net Zero Hub - Community Energy Fund	Open

# **Funding for projects which support Adults**

# **Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust – Hidden Voices Programme**

# **Summary**

Administered by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, Hidden Voices Programme grants are available for UK registered charities and CICs for collaborative projects which address the unique mental health and wellbeing needs of marginalised groups in Armed Forces communities focusing on prevention and early intervention.

# **Key Criteria**

The funding is intended to enable and deliver accessible mental health and wellbeing support for those with seldom heard needs in Armed Forces communities, with a focus on prevention and early intervention - through collaborative projects between Armed Forces organisations and non-Armed Forces specialist organisations.

The funding should benefit current serving Armed Forces personnel, Reservists (including RFA Royal Fleet Auxiliary), Veterans, and their families, whose needs are seldom heard.

The funding is for projects which meet all of the following outcomes:

- Build collaborative partnerships between Armed Forces organisations and specialist non-Armed Forces organisations.
- Identify and address known and unknown gaps in service provision for the Armed Forces community.
- Provide accessible, preventative and defined interventions (rather than general support for the Armed Forces community).
- Increase knowledge and understanding within mainstream voluntary sector organisations of the unique needs of the Armed Forces community in a demonstrable way and create opportunities for continuing support.

Projects should be focused on supporting either serving or Veteran families who are 'seldom heard', to access defined or bespoke mental health and wellbeing support.

'Seldom heard' refers to groups or individuals whose voices, opinions or needs are not frequently or adequately represented in mainstream policies or services.

Potential beneficiaries may include, for example:

- Black and minority ethnic individuals
- Carers
- People with disabilities
- Members of the LGBT+ community
- Those for whom English is an additional language
- People from Foreign & Commonwealth communities
- Other members of the Armed Forces community with seldom-heard needs that can be overlooked.

Amounts available: Maximum £20,000

#### **Application deadlines:**

There will be two application rounds for this financial year (2024/25).

- Round 1 closes to applications on 11 September 2024 (12 noon) for a decision by 31 December 2024 with a project start date by February 2025.
- Round 2 closes to applications on 8 January 2025 (12 noon) for a decision by 30 April 2025 with a project start date by June 2025.

# McCarthy Stone Foundation - Christmas Connections 2024 - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

Grants are available for charities and community groups bringing together people over 65 at Christmas (between 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025)

Priority will be given to those organisations working in deprived areas and where activities are taking place over the Christmas holiday period.

Examples of activities funded include: the provision of a meal on Christmas Day, group social events, and support for day care centres/community spaces providing services over the festive period.

#### **Key Criteria**

Organisations with an annual income under £250,000 will be eligible to apply.

**Amounts available:** Max £750

Application deadlines: 23rd September 2024

# **Support for Serving Families Programme**

#### **Summary**

The programme, which is part of the Armed Forces Covenant Fund, is for projects that will help to mitigate the impact of long or frequent involuntary separation for families, spouses, and serving personnel, including reservists and their families.

Projects will need to address one or more following outcomes:

- Reduced impact of separation, loneliness, and isolation for Serving families.
- Improved mental health and wellbeing for Service families.
- Enhanced access to support and activities to improve quality of life.
- Support personnel to reintegrate into family and units post deployment.

# **Key Criteria**

Applications will be accepted from:

- A registered charity with substantial recent experience of supporting Armed Forces communities.
- Community interest Company (CIC) with substantial recent experience of supporting Armed Forces communities.
- An Armed Forces unit or base.

Amounts available: Between £5,000 and £15,000

Application deadlines: 25th September 2024

# Service Women: Seen and Heard Programme

#### **Summary**

Grants are available via the Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund's funding framework for UK registered charities, CICs, and Armed Forces Units to support projects that tackle the underlying issues unique to serving women (including reservists), providing improved access to support for their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

#### **Key Criteria**

Projects need to meet one of the following outcomes:

- Enabling Service women to choose activities and/or find advice that improves their wellbeing, either preventatively or at times of crisis.
- Opening up choices for Service women who may not otherwise know where to seek help for issues which specifically affect them.

In addition, projects must meet at least one of the programme themes:

- · Work-life balance, enjoying and achieving.
- Mental and physical health and wellbeing.
- Support for marginalised and minority women.

#### Amounts available:

The following grants are available:

- £25,000 to £50,000 towards a project being delivered over a one-year period.
- £25,000 to £100,000 towards a project being delivered over a two-year period.

**Application deadlines**: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 for a decision before the end of November 2024. Projects to start between December 2024 and March 2025

# **Veterans' Foundation**

#### **Summary**

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

#### **Key Criteria**

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

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

Amounts available: Maximum £75,000

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

# Alzheimer's Research UK - Inspire Fund - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

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

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

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

#### **Key Criteria**

Inspire Fund projects must meet both core criteria:

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

Grants will not be awarded to:

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

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

Application deadlines: 14th October 2024

# <u>Armed Forces Covenant - Free From Fear Programme - NEW GRANT</u>

#### Summary

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

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

#### **Key Criteria**

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

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

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

Application deadlines: 16th October 2024

# **Embedding Prevention of Veteran Suicide Programme**

#### **Summary**

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust will award grants for up to two years for projects which help to enable systemic change and long-term, sustainable impact, incorporating key findings from the Trust's One is Too Many programme.

Projects will need to address one of the three key outcomes:

- To support staff who work with vulnerable beneficiaries
- Address mental health wellbeing, help seeking, and stigma within the Armed Forces community
- To address the needs of under-represented groups

# **Key Criteria**

- To be eligible organisations must be either a registered charity or a statutory organisation.
- Charities which are newly registered or do not have substantial recent experience of supporting Armed Forces communities are not eligible

Amounts available: £50,000 (projects for one year) £100,000 (projects for two years)

Application deadlines: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

# **Veterans Capital Housing Fund – Major Capital Grants**

# **Summary**

Grants for charities and registered social housing providers with at least five year's housing experience to support new builds and significant refurbishments, including extensions, of rental accommodation offering high quality support for veterans with a housing need.

#### Projects should:

- Enable major refurbishments of existing social rented or affordable rented homes for veterans.
- Enable extensions of existing buildings to increase the availability of veteran housing.
- Increase the number of new build, homes/housing units available to veterans at affordable or social rents.
- Ensure properties meet decent homes and energy efficiency standards.

# **Key Criteria**

### Applicants must:

- Be either a registered charity, that has been registered in the UK for at least three years and can show it works with Veterans or a registered social housing provider that can show it works with Veterans.
- Have ownership of the facility or a lease of 10 or more years.
- Have at least five years' relevant social housing experience.
- Be able to show the majority of their organisation's work is with veterans or the predominant beneficiaries of this specific project would be veterans.

Amounts available: Between £75,000 and £500,000

**Application deadlines**: Round 3 is now open for Expressions of Interest with a deadline of 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025

# Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

# **Barclays Community Football Fund**

# **Summary**

The Barclays Community Football Fund aims to help improve access to football for all. The funding is for groups that are running football activities for one or more of the following underrepresented groups:

- women and girls
- young people with disabilities
- young people from racially diverse communities
- young people from the LGBTQ+ community
- young people from lower socio-economic groups

# **Key Criteria**

The funding can be used for anything that will support delivery of football activities to underrepresented groups. Typical examples of costs might include a contribution towards:

- Venue hire including floodlights and heating
- Coaching costs
- Volunteer expenses
- Equipment
- Kit
- Marketing and communications
- Training and qualifications
- Insurances and affiliation

The funding should support engaging under-represented young people, particularly girls, and get them involved in football activities.

Amounts available: Maximum £1,000

Application deadlines: 15th September 2024

# **Art Fund – Student Opportunities**

#### **Summary**

The aim of this funding is to help museums, galleries and visual arts organisations provide paid opportunities for full-time university students to gain meaningful, developmental work experience that enables them to explore their interest in the arts, and related future career options, before they graduate.

It will fund the costs associated with paying students for the time they spend supporting the organisation in delivering projects. This is based on the current national and London living wage rates.

# **Key Criteria**

Applications will be considered from UK public museums, galleries, historic houses, libraries, archives, agencies and other visual arts organisations that:

- Have a public presence (e.g. a building open to the public) or a public outcome (e.g. a festival or public art programme)
- Can demonstrate that they operate to standards of best practice within the sector (e.g. through Arts Council England Accreditation)

Please note that a project must not have started/employment commenced before a decision has been made on the application.

Amounts available: Max £10,000

Application deadlines: 25th September 2024

#### Twinkl - Community Collection Prize Draw - NEW GRANT

#### Summary

Grants are available to schools and educational organisations across the UK seeking funding to kickstart projects that will benefit their students.

The Twinkl Community Collection Prize Draw will help fund any project, such as:

- setting up a breakfast club
- resourcing after-school activities
- purchasing new playground equipment
- upgrading an ICT suite
- kickstarting big projects

# **Key Criteria**

Applications should be submitted by a member of the Senior Leadership Team on behalf of the school.

Amounts available: Maximum £500

**Application deadlines**: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (Applications are accepted year-round, with winners randomly selected each month).

# <u>Active Together - Young People Physical Activity & Sport Hardship Fund</u> – NEW GRANT

#### Summary

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

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

#### Priority will be given to:

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

# **Key Criteria**

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

Amounts available: Not disclosed

#### **Application deadlines:**

Round 1 closes 6th October 2024

Round 2 closes 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

#### **Weaver's Company Benevolent Fund**

#### **Summary**

Grants are available for UK registered charities and charitable incorporated organisations based and working in the UK that can demonstrate impact with ex-offenders, young offenders or young people at risk of offending.

The funding is intended for registered charities working to:

- Support offenders and ex-offenders into work, specifically for those looking to build skills and capability to get into sustainable work.
- Help specific groups within the criminal justice sector that are less popular with funders than others
- Support young people (up to 25 years) from disadvantaged and socio-economically challenged groups, such as immigrants, to ensure they are given every possible chance to realise their full potential and to participate fully in society.

#### **Key Criteria**

The funding can be used for:

- Pump-priming particularly where the grant would support a project piloting new approaches and where that grant would form a major element of the funding or where it would be matched by other funders.
- Project funding preference is to support projects where the grant is used for an identified purpose.
- Associated project costs applicants should include the cost of any overheads associated with the work, such as office/secretarial support, so that the project is not under-funded.
- Core costs for new projects including staff salaries, training and overheads that enable an organisation to develop and maintain expertise.
- Innovative or pioneering work new ideas are encouraged and projects that could inspire similar work in other areas of the country.

Amounts available: Discretionary: Small Grants of up to £5,000 or Large Grants with no set limit.

**Application deadlines**: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 for consideration in February 2025

# **Dept. For Education – Senior Mental Health Lead Training**

#### **Summary**

The Department for Education (DfE) is offering grants for eligible state-funded schools and colleges in England to train a senior mental health lead to develop and implement a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

This training is not compulsory, but it is part of the government's commitment to offer this training to all eligible schools and colleges by 2025.

Grants will be provided to cover (or contribute to) the cost of attending a quality assured course and may also be used to hire supply staff whilst leads are engaged in training.

#### **Key Criteria**

All state-funded education settings that are in receipt of ESFA pre-16 revenue, high needs block, or 16 to 19 programme funding are eligible.

The training course must be a DfE assured senior mental health lead training course and the training must start by 31 March 2025.

Amounts available: Maximum £1,200

**Application deadlines**: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 (deadline to submit the initial application and reserve a grant for training). A second form needs to be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 to then claim the grant.

# **Leslie Sell Charitable Trust** - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

The Grant scheme is only open to Scouting and Guiding groups in the UK and Northern Ireland. Groups can apply for funding for UK or overseas trips, for new start-up Scout or Guide units, replacement of camping or other equipment, one off events, small scale building works, repairs or alterations to huts.

The Trustees are looking to support UK camping trips before overseas trips.

#### **Key Criteria**

Grant applications are received from Groups belonging to the Scout or Guide movement by way of a covering letter, together with an Application Form completed by the Group leader.

Unfortunately the Trustees are unable to consider applications for trips submitted within four months of your proposed departure or event date due to processing times.

Please note – The Trust will only consider applications for small scale building works where the total value of the works does not exceed £20,000 in cost.

The Trustees will consider only one application, per year for a grant, in order that the Trust can assist as many groups as possible.

Amounts available: Between £75 and £1,000

**Application deadlines**: Open (applications are assessed monthly throughout the year, but please be aware grants can take several months to process particularly at times of high demand).

# Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

# **Leeds Building Society Foundation**

# **Summary**

The Leeds Building Society Foundation offers small grants to UK registered charities for projects which address one or more of the following themes:

- Financial stress projects that help with bills or debt stress.
- Security and refuge projects that support emergency accommodation.
- · Quality and suitability of housing.
- Health and wellbeing support for those experiencing homelessness

#### **Key Criteria**

- Small grants are available for charities anywhere in the UK that have a turnover of less than £1 million.
- Grants may only be used for capital expenditure (that is, to purchase items used to directly help those in need).
- If you applied for a small grant, you can apply for funding again, but not for the same items of expenditure

Amounts available: Between £250 and £1,000

Application deadlines: 9th September 2024 and 11th November 2024

# **SCOPS Arts Trust – NEW GRANT**

# **Summary**

The overarching aim is to give people of all ages opportunities to understand, participate in and enjoy the performing arts.

The Trust has a focused grant-making approach to each of the three grants rounds per year, inviting applications for a particular area of the performing arts, different in each grants round.

Currently it is inviting Stage 1 applications from instrumental or choral groups for adults, as well as applications for children's music education projects.

Most of grants are for projects but it will consider contributions towards specific core costs of smaller organisations where a grant from Scops Arts Trust could make an impact.

#### **Key Criteria**

- Whilst it does not exclude large charities, applications from small to medium sized organisations will be looked on more favourably.
- It will only support projects or programmes which have yet to begin. It does not fund retrospective costs
- It will not support projects with the primary purpose of health, therapy or social welfare

Amounts available: Maximum £15.000

Application deadlines: 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

# Community Energy Fund - Midlands - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

The Community Energy Fund (CEF) is a £10 million grant scheme for urban and rural communities to develop community energy projects, including local renewable and low carbon energy projects (such as wind farms, hydro power and rural heat networks, community electric vehicle projects (such as electric vehicle charging points and electric car clubs) and energy efficiency retrofit and advice projects (where there is local need and a gap in existing services and where there is a business model for a sustainable service).

The Fund aims to empower local people to take control of their energy future by:

- Increasing the number of community-owned low-carbon energy assets
- Supporting communities to reduce energy cost and demand
- Generating local income through community-owned energy assets
- Reinvesting income locally and kickstarting private investment
- · Supporting local jobs, growth and volunteering opportunities
- Enabling places to benefit from clean, renewable, local energy

#### **Key Criteria**

Applications must be led by legally constituted voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations. Town or Parish Councils are also eligible to apply.

Funding is provided in two stages:

- Stage 1 Feasibility grants of up to £40,000.
- Stage 2 Development grants of up to £100,000.

Stage 1 grants (of up to £40,000) can pay for professional support to scope project feasibility.

Stage 2 grants (of up to £100,000) are available for projects that have been found to be feasible, with a good chance of securing planning permission and being implemented, to cover more detailed investigation of the relevant technology, planning applications, advanced landowner agreements and development of a robust business case to attract sufficient investment.

Amounts available: Maximum £100,000

Application deadlines: 13th September 2024 and 8th November 2024

#### Neat Streets \* - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

To help support local authorities tackle litter and recycling, grant funding is available to help replicate a Hubbub campaign in their area to support litter reduction and may also boost recycling.

The grant can be used to support the purchase of new bins and signage, events and the development of a campaign.

The campaign should be based on one of the following Neat Streets Campaigns:

- Tidy Roadsides targeted at drivers and roadside litter
- [Name of city]'s Binning (e.g. Leicester Binning) targeted towards young adults and aimed at urban environments
- Love Your Forest targeted towards visitors to forests and other areas of natural beauty
- Neat Streets targeted at tourists to the beach
- In The Loop targeted to tackling recycling on-the-go in towns and cities

#### **Key Criteria**

- The intended applicants for the grant fund are local authorities, or those who manage public realm space such as Business Improvement districts, Transport Hubs, Major property owners and Charities
- Applicants are expected to co-invest £5,000 into the campaign to create a project budget of £15,000
- Projects will receive 80% of the funding upfront, 10% at project launch and 10% on completion of the project
- The projects will be expected to be ready to launch within 3 months of receiving the grant

**Amounts available**: Maximum £10,000 (Please note there are only 5 grants to be awarded over the next 12 months)

**Application deadlines**: First closing date  $13^{th}$  September 2024 (aim to allocate 1-2 grants, every 3 months).

#### **Matthew Good Foundation – Grants for Good**

#### **Summary**

Grants for Good is funded by the John Good Group and is designed to direct funding only to small and growing local charities, voluntary groups or social enterprises that are making a big impact on communities, people or the environment.

#### **Key Criteria**

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a local community group, charity, voluntary group or social enterprise that has a positive impact on communities, people or the environment.
- Have an average income of less than £50,000 in the last 12 months.
- Have a bank account in the organisation's name.

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

#### **Application deadlines:**

15<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (for applications to be awarded funding in November 2024)

15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (for applications to be awarded funding in February 2025)

#### Which? Fund

#### **Summary**

Funding is available for new research projects exploring the consumer harms faced by diverse and disadvantaged communities or identifying innovative solutions to these issues.

Two funding calls are available:

- Projects exploring consumer harms experienced by diverse and disadvantaged communities, such as women, people living with disabilities or health conditions, low-income households or members of diverse ethnic communities.
- Projects exploring consumer harms experienced by diverse and disadvantaged communities in digital markets, where information asymmetries, malign online choice architecture, automated decision-making, AI interfaces, dynamic pricing and other characteristics of digital markets can place consumers at a distinct disadvantage, and some groups may face greater detriment than others.

### **Key Criteria**

The Summer 2024 call offers restricted grant funding to support work aiming to:

- Improve understanding of consumer harm affecting diverse and disadvantaged communities, including novel harms in digital markets.
- Identify evidence-led, pragmatic solutions to consumer harm.
- Develop partnerships and encourage collaborative working to provide a more powerful voice for all UK consumers.

The funding is for specific, strategic projects, with the potential to benefit large numbers of people by changing policy, regulation or practice.

For charities, the funding will cover staff salaries and a reasonable amount of core costs/ overheads, in proportion to the size of the project. Capital costs for equipment will only be funded where specifically required to complete a project.

Amounts available: Discretionary, from a total £75,000 available

Application deadlines: 16th September 2024

# Esmée Fairbairn - Collections Fund

#### **Summary**

Grants are available to museums and galleries in the UK to improve their inclusive collections and participatory practice with, and sometimes led by, community partners.

#### The fund aims to:

- Support work that furthers the established strategic aims of the applicants in relation to
  diversity, equity and inclusion, and that are ready to use their collections and the funding to
  support social and climate justice, in ways that are relevant to local contexts and relationships.
- Offer core funding to museums, to offer greater flexibility and support embedded change in organisations.
- Enhance its learning from grantees and share this with the wider museum sector, for example foregrounding leading practice in funded museums and undertaking research with action learning sets.

#### **Key Criteria**

- Priority will be given to smaller and medium-sized organisations where funding of this size can make the most difference in the long term.
- Successful applicants are required to join the Collections Network and should reserve resources to allow at least one to two people to attend network meetings at least twice a year.
- Museum-sector applicants should be members of the Museums Association.
- Applicants, or one applicant in a partnership, are normally expected to be accredited (or working towards this).
- Applicants must have a safeguarding policy to protect people with whom they work.
- Museums that have previously received project funding are welcome to apply again to the Collections Fund for work that builds on their experience.

Amounts available: Between £40,000 and £100,000 (over up to three years)

**Application deadlines**: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (for expressions of interest)

#### Serving Families: On the Move Programme 2024-25 - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

The Serving Families funding programme (part of the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust's new three-year Funding Framework) is intended to support early intervention projects that assist military families in accessing services as they relocate. These initiatives will help families integrate into their new communities and build lasting friendships.

#### **Key Criteria**

UK-based registered charities can apply for funding for projects that contribute towards at least one of the following outcomes:

- Provide families with ongoing information about available resources when relocating to unfamiliar areas.
- Provide families with access to enjoyable resources that meet their needs and improve wellbeing.
- Reduce isolation and loneliness by helping families build support networks.

This might include projects that:

- Provide early intervention support to prevent issues escalating and help families make informed choices.
- Engage Service families effectively with a range of support on issues that matter to them.
- Inform Service families of existing statutory and welfare provision, and ensure it is available and accessible when they need it most.
- Build capacity for Service families by increasing awareness of, and improving links and referrals to, existing services and complementing existing welfare provision.

The direct and primary beneficiaries must be current serving Armed Forces personnel, Reservists (including RFA Royal Fleet Auxiliary) and their families.

Amounts available: Maximum £120,000

**Application deadlines**: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (for a decision before the end of December 2024). There is also a further deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 (for a decision before the end of March 2025).

# **HM Govt. – Community Automated External Defibrillators Fund**

#### **Summary**

Grants are available for community organisations across England to buy automated external defibrillators (AED) to install in a public place.

The funding will be allocated on the following basis:

- 100 applications will be selected by DHSC to receive a fully funded AED selection is based on areas that are most in need of AED throughout England. Applicants will be advised in mid-October and units shipped in mid-November.
- 1,900 applications will receive partial DHSC funding for an AED organisations will be required to provide their own match funding (£750)

The funding for the scheme is based on a first come first served basis.

### **Key Criteria**

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be based in England.
- Not be an organisation that is eligible for the Department of Education scheme, e.g., a school.
- Locate the secure defibrillator cabinet outside in an area that is accessible to members of the public 24 hours per day.
- Be able to provide an electrical power source to ensure the defibrillator cabinet light and heater operate to keep the device at the right temperature.
- Provide match funding for their application (c. £750).

Amounts available: Maximum £750

**Application deadlines**: 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024 or until all the funding has been allocated, whichever comes first.

# Change X - World Mental Health Day Community Fund - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

World Mental Health Day is on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Organisations are invited to apply to start or expand projects that positively impact the mental health and well-being of their community. There are two approaches:

**Apply to start an idea in your community** - Access funding and guidance to start proven ideas, designed by our community of social innovators:

- Mental Health Community Connect allows communities to come together in a safe space with computer and internet access, to utilise two digital tools to collectively empower and up-skill.
   Learn how you can A.S.K. and earn your #BeThereCertificate, to support the mental health of your loved ones and community.
- Sidewalk Talk Listen with Us on Public Sidewalks to Boost Mental Health, Inclusion, and Compassion in Communities Everywhere
- Open Seat Mindful Meals Host a meal-sharing moment with others to discuss healthy responses to mental health issues

**Apply with your own community project** - Access funding for a community project that you have designed or already started.

Please note that there is a different application process for the two approaches.

# **Key Criteria**

- Individuals and informal organisations can apply for and receive funding for one project at a time
- Legally registered organisations can apply for and receive funding for up to three different projects at a time
- Each approach requires a 30-day challenge to be completed a series of simple steps that each starter will have to go through in order to unlock funding
- For starting a proven idea funding is allocated to those who successfully complete the 30-day challenge on a first-come, first-served basis
- Applicants with their own community project will be informed of the application decision by 31<sup>st</sup>
  October 2024

Amounts available: Up to £1,600 per project

**Application deadlines**: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 (application deadline for 'Apply with your own community project' applicants only).

If applying to start a proven idea in your community, there is a short application form, but no deadline.

# **HM Govt. – Memorial Grant – NEW GRANT**

#### **Summary**

Registered Charities and Faith groups can apply for funding towards the costs of VAT on the construction, repair and maintenance of public memorial structures, for work which took place on or after 16 March 2005.

#### **Key Criteria**

- Funding can only be provided for works that have already taken place. You cannot apply for funding in advance of future works.
- If the work is ongoing, you can only apply for part-funding for parts of the work which have been completed.
- Local authorities are not eligible to apply for this grant, as they do not incur VAT costs for maintaining public memorials.
- Memorials must be public (not private), be a structure or involve construction, have a commemorative purpose, be accessible to the public and have no other purpose.

Amounts available: Not disclosed

**Application deadlines**: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (Applications are assessed every 3 months)

# **The Naturesave Trust** - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

The Trust focuses on small projects for charities, social enterprises and grassroots community organisations whose activities are based within the UK.

The Trust operates funding windows each year to help it manage demand and make a fair assessment of the applications it receives.

The theme of the September – October 2024 funding window is energy efficiency. Grants are available for charities, voluntary organisations and businesses to enhance building energy efficiency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants and conserve water.

#### **Key Criteria**

- Grants are made to projects which specifically address the needs set out in the latest funding window and fall under the broad objective of promoting and implementing sustainable development.
- The organisation and/or project must have a website or social media presence.
- The Naturesave Trust no longer provide grants for schools.

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

**Application deadlines**: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (The Trust conducts three funding windows per year (January to February then May to June and September to October).

# **NFU Mutual Charitable Trust**

#### **Summary**

NFU Mutual Charitable Trust is offering grants for organisations working in agriculture, rural development, and insurance across the UK to deliver projects and activities across one or more of the Trust's main objectives:

- To advance the education of the public using research and dissemination of information concerning agriculture.
- To advance the education of young people within rural areas.
- To relieve poverty within rural areas.
- To promote the benefit and social welfare of inhabitants of rural communities by associating together with the inhabitants and local authorities, voluntary and other organisations to advance education and leisure.
- To promote research into agricultural-associated activities.
- To advance the education of the public using research and dissemination of information concerning insurance.

# **Key Criteria**

- Priority will be given to larger initiatives that would have a significant impact on rural communities, as well as initiatives in the areas of education of young people in rural areas and relief of poverty within rural areas.
- Match funding is not required but it is welcomed.
- It is not necessary to be a registered charity to apply as long as the funding is for charitable purposes.

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

**Application deadlines**: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

#### Harborough District Council – Community Grant Fund – NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

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

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

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

#### **Key Criteria**

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

#### Amounts available:

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

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

#### Leicestershire Ukrainian Community Grant 2024-25 - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Key Criteria**

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

Amounts available: Maximum £5,000

#### **Application deadlines:**

Round 1 closes 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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

#### WCIT Charity - IT4Good - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

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

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

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

# **Key Criteria**

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

Amounts available: Maximum £15,000

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

# Green King IPA - Proud to Pitch In

#### **Summary**

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

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

Examples of projects that have previously received funding include:

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

# **Key Criteria**

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

Amounts available: Maximum £4,000

**Application deadlines**: Open to applications all year but the scheme closes 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

# Road Safety Trust - Autumn Round \*

#### **Summary**

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

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

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

Two grants are available:

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

#### **Key Criteria**

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

#### Amounts available:

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

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

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

# The Tree Council - Branching out Fund - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

Grants for Parish and Town Councils, community groups, schools, small registered charities, and Tree Warden Networks seeking to establish trees, hedgerows, and orchards.

#### **Key Criteria**

- Groups seeking retrospective funding for projects that have already started or have been completed are not eligible
- All projects must have planted and submitted a claim form before midnight on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025
- Grants will be paid after planting has taken place, upon submission of a claim form, receipts and evidence of planting
- There are specific criteria on the size of tree, tree species and type of tree protection that will be funded

Amounts available: Between £250 and £2,500 Application deadlines: 1st December 2024

# International Tree Foundation - UK Community Tree Planting \*

### **Summary**

Grants are available for community-based organisations across the UK to deliver tree-planting projects that protect and restore indigenous trees and woodlands, support community engagement in tree planting, and increase awareness of the importance of trees and forests to environmental and human well-being.

There are two funding streams:

- Grants for community woodland/hedging projects that range from 100 to 25,000 trees planted per year, with a maximum price equivalent to £1.95 per tree.
- Grants for community orchard projects of up to 30 trees planted per year.

# **Key Criteria**

Community-based organisations, such as a school, community group, social enterprise, non-governmental organisation, or parish council, can apply.

Projects should meet the following essential criteria:

- Plant trees in public/publicly accessible spaces: sites that are readily accessible to the public, including schools, parks, rights of way, and sites managed by community groups.
- Plant indigenous tree species: this may include traditional fruit trees and 'honorary' natives where appropriate.
- Engage community members in tree planting and enjoying the benefits of woodlands.
- Have clear plans for maintenance and sustainability.
- Have a signed permission from the owner or manager of the land indicating that their project meets legal requirements.

Amounts available: Grant amounts are per tree planted. Maximum amounts not disclosed

Application deadlines: 13th December 2024

# **Arnold Clark Community Fund**

#### **Summary**

Grants are available for UK registered charities and other not-for-profit organisations for projects, including those whose work directly supports those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis, which are embedded in the communities in which Arnold Clark operates in England, Scotland or Wales.

#### **Key Criteria**

In 2024, the Arnold Clark Community Fund offers the following support:

- Cost of Living Support funding to any registered UK charity or community group whose
  work directly supports those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis, such as foodbanks,
  accommodation, poverty relief and where people/communities in the UK are the primary and
  immediate focus of investment.
- Our Communities Support funding to projects embedded in the communities in which Arnold Clark operates and is available to organisations who provide services widely accessible to those within Arnold Clark local communities, addressing the needs of those living within them.
- **Gear Up for Sport** 150 sports kits given away each month to support youth sports teams across the UK. Any youth team with up to 30 members aged 4 to 15 years can apply.

Projects applying for 'Our Communities Support' must address one of the following categories:

- Animal welfare (benefiting humans)
- Arts and culture
- Community development
- Disability
- Education
- Recreation
- Relief support
- Mental health support

Applications are only eligible if they are made by an organisation that is based/operates solely in the UK and is located within 50 miles of an Arnold Clark branch.

Amounts available: Maximum £2,500

Application deadlines: 31st December 2024

# **Parkinson's UK- Physical Activity Grants**

#### **Summary**

Grants are available for activity providers, communities, networks and organisations across the UK to develop new opportunities for people with Parkinson's to become and stay active or help increase their levels of physical activity.

The funding is for projects that can demonstrate the following desired impact:

- People with Parkinson's become and stay active, and/or significantly increase their levels of activity if they are already active
- More physical activity provision for everyone with Parkinson's across the UK
- Improved social wellbeing in people with Parkinson's as a result of attending the project

Priority will be given to innovative and new projects that will help people with Parkinson's:

- Become and stay active, or
- Who are already active to significantly increase their levels of physical activity

#### **Key Criteria**

Applications will be accepted from activity providers, national governing bodies, Parkinson's groups and branches, and sports and healthcare professionals.

Projects must last for between three and 12 months and start within three months of receiving a grant.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Have a business bank account.
- Consult with a local staff member of Parkinson's UK and enter their name in the application form.
- Be able to explain how they intend to reach and engage with their target community or audience and how they will promote the project.
- Explain how they plan to continue the activities and ensure their longevity and continuing impact after the funding ends.

Amounts Available: Between £500 and £3,000

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

# Arts Council England - Creative People and Places 2026-2029 - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

The goal of the Arts Council's Creative People and Places programme is to ensure that everyone can access culture and express creativity, fostering thriving communities through inclusive and collaborative cultural approaches.

Funding is available to partnerships of organisations for a three-year period (from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2029) for projects in the following eligible geographical areas:

- Leicester
- Hinckley & Bosworth
- North West Leicestershire
- Oadby & Wigston

Applications must be submitted by a consortium of partner organisations. Individual organisations cannot apply.

# **Key Criteria**

Projects will need to achieve the following aims and outcomes:

- Engage more people from eligible places in a wide range of arts and cultural experiences as audiences and/or participants.
- Empower communities to lead and shape local cultural provision.
- Excellence and relevance in both the engagement process and the creative and cultural experiences on offer.
- Encourage partnerships between publicly funded, amateur, voluntary, community and commercial sectors, as well as collaboration across various cultural institutions.
- Take an Action Research approach to community engagement in arts, creativity, and culture; learn what works best and share that learning.

Amounts available: Minimum £750,000, Maximum £1 million

Application deadlines: Opens on 12th September 2024, Closes on 16th January 2025

#### Co-operative Bank - Customer Donation Fund - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

Community Directplus customers (organisations: registered charities, co-operatives, credit unions and community-interest companies) can apply for a grant to support their special projects and fundraising activities.

Projects should enhance the community or the environment.

#### **Key Criteria**

To be eligible to apply for the fund you must hold a Community Directplus account.

Amounts available: Max £1000

Application deadlines: Open all year.

Applications received from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September are assessed in October. Applications received from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> March are assessed in April.

#### **Architectural Heritage Fund – NEW GRANT**

#### **Summary**

Funding is available to help not-for-profit organisations cover some of the costs of developing and co-ordinating their historic building project and taking it towards the start of work on site. To qualify, organisations must have established that the end use of the project is likely to be viable and have decided to take the project forward. At the end of the funded work, organisations should be at or closer to securing capital funding to enable the delivery of their project.

#### **Key Criteria**

Grants typically will support appointing professional advisors to work with the organisation to advance their plans. This can include:

- architects, surveyors, and engineers to develop the designs and plans for the historic building.
- additional support to build the capacity of the organisation by employing or contracting a project manager.
- support with refining the business plan, building community engagement and preparing funding bids.

#### Amounts available:

Project Viability Grants - up to £15,000 (for early-stage work on historic building projects)

Project Development Grants - up to £20,000 (for development work and coordination for historic building projects)

**Application deadlines**: Open for expressions of interest. Eligible organisations will then be invited to submit a full application, within three months.

# Midlands Net Zero Hub - Community Energy Fund - NEW GRANT

#### **Summary**

The grant scheme for urban and rural communities to develop energy services to benefit their local area. The funding will help to kickstart clean energy projects including small-scale wind farms and rooftop solar partnerships, as well as battery storage, rural heat networks, electric vehicle charging points. It can also be used to fund fuel poverty alleviation schemes such as energy efficiency, retrofit, and advice projects.

The grant scheme aims to empower local people to take control of their energy future by:

- Increasing the number of community-owned low-carbon energy assets
- Supporting communities to reduce energy cost and demand
- Generating local income through community-owned energy assets
- Reinvesting income locally and kickstarting private investment
- Supporting local jobs, growth and volunteering opportunities
- Enabling places to benefit from clean, renewable, local energy

There are two grants available:

- Stage 1 Feasibility Grant to produce a feasibility study to establish the technical and financial viability of a project
- Stage 2 Development Grant for a more detailed investigation of the technology, for planning applications and to develop a business case.

#### **Key Criteria**

- The grant scheme is open to a wide range of community-based organisations including Sports Clubs, Faith Groups, Trusts, Charities and Parish and Town Councils.
- Applicants need to show that a good level of community engagement has been carried out and that there is genuine community support for the project, including plans for ongoing community engagement.

#### Amounts available:

Stage 1 Feasibility Grant up to £40,000

Stage 2 Development Grant of up to £100,000

**Application deadlines**: Open. The Midlands Hub has a rolling application process. Applications received by the hub will be reviewed at a board review meeting, the dates of the board review meetings are 9<sup>th</sup> August and 8<sup>th</sup> November.

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

# **Voluntary Action Leicestershire**



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

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

You can also sign up for further e-bulletins from VAL, including news, events, funding opportunities and updates from the Government and Charity Commission. There are currently two newsletters which you can select to receive by ticking the appropriate box. At present funding and commissioning items are included in the voluntary sector support newsletter.

### **Events and Training:**

# Future Focus 2024

VAL's annual Future Focus event is taking place on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Beaumanor Hall, from 9.30am to 3.30pm. The theme for this year' Future Focus is 'Network, Inspire and Connect'. This is an occasion for organisations to come together with their peers, hear inspiring stories, engage in thought provoking conversations and celebrate all the great work that the VCSE achieves in Leicester and Leicestershire.

Places to attend Future Focus can be booked on Eventbrite.

#### **Contact Details:**

VAL website

Tel: 0116 2575050

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:**

**CASE** website

Tel: 0116 222 5010

Email: enquiries@case.coop

# **Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation**



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

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

#### **Contact Details:**

Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation Website

Tel: 0116 262 4916

Email: grants@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 4,200 retailers including Argos, Amazon, Just eat and Booking.com. It doesn't cost the shopper a penny more so it's an easy way for your community to support your organisation just by shopping online as they usually would.

Easy Fundraising Website

#### **Leicestershire Communities Website**



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

Leicestershire Communities Grants and Funding Webpage