

Applying for funding

Guide for small charities and community groups

**MARCH
2020**

How to prepare a funding application

Applying for funding can seem daunting, the applications often use their own jargon and require some paperwork. While this might seem overwhelming, it is manageable and worth the effort.

This guide helps to breakdown the application process; tells you where to get more information and support; and lists some grant funders that might be suitable for your community group.

Who can apply funding and what for

- Always check eligibility criteria from the funding body's website.
- Most grants are only made available for charities and community interest organisations.
- In some cases 'charity' means any charitable organisation and in others a registered charity.
- There are different size grants for different purposes, check that your project or activity falls under the remit of that particular funding scheme.

For a successful grant application, make it easy for funders to understand:

- How you plan to spend the grant,
- What you want to achieve with the funding, and
- Why your organisation is well placed to deliver the project.

Think about these when doing a funding application

- Be clear what you want to achieve with the activity; describe what your aims and objectives are.
 - Your **aim** is the reason the activity or project exists. For example:
 - To improve quality of life for people living with dementia.
 - Your **objectives** describe how the activity or project will achieve your aim. For example:
 - Provide meaningful activity for people living with dementia;
 - Provide social interaction for people living with dementia, and
 - Offer information and support for people living with dementia.
- Purpose of the funding application:



- What you are applying the funding for.
 - include details of expenditure;
- What are you hoping to achieve with the funding.
- Think about how you will monitor the effectiveness of the project (if this is required for that grant, see SRP Evaluation Guide for more information)

What do you need to include with a grant funding application?

- Each grant funder gives details of the type of information they need.
- Commonly requested information about the organisation include:
 - Financial statements,
 - Track record of your organisation's activities:, annual or evaluation reports, statements from members, newspaper articles, or any other information about the organisations' previous work and successes.

There are also many other sources of funding to consider: donations from supporters, online crowdfunding, and many organisations such as supermarkets offer either one off grants or donations of goods.

Where to get more information and support

The grant funding organisations have a lot of information on their website, and welcome questions via email or telephone.

Social Research Partners

Part of our work is to support organisations to develop funding bids.

Contact us to discuss your organisation's support needs in relation to funding applications and evaluation of projects. We're always excited to hear about ideas and plans, and to discuss how we can support you to make these happen.



Other sources of support and information

Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation offers support for voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector in Greater Manchester
<https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/>

Other useful websites about grant funding:

<https://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org/our-network>

<https://mycommunity.org.uk/funding-options/raising-finance-options/grants/>

http://www.fundingforall.org.uk/fund_category/older-people/

Grant foundations

In this section we focus on grant foundations that provide funding particularly for charities and community groups supporting older people. The above links provide a useful starting point for researching what funding is available for other groups.

Allen Lane Foundation

What for: Various groups and activities including older people; aim in this category is to reduce loneliness and isolation, improve physical and mental wellbeing, help maintain independence and a quality of life for older people

Who can apply: Small registered charities, voluntary groups, and charitable organisations.

Amount: Maximum of £15,000, average grant is £5,000-£6,000.

Deadline: Several times a year

Link: <https://allenlane.org.uk/older-people/>

Barchester Healthcare Foundation

What for: Groups that support older people, adults with physical or learning disability, or mental health problems. In 2020 focus is about connecting or re-connecting people with others in their local community; applications that combat loneliness and enable people to be active and engaged.

Who can apply: Local group or small charity

Amount: Between £100 up to £5,000.

Deadline: www.bhcfoundation.org.uk



Bring Joy Foundation

What for: Events, activities or pastimes that bring the joy and fun back into ageing.

Who can apply: Only not-for-profit groups, organisations and charities that can demonstrate their commitment to creating activities to improve lives of the elderly.

Deadline: Launching a new scheme in November 2020

Link: www.bringjoyfoundation.org

Charles Hayward Foundation

What for: Preventative and early intervention programmes that allow older people to stay in their own homes and remain independent. Mention specifically social isolation and depression in older people; use of volunteers; older carers; dementia.

Who can apply: Registered charities.

Deadline: Open – review applications every few months

Amount: Up to £7,000

Link: <http://www.charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk/older-people/>

Concertina Charitable Trust

What for: For smaller charities providing music for the elderly

Who can apply: Charitable bodies which provide musical entertainment and activities for the elderly.

Amount: Maximum £250.

Deadline: April 30th and October 31st each year.

Link: www.concertinamusic.org.uk

The Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust

What for: For charities that support older people

Who can apply: Registered charities based in Lancashire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Cheshire and Merseyside. Preference given to small to medium size charities.

Deadline: Trustees review applications three times a year: March, July, and November.

Link: www.peeltrust.com



Foyle Foundation

What for: One-year grants for core costs, equipment, capital or project funding to charities which can show that a grant will make a significant difference to their work.

Who can apply: UK charities that have an annual turnover of less than £150,000. Priority given to charities that are working at grass roots and local community level.

Amount: £1,000 to £10,000

Deadline: Open

Link: www.foylefoundation.org.uk/small-grants-scheme/

Henry Smith Charity / Improving Lives-scheme

What for: Grants to charitable organisations that help people when other sources of support have failed, are inappropriate, or are not available. A wide range of target groups including older people. They fund residential, health and emotional support services. Priority to projects in areas of deprivation and where rural isolation can be demonstrated. Fund running costs, salaries and projects.

Who can apply: Charities and not-for-profit organisations only.

Amount: Grant size: £20k-£60k / year; length 1-3 years

Deadline: Open

Link: www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk

Irwell Valley Housing Association/ Boosting Communities

What for: Applications that bring long term benefits to whole community (one example they give is a dementia café); has to benefit communities that Irwell Valley Housing Association serves, check list on their website (including some areas of Bury)

Who can apply: Individuals, groups, charities and not-for-profits

Amount: Up to £25,000

Link: <https://www.irwellvalley.co.uk/about-us/irwell-valley-foundation/>



Jigsaw Foundation

What for: Jigsaw Foundation supports local projects, voted by residents of the housing association and reviewed against Jigsaw Group's Neighbourhood plans; Health, Wellbeing and Social Inclusion is one criteria. Funds for projects which make a difference to the lives of residents and their communities. The fund is open to charities, residents and community groups, voluntary organisations, social enterprises and local partner agencies.

Who can apply: Charities, resident and community groups, voluntary organisations, social enterprises

Amount: Up to £25,000 or over £25,000

Link: <https://foundation.jigsawhomes.org.uk/>

Music For All

What for: Grants are available to community groups and schools who would benefit from a “helping hand” to fulfil their potential in bringing music to their community.

Who can apply: UK based community groups and schools

Amount: Up to £2,500

Deadline: 3 times a year

Link: <http://musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/>

National Lottery

Several grant schemes, e.g. Awards for All and Reaching Communities

Who can apply: Voluntary or community organisations

What for: Projects that work to make positive changes in their community, could be community living in the same area, or people with similar interests or life experiences. Projects that: Bring people together and build strong relationships in and across communities; Improve the places and spaces that matter to communities; Help more people to reach their potential, by supporting them at the earliest possible stage.

Amounts: Awards for all: between £300 and £10,000; Reaching Communities: over £10,000

Deadline: Open

Link: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding>



Peter Kershaw Trust / Ordinary Grants

What for: For a wide variety of purposes under the general heading of "social welfare", e.g. to assist people with medical conditions, disabilities, to help the aged.

Who can apply: Registered charities operating in Greater Manchester

Amount: No maximum amount, previous grants vary from £250 to £10,000, typically £1,000 - £3,000

Deadline: Twice a year

Link: <http://www.peterkershawtrust.org/Grantsavailable/OrdinaryGrants>

Rayne Foundation

What for: Projects related to arts, health and wellbeing, education in its widest sense, and those that cover social issues. Focus is to connect communities, building bridges between marginalised groups and mainstream society, and to enable individuals to reach their full potential; including improved quality of life for carers and older people.

Who can apply: Charitable and not-for-profit organisations

Amount: Typically £10,000 - £20,000 per annum for up to 3 years

Link: <https://www.raynefoundation.org.uk/grants/uk/apply/guidelines>

The Sobell Foundation

What for: Provides grants to fund projects and activities for charities working in the following areas: medical care and treatment, including respite care and hospices, and care and support of the elderly.

Who can apply: Charities

Deadline: Open

Link: www.sobellfoundation.org.uk



Social Research Partners

Email: info@socialresearchpartners.co.uk

Website: www.socialresearchpartners.co.uk