

Monthly Funding Information March 2020

Below is a list of 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.

This information can also be accessed via the Leicestershire Communities [website](#) .

Please note that 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 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. The funding support you can access includes help with a funding search, 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, information, events, funding opportunities and job vacancies. More details can be seen on the VAL [website](#) or you can request support via <https://valonline.org.uk/contact/>

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

Funding for projects which support Adults (including older people, veterans and disabilities)	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Soil Association Food For Life -Small Grants	15th April 2020
Football Foundation – Grow the Game	31st May 2020
Comic Relief - Community Fund	Open

Funding for projects which support Young People (including young people with disabilities)	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Molly's Gift Small Grants Fund	9th March
Grow Wild - Youth Project Funding	30th March 2020
Soil Association Food For Life -Small Grants	15th April 2020
Bauer Media - Cash For Kids	Open
Comic Relief - Community Fund	Open
BlueSpark Foundation grants	Open

<u>Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes</u>	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
<u>WRAP – Resource Action Fund</u>	25 th March 2020
<u>Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council / VCS Partnership - Making a Difference in the Community</u>	27 th March 2020
<u>National Lottery Community Fund - Healthy Communities Together *</u>	27 th March 2020
<u>Power To Change- Community Business Bright Ideas Fund</u>	6 th April 2020
<u>Calor Rural Community Fund</u>	9 th April 2020
<u>Department for Transport - Rural Mobility Fund *</u>	30 th April 2020
<u>Road Safety Trust - Funding New Approaches to Road Safety *</u>	14 th May 2020
<u>Department for Transport - Restoring Your Railway Fund *</u>	5 th June 2020
<u>Local Giving - Magic Little Grants Fund</u>	31 st Oct 2020
<u>Dept. for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Funding for Flood-affected Areas</u>	Open
<u>Sport England – Community Asset Fund</u>	Open
<u>Lloyds Bank Foundation Grants</u>	Open
<u>David Cock Foundation - Growing Communities</u>	Open
<u>The Clothworkers' Foundation - Open Grants Programme</u>	Open
<u>Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation</u>	Open
<u>Home Office - Safer Streets Fund</u>	Opens April 2020
<u>Support available for your organisation</u>	

Funding for projects which support Adults

[Soil Association Food For Life -Small Grants](#)

Food for Life Get Togethers use the power of good food to connect people of all ages and from different backgrounds to get more people eating healthily, strengthen communities and reduce loneliness and social isolation.

The money could support your first intergenerational community Get Together or if you've already held one, this grant could support another food gathering, ensuring sustainability and helping 'Getting Together' to become something your community just does! Alternately, you might fancy hosting a larger event with the help of this funding. The grant is simply about enabling people of different generations in your community to Get Together through good food.

The grant is open to nurseries, care homes and not-for-profit settings including, but not limited to: schools, community health and social care settings, community groups, housing associations, charities and local groups.

Small grants of between £50 - £150 are available.

The money can either be used for event costs (transport, marketing, food etc. or equipment (induction hobs, fridges, durable gardening tools, etc).

Application deadlines for 2020 are: 15th April, 17th June, 16th September and 11th November.

Football Foundation – Grow the Game

The Football Foundation has re-opened its “Grow the Game” grants scheme, aimed at supporting the involvement of traditionally underrepresented groups in community football. The focus is on creating new female and disability football teams.

Not-for-profit organisations are invited to apply for grants to cover costs associated with the creation of new affiliated football teams. Organisations can apply for grants of £1,500 for every new team created. A total of £1.5 million will be awarded in grants this year.

The funding can contribute towards a combination of the following essential costs:

- Facility hire.
- Referees fees.
- DBS checks.
- Affiliation fees.
- League entry.
- Promotion and publicity.
- FA coaching courses.
- Additional courses.
- Football kit/equipment (through a bespoke voucher).

This is an extremely popular scheme, and applications will be assessed on a first come first serve basis.

The final deadline for applications is 31st May 2020.

Comic Relief - Community Fund

Grants of up to £4,000 are available for small grassroots groups and charities in England either to help them develop their organisation or to deliver projects that fit with Comic Relief's four strategic themes. The programme will invest in grassroots community-led organisations to bring about lasting change and legacy for local people.

The Fund has four main objectives and will support innovative projects that will tackle Comic Relief's four core themes:

- **Children Survive & Thrive:** Projects that support children under the age of five to reach their potential and have the best start in life.
- **Fighting for Gender Justice:** Projects that improve equality for women, girls and initiatives that help people affected by domestic violence, abuse or exploitation due to their gender.
- **A Safe Place to Be:** Projects that support people who are rebuilding their lives because of homelessness or forced migration.
- **Mental Health Matters:** Projects that support good mental health in communities, improve access to support and tackle stigma and discrimination

Funding is available via:

- **Capacity Building Grants - up to £500** will support a wide range of activities, from developing better organisational governance, policies and procedures to increasing understanding of beneficiary needs, to increasing organisational delivery capacity.
- **Project Delivery Grants - up to £4,000** to run projects that address the core themes.

No application deadline publicised

Funding for projects which support Young People

Molly's Gift Small Grants Fund

Molly's Gift is a fundraising trust set up in honour of Loughborough Foxes Vixens captain, Molly Webb, who sadly passed away on 6th January 2019, at just 25 years old. The trust aims to provide funding opportunities for Children and Young People in sport and physical activity, particularly for disadvantaged children; something that was incredibly close to Molly's heart.

Up to £500 can be applied for by groups or individuals to benefit young people in sport and physical activity, whether this be through one off activities, to purchase equipment, pay for facilities or support an individual to take part. Ultimately, funds can support local youth sports clubs, primary schools or community projects to simply support a young person to smile through sport.

Closing date - 9th March 2020

Grow Wild - Youth Project Funding

Young people across the UK are invited to apply for grants for projects that celebrate UK native plants and fungi in a creative way. Applications can be submitted by young people (aged 14 to 25 years) for grants of £500 to run a wide range of creative projects that celebrate UK native plants and fungi in exciting and engaging ways. In this funding round a total of 50 projects will be supported.

Project ideas include:

- Creating visual art through painting or photography.
- Music, poetry or dance.
- Transforming a space in the local community.
- Designing a fashion collection.

The funding could be used to cover costs such as: materials, equipment, promotional information, refreshments, venue hire and workshops.

The project should be mainly run by the young people, but they need to work with a supporting organisation that will receive the funding on their behalf and support the project.

The supporting organisation must be an established and relevant organisation that is charitable in purpose or not for profit. In particular:

- Voluntary, youth or community groups.
- Education bodies (excluding primary schools).
- Arts charities.
- Local authorities or other council bodies.
- Health authorities.

The funding is available for projects starting from May 2020 onwards and projects have to be completed by October 2020.

The deadline for applications is 30th March 2020.

[Soil Association Food For Life -Small Grants](#)

Food for Life Get Togethers use the power of good food to connect people of all ages and from different backgrounds to get more people eating healthily, strengthen communities and reduce loneliness and social isolation.

The money could support your first intergenerational community Get Together or if you've already held one, this grant could support another food gathering, ensuring sustainability and helping 'Getting Together' to become something your community just does! Alternately, you might fancy hosting a larger event with the help of this funding. The grant is simply about enabling people of different generations in your community to Get Together through good food.

The grant is open to nurseries, care homes and not-for-profit settings including, but not limited to: schools, community health and social care settings, community groups, housing associations, charities and local groups.

Small grants of between £50 - £150 are available.

The money can either be used for event costs (transport, marketing, food etc. or equipment (induction hobs, fridges, durable gardening tools, etc).

Application deadlines for 2020 are: 15th April, 17th June, 16th September and 11th November.

[Bauer Media - Cash For Kids](#)

Grants of up to £2,000 are available for projects which help disadvantaged children in the Midlands. Cash for Kids, the official charity of Bauer Media, is now accepting applications for grant funding in the Midlands. The charity exists solely to help young people up to and including the age of 18 and provides funding to families, community projects & charities which support those living in poverty, with an illness or disability or whose circumstances mean they are unable to live life to the full.

A shared funding pot for the two Midlands based charities (Free Radio Cash for Kids & Gem's Cash for Kids) is now accepting applications for funding in advance of its current Cash for Kids Day fundraising campaign. Applications can only be made for young people that live in/registered charities that help young people in either the Free Radio or Gem Radio broadcast areas (or both).

Free Radio: Birmingham; Wolverhampton & the Black Country; Shropshire; Coventry & Warwickshire; Herefordshire & Worcestershire

Gem Radio: Nottinghamshire; Derbyshire; Leicestershire

Favourable consideration will be given to those projects which directly benefit a number/large number of children.

Please note: Applications for funding will be assessed following the completion of Bauer Media's Cash for Kids Day campaign, so applicants shouldn't expect to hear back regarding their application until mid-May 2020.

Comic Relief - Community Fund

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The Fund has four main objectives and will support innovative projects that will tackle Comic Relief's four core themes:

- **Children Survive & Thrive:** Projects that support children under the age of five to reach their potential and have the best start in life.
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No application deadline publicised

BlueSpark Foundation Grants

Schools, colleges and community groups in England can apply for grants to Blue Spark Foundation for a wide range of projects. The Foundation value academic, vocational, artistic and sporting endeavour in equal measure but are particularly keen to support projects which will help enhance the self-confidence, team working skills and future employability of children and young people.

Many grants will be under £2,000, most will be under £5,000 and only in a few cases will grants exceed £10,000.

Projects which could be supported include drama, music, sport, art and design, debating, public speaking, academic education, vocational training, community projects, enterprise projects and educational excursions. This list is illustrative and not exclusive as to the types of project that the Foundation support.

No application deadline

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

WRAP – Resource Action Fund

The Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has launched two new grant programmes through its £18 million Resource Action Fund, which supports resource efficiency projects and aims to reduce waste.

The 'Value from Food Waste' scheme supports new projects that can demonstrate the commercial potential of biochemical processing options for high-volume challenging / hard-to-tackle streams of wasted food. These grants will fund both revenue and capital expenditure costs with project values of between £20,000 and £100,000.

The 'Citizen Food Waste Behaviour Change' scheme will support projects that demonstrate new and proven citizen interventions that will encourage and influence citizens to reduce food waste. The aim is to support new, behaviour change interventions that encourage citizens to waste less food. This scheme will award grants of between £25,000 and £100,000 for both capital and revenue project expenditure.

Applications are accepted from small and medium-sized enterprises (both commercial and not-for-profit) that can supply surplus food (food providers, including commercial businesses, including manufacturers retailers etc) either directly to those in need, or to other organisations who do the same (food redistributors). Project activities must be based in England.

The deadlines are:

Value from Food Waste scheme is 26th March 2020

Citizen Food Waste Behaviour Change scheme is 25th March 2020.

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council / VCS Partnership - Making a Difference in the Community

The second round of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's VCS Partnership funding is now open. Existing or newly formed groups/organisations that offer valuable services to people across the Borough can benefit from grants of up to £3,000.

For projects to be eligible for funding, they would need to fit into one of the 6 themes:

- Reducing social isolation and loneliness, including safety information projects
- Maintaining good mental health and general wellbeing
- Independent living skills, life skills including getting into training/employment
- Health and Wellbeing through arts/crafts, music/theatre and heritage
- Health and Wellbeing through sport and healthy lifestyles
- Community Development projects shaped by the community for the community

Types of activities which have been previously supported include:

- Support for older people i.e. dementia support groups, luncheon clubs, friendship groups, etc.
- Gardening projects, Community allotments
- Projects supporting musicians and artists
- Sports and physical activities, including inclusive activities i.e. dancing, walking, tennis, sailing, indoor climbing, bowls, swimming etc
- Good Neighbour activities
- Support for groups providing arts and crafts activities, knitting clubs
- Healthy eating and cooking activities
- Counselling/ Therapeutic support
- Support groups for Carers

Closing Date 27th March 2020

National Lottery Community Fund - Healthy Communities Together *

Funding is available to empower voluntary and community sector organisations to work together with the local health and care sector to boost the health and wellbeing of their communities. The National Lottery Community Fund (TNLCF) and The King's Fund are jointly supporting partnership-working in local areas between the voluntary and community sector, the NHS and local authorities to improve the health and wellbeing of local communities.

The Healthy Communities Together programme will offer up to £3 million of grant funding and £850,000 of leadership development support to develop effective and sustainable partnerships to improve health and wellbeing, reduce health inequalities and empower communities.

The programme will enable partners to develop their relationships, to identify and agree what they need to work together more effectively to ensure the involvement of organisations working across communities, and to collaboratively create a plan to deliver meaningful change.

This may include:

- Developing infrastructure to engage the VCSE and enable effective partnership
- Developing a local approach to measuring impact on health and wellbeing
- Co-producing ways of commissioning and delivering services for particular groups of people, such as groups who are marginalised, have complex needs or live with long-term conditions
- Developing a commissioning framework which supports the diversity of the VCSE sector locally (for example, including very small organisations) or
- Developing community-centred approaches which aim to involve and empower local people in improving health and wellbeing.

The programme will fund partnerships that must include:

- A voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisation
- A local authority, and
- An NHS organisation (including Clinical Commissioning Groups, NHS Trusts and primary care bodies).

Both new partnerships, and existing partnerships are eligible to apply.

The programme consists of two phases. In phase 1, a maximum of six areas will receive up to £50,000 funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and a package of learning and development support from the King's Fund for up to nine months to develop their partnership and project plans.

At the end of this phase, each site will be invited to apply for phase 2 of the programme for further funding and support.

Successful partnerships will receive up to £450,000, as well as ongoing learning and development support from The King's Fund, over a further three years.

Stage 1 applications must be submitted by the deadline of 27th March 2020.

[Power To Change - Community Business Bright Ideas Fund](#)

Funding is available to support the development of new community business ideas in England through the start-up and planning stages to the implementation stage.

Not-for-profit organisations that have been established for five years or less that want to set up their own community business can apply now for business support and grants. The community business must be based in England and have a charitable purpose which meets charitable needs in the community.

To be considered for the programme, the community business must be locally rooted, trading for the benefit of the local community, accountable to the local community, and have broad community impact. In addition, it must deliver benefit in the seven core impact areas set out by the programme.

Successful organisations will receive business development support, grant funding of up to £15,000 which can be spent on specific activities to develop their idea, as well as learning and peer networking. Match funding is required

The first step in the application process is to complete the eligibility checker. This must be done by 5.00pm on Monday 6th April 2020.

The deadline for applications is the following day – 7th April 2020

**Later funding rounds are in:
August to September 2020
February to March 2021**

Calor Rural Community Fund

If your community project is sitting off the mains gas grid and in the need of financial support, you can apply for funding from Calor's Rural Community Fund to give your project the boost it deserves. Projects should improve life within the local community.

There are three levels of funding available, depending on the size of your project:

- 11 grants of £5,000
- 6 grants of £2,500
- 5 grants of £1,000

Even if you're not a winner, every finalist will receive £500.

The funding you apply for must equate to 50% or more of your total project cost.

Applications will open on 10th March 2020.

Deadline for applications is 9th April 2020.

Department for Transport - Rural Mobility Fund *

English local authorities can bid for funding to trial on-demand bus services in rural or suburban areas. The focus of the fund is on setting up services where they do not already exist.

A total of £20 million is available with funding expected of between £500,000 and £1.5 million.

All tiers of local government in England with responsibility for transport (except London boroughs) can apply and will need to demonstrate that services predominantly serve communities in areas that have a population of fewer than 10,000 residents.

The fund will expect to support trials of demand responsive transport solutions in rural and suburban areas with vehicles on the road as soon as possible, though this will depend on the readiness of the projects and the proposed solutions.

By vehicles, it means those road vehicles configured to carry more than one passenger at a time, excluding the driver, even though at times a vehicle might only carry one person depending on demand.

All vehicles must be wheelchair accessible.

There are two phases:

- Phase 1: this is an Expression of Interest stage where we will assess demand responsive transport solutions on the need for funding, nature of the challenge, the strategic ambition for what the transport solutions could achieve for residents and the proposed solution
- Phase 2: We will shortlist bids for potential support. Funding decisions will be based on final proposals. More mature projects which could start operations promptly could be fast-tracked for support.

The deadline for expressions of interest is 30th April 2020.

[Road Safety Trust - Funding New Approaches to Road Safety *](#)

In 2020, the Road Safety Trust is inviting applications for projects that improve road safety.

There are two levels of grants available:

- Major themed grants of up to £200,000 are available over a period of up to three years linked to the specific theme; “How can technology be used to reduce road offending and improve road safety?”
- Small grants programme: grants of between £10,000 to £30,000 over a two-year period. Aims to improve road safety at a local level. Eligible projects are pilots/trials, expanding successful trials across a new area, and/or the evaluation of interventions. Projects should have the potential for being brought to scale - with the ultimate goal of reducing deaths and injuries both locally and across the UK. Projects do not need to be linked to the major theme.

Public and professional UK organisations can apply for grants of up to £200,000, available over a period of up to three years.

The main objective of the project should be to help protect vulnerable road users. Eligible projects should focus on engineering, infrastructure and technological measures, while recognising the contribution of education and enforcement to these measures.

The funding can be used for:

- Evidence reviews.
- Trials.
- Roll-outs.
- Evaluations.
- Support for the profession through guidance or other resources.

The deadline for Major Themed Grants is 14th May 2020.

The Small Grants programme is open from September to December 2020

[Department for Transport - Restoring Your Railway Fund *](#)

The Department for Transport has invited MPs, local authorities and community groups across England and Wales to propose how they could use funding to reinstate axed local rail services and restore closed stations.

Funding is available for 3 purposes:

1. Ideas Fund – offers support to proposals to reinstate axed local services, which should be sponsored by MPs working with local authorities and community groups. **Closed on Feb 28th**
2. Accelerating existing proposals – the £500 million fund will also help accelerate the development of closed lines and stations which are already in the process of being considered for restoration.

3. Proposals for new and restored stations – a new round of the New Stations Fund, supporting both the development of new stations and restoration of old station sites.
 - to fund capital expenditure on brand new or re-opened stations for heavy rail services in England and Wales that are promoted by third parties. This excludes improvements or refurbishment at existing stations, the funding of new or reopened lines (even if associated with a “New Station”) or the relocation of existing stations.
 - There is an expectation that the grant fund shall provide no more than 75 per cent of the Project Costs of a New Station,
 - Stations should be open and ready for use by March 2024

Closing date for applications is 5th June 2020

Local Giving - Magic Little Grants Fund

Local Giving’s ‘Magic Little Grants Fund’ 2020 small grants programme will launch on 10th March 2020. Grants of £500 will be available to small local charities and community groups for community projects in Great Britain that support and inspire people to participate in sports or exercise with the primary aim of improving their physical health.

It is expected that 900 grants of £500 each will be awarded in 2020. In addition, organisations who are not members of Local Giving will also benefit from an annual membership funded by Postcode Community Trust, which will provide them with access to Local Giving’s suite of online fundraising tools.

To be eligible, organisations must:

- Have an annual income under £250,000 or be in their first year of operation.
- Operate within England, Scotland or Wales.
- Be planning a project that encourages people to participate in sports and exercise with the primary aim of improving the physical health and well-being of participants.

The funding is for local projects that support and inspire people to participate in sports or exercise with the primary aim of improving the physical health of participants.

Grants can be used to support the general running costs of new and existing sports and physical activities. For example, this could include: facilities hire, kit & equipment, coaching qualifications, other volunteer expenses etc.

Applications which will predominantly cover the costs of one-off events or trips must provide details of how they intend to deliver a longer-term impact.

Please note schools or organisations linked to a school, such as a Parent Teacher Association, may not apply to this scheme.

Applications will be accepted from 10th March to 31st October 2020.

[Dept. for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Funding for Flood-affected Areas](#)

Thousands of pounds of support, including grants, council tax relief and business rate relief is being provided to support people and businesses in storm-hit areas of England.

The government has triggered its Flood Recovery Framework to support areas impacted by Storms Ciara and Dennis with funding for households and businesses to begin recovery works.

Provided through local councils, the support measures include:

- £500 hardship payments for flooded households to support short-term needs.
- 100% council tax and business rates relief for at least three months for households and businesses significantly affected by the recent flooding.
- £2,500 Business Recovery Grants for small and medium-sized businesses that have suffered severe, uninsurable losses.
- £5,000 grants for flooded homes and businesses to help make them more resilient to future flooding.

These measures will apply to those affected in district or unitary authorities that have 25 or more flooded households as a result of the recent storms. This announcement only applies to England. (Flooding is a devolved matter for Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland.)

Funding will be administered at a local level and those who believe they may qualify for support are being urged to contact their local authority for more information.

No application deadline advertised

[Sport England – Community Asset Fund](#)

Emergency grants of up to £5,000 are being made available to help sports facilities in local communities that have been affected by Storm Ciara.

Sport England has announced that community, voluntary and social enterprises can request up to £5,000 of emergency funding which could be awarded in just a few weeks.

The funding will be awarded through Sport England's Community Asset Fund, which was designed to help communities quickly respond to emergencies or unexpected events that stop people from being active.

The Sport England team aims to provide quick responses to those sports clubs most badly affected by the recent storm. The grants could typically be used to restore grass pitches, to repair and decontaminate flood or wind-damaged clubhouses, replace damaged electrical systems or dredge blocked drains.

The Community Asset Fund generally also has three levels of funding available:

- Small Scale Investments – Typically ranging between £1,000 and £15,000. To cover the cost of emergency works due to something like storm or flood damage, or something totally unexpected that is stopping people from being able to stay active right now.

- Medium Scale Investments – Typically ranging between £15,000 and 50,000. To make more substantial changes. This might be an upgrade to an existing facility or developing a new space in the community.
- Large Scale Investments – Typically ranging between £50,000 and £150,000. For projects which can demonstrate a considerable impact or are targeting under-represented groups. (To be eligible for funding applicants must not have received funding from Sport England previously.)

Statutory bodies and educational establishments must provide a minimum of 50% partnership funding.

Sport England is a funder of last resort so the more an applicant is able to contribute to their project, the better. However the presence of partnership funding or in-kind support is not a prerequisite of investment

No application deadline advertised

Lloyds Bank Foundation Grants

Lloyds Bank Foundation's new grant programme opened in December 2019. The programme supports charities with an annual income of £25,000 to £1 million with a proven track record of helping people improve their lives.

The Foundation's priority is to support charities which are helping people to deal with a range of complex social issues, such as:

- Domestic and sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Mental health
- Homelessness and vulnerably housed
- Offending, prison or community service
- Care leavers
- Learning disabilities
- Addiction or dependency on alcohol, drugs, substances and/or gambling
- Trafficking and modern slavery
- Young parents
- Asylum seekers and refugees

It expects the charity to be able to monitor and measure outcomes which demonstrate that service users are supported to develop new skills, confidence, independence, security and/or choice and control.

There are not many restrictions to the grants. Instead, the Foundation trusts charities to spend their money how they see fit. Therefore, unless you are applying for a specific project, it will not ask for a budget, or how the money will be spent. Core costs are eligible. However, capital costs are not eligible.

No application deadlines publicised

David Cock Foundation - Growing Communities

Growing Communities is a new small grants programme to enable communities to connect with nature with a specific focus on:

- community growing i.e. fruit & veg
- tree planting
- access to nature in towns and cities

The Foundation is committed to inspiring people to get outdoors and reap the positive mental, physical and social benefits of being outdoors as well as helping wildlife, conservation and our environment. In addition, the Foundation strongly believes that outdoor community projects create connected communities and help social inclusion.

If you are a small registered charity or voluntary group that is running an outdoors project connected with nature, growing or planting then you may be eligible to apply for an award.

You may be running a community allotment to connect with local people or perhaps you're committed to planting trees in your town to help combat the climate emergency or perhaps encourage wildlife. Or maybe you have taken ownership of some derelict land and have transformed it into a beautiful green space for local residents to enjoy?

Grants of up between £400 and £2,000 will be offered and will also match fund what your organisation has already raised.

No application deadlines advertised

The Clothworkers' Foundation - Open Grants Programme

The Clothworkers' Foundation awards grants to UK registered charities, CICs, and other registered UK not-for-profit organisations (including special schools) towards capital projects including buildings (purchase, construction, renovation or refurbishment); fittings, fixtures, equipment and vehicles.

Applications must fit within one of the main programme areas:

- alcohol & substance misuse
- disadvantaged minority communities
- disadvantaged young people
- domestic & sexual abuse
- homelessness
- older people
- people with disabilities
- prisoners & ex-offenders; visual impairment.

No application deadline advertised

[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.

[Home Office - Safer Streets Fund](#)

A new £25 million fund to tackle burglary, theft and other offences in crime hotspots has been announced by the Home Office.

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) across England and Wales will be able to bid for Safer Streets Fund investment for measures aimed at preventing acquisitive crime in disproportionately affected areas.

Initiatives could target vehicle theft, robbery or burglary, among other crimes, and could include interventions to improve home security, such as installing better locks and gating alleyways, and make streets better lit at night.

The fund has been designed to ensure local communities can participate in the development of crime prevention plans and will also include money for community projects that complement them.

It will also target areas disproportionately affected by these crimes.

PCCs must work with local authorities and other partners to develop these plans, which need to be based on evidence, demonstrate value for money and engage local communities.

Funding will be available to areas from April 2020.

Support available for your organisations

Social Investment

Social investment is a financial enablement tool which enables organisations to focus on organisational development and long-term sustainability. It can be used for buildings, infrastructure, IT, equipment, cashflow, enabling and retaining contracts and trading activities, kicking start new services/ projects or strategic positioning. Grant funding alone is not a viable source of sustainable business funding! A good place to start to find out more about social investment is the Good Finance [website](#)

Don't be put off by the fear of having to repay a loan when you first start exploring social enterprise and investment. Going on the investment readiness and social investment journey is beneficial in that it will help you to think about the direction your organisation will take and where income will be generated. It will therefore help you to develop a business mind-set. The journey is just as important as the end goal.

You are not obliged to take out a loan when developing social enterprise business models, but it is likely that you will need it if you are successful!

Grant Funds

[The Reach Fund](#)

A grant programme that helps charities and social enterprises raise investment. This fund is for organisations who need some extra support to raise investment e.g. governance, financial modelling or business planning. To access this fund, you need to approach a social investor and then complete a diagnostic tool. If approved, then you work with the social investor to develop a support plan.

[The Enterprise Development Fund Programme](#)

Offers tailored support to organisations that are thinking of exploring new models of trading to help them become more financially resilient and who require support to make the transition. The second round is going to be launched soon, and the themes are equality and mental health.

Business Support

Co-operative and Social Enterprise Development Agency (CASE) is a social enterprise and co-operative established in 1982 that is the trusted organisation for co-operatives, social enterprises and community enterprises in Leicester and Leicestershire. It supports co-operatives and social enterprises to develop and grow and we promote co-operative ways of working.

CASE has been awarded a small grant from the Connect Fund to raise awareness about social investment, support groups to develop social enterprise business models and scale up, and access social investment. The project started in January 2019 and finishes in June 2020.

If you are a social enterprise or charity in the East Midlands that has a good idea or proposal to generate income from trading then please feel free to get in touch with Natasha Jolob, Social Impact and Investment Adviser on Tel: 0116 222 5010, Email: n.jolob@case.coop

If you are interested in accessing support to develop and grow through enterprise and investment, you can contact:

[VAL Sector Support Helpline](#)

0116 2575050

helpline@valonline.org.uk

[CASE](#)

0116 222 5010

enquiries@case.coop