

Funding Opportunities:

The Fore's Unrestricted Funding Programme Opens for Registration on 24 July

The Fore offers **unrestricted funding** to small charitable organisations that are making a big impact and who want to significantly grow, strengthen, become more efficient or resilient. The national funding programme is open to any sector and region within the UK with particular interest in grassroots organisations working with underserved communities. Unrestricted grants of up to £30,000 spread over one to three years are available. In addition, non-financial support such as access to a network of skilled, pro-bono volunteers, online training workshops and seminars are available to successful charities for life. Applications for core costs must show how the funding will move the organisation forward rather than enabling 'business as usual.' This is an extremely competitive process with a short registration window. The Autumn 2024 funding round **opens for registration at 12pm (midday) on 24 July 2024 and closes at 12pm (midday) on 31 July 2024**. Full details [Apply for funding - The Fore](#)

Community Energy Fund for North East and Yorkshire to Open 19 August

North East and Yorkshire Net Zero Hub have announced the third and final round of the Community Energy Fund will open for applications on 19 August 2024. The Community Energy Fund (CEF) is a £10 million grant scheme for urban and rural communities to develop energy services to benefit their local area. The funding is intended to help community-based organisations 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 fund is for the development of projects from concept to investment-ready scheme. It does not provide capital funding for the installation of projects themselves. Funding is provided in two stages:

- Stage 1 – Feasibility grants of up to £40,000 to pay for professional support to scope project feasibility.
- Stage 2 – Development grants of up to £100,000 for projects that have a good chance of securing planning permission and being implemented.

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. Round 3 will **open for applications on 19 August 2024** and close on 13 October 2024, however, application forms and guidance are available [Community Energy Fund | Community Energy England](#)

McCarthy Stone Foundation Community Grants for Older People Opens 26 July

The McCarthy Stone Foundation offers grants to community organisations for projects to improve the health and wellbeing of older people over the age of 65 years, particularly in areas of deprivation. Community organisations, registered charities and other groups (including CICs limited by guarantee) with a governing document and a registered bank account may apply. Funding can be used for a range of project/core costs and activities. Unrestricted funding is only available to registered charities and community groups. The Autumn 2024 application window **opens on 26 July** and closes on 23 August 2024. Full guidance [Retirement properties for sale or rent | McCarthy Stone \(mccarthyandstone.co.uk\)](#)

Asda Foundation Grant for Investing in Spaces and Places

The annual Investing in Spaces and Places Grant from the Asda Foundation is available for projects which improve community spaces and places where local people can be together and thrive, such as building repair, building development and outdoor development. Applications are accepted from not-for-profit grassroots, community-led organisations, particularly ones that are:

- Located in an area of deprivation.
- Inclusive and encourage diversity.
- Tackling food poverty.
- Addressing local crime/anti-social behaviour.
- Promoting a positive environmental impact.

Applicant organisations must have an annual income below £100,000 and have a bank account in the group's name. Additionally, applicants must either own and have full responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the building/space or have a lease of over five years and full responsibility for upkeep and maintenance. A total of £1 million is available for 2024. Grants between £10,000 and £25,000 are available. Match funding is required for a minimum of 50% of the total project cost and organisations must have raised at least 10% at the time of application. Organisations who received a grant in 2022 or 2023 cannot apply this year. Please note the scheme may close early if demand for funding is high. The deadline for applications is 28 July 2024 for notification in September. Full details [Asda Foundation announces over £1 Million in funding to transform community spaces](#)

New 'Serving Families: On the Move' Programme Opens for Applications

This is the first programme being launched under the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust's new three-year Funding Framework which will award £30 million in grants over the next three years. The Serving Families funding programme 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. Projects will need to 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.

The direct and primary beneficiaries must be current serving Armed Forces personnel, Reservists (including RFA Royal Fleet Auxiliary) and their families. Grants up to £120,000 are available for projects being delivered over a two-to-three-year period. The grant can pay for most of the things needed for the project or activity, including people's time, costs of delivering work online or buying/hiring equipment. This funding will support existing activities. There will be two application rounds this financial year (2024-25). The deadline for applications to the first round is 12 noon on 18 September 2024. Full details [Serving Families: On the Move programme now open for applications! \(covenantfund.org.uk\)](#)

Music for All Invites Community Groups and Schools to Apply to New Round

Music for All, the charity of the UK musical instrument industry, is offering an instrument-only funding round to community projects and to schools who are looking to enhance and expand their music provision. Priority will be given to applicants who are most in need of help. Notification of decisions is approximately three months after receipt of application. The deadline for application is

30 September 2024. Full details [Music for All | Music Charity in the UK | Music Funding & Grants](#)

Funding for Digital Education, Inclusion, and IT Projects

The WCIT Charity is offering grants of up to £15,000 for educational establishments and not-for-profit organisations across the UK to support IT projects and activities that support the themes of education, inclusion, IT for charities, and understanding of IT. The IT4Good Grants Programme will support activities such as the development and delivery of new services, solutions, training, apps, analytics, AI, robotics, or accessibility features/hardware. Proposals should demonstrate an innovative use of IT, be scalable for wider replication, and be sustainable over time. The deadline for applications is 31 July 2024. Full details [Home - WCIT Charity](#)

New 'Embedding Prevention of Veteran Suicide Programme' Opens for Applications

The funding is for projects that will enable systemic change and long-term, sustainable impact in supporting Armed Forces Veterans with poor mental health, their families, and those who are caring for or supporting them. Projects will need to meet one or more of the following outcomes:

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

The project could be a continuation of an already proven project, or a new intervention or project that meets the programme outcomes. Two levels of funding are available: grants of up to £50,000 for projects last one year; grants of up to £100,000 for projects lasting two years. Projects should start by January 2025. The grant can pay for most of the things needed for the project or activity, including people's time, costs of delivering work online or buying/hiring equipment. Applications will be considered from registered charities and statutory organisations. There will be a single round of applications for this programme. The deadline for submission is 2 October 2024. Full details [Embedding Prevention of Veteran Suicide programme 2024/25 \(covenantfund.org.uk\)](#)

Barclays Community Football Fund Invites UK Applications to Round 2

A limited amount of funding is being made available for the second round of the fund. Barclays Bank in partnership with the Sported Foundation is offering grants of up to £1,000 to not-for-profit organisations operating in an area of high deprivation to support delivery of their football activities to engage with young people (under the age of 25 years) from underrepresented groups. This is an access grant which 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 and young people from lower socio-economic groups. The funding can be used for anything that will support delivery of football activities to underrepresented groups. The funding cannot be used for schools and other educational establishments, trips abroad, school-based football activities, costs associated with elite football or talent development or multiple teams/projects within the same organisation. This is an 'extremely popular' fund, and applications may close earlier than the deadline. Groups should apply early to avoid disappointment. Groups who are not a Sported member or existing grantee will need to create an account to start their application. The deadline for applications is 15 September 2024. Full details [Barclays Community Football Fund | Barclays \(home.barclays\)](#)

New 'Apart Not Alone: Support for Serving Families Programme' Opens for UK Applications

This is the second programme being launched under the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust's new three-year Funding Framework which will award £30 million in grants over the next three years. The funding is for not-for-profit 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 of the 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.

The direct and primary beneficiaries must be current serving Armed Forces personnel, Reservists (including RFA Royal Fleet Auxiliary) and their families. Grants of between £5,000 and £15,000 are available for projects being delivered over a period of up to 12 months starting by 1 April 2025. The grant can pay for most of the things needed for the project or activity, including people's time, costs of delivering work online or buying/hiring equipment. The deadline for applications is 12 noon on 25 September 2024. Full details : [Apart Not Alone: Support for Serving Families programme 2024-25 : Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust](#)

£1,000 Grants for People of Colour in Arts

Through the Grand Plan Grant, funding is on offer to support people of colour who want to create and deliver a new cultural project. The programme supports creativity in all its forms, including poetry, paintings, fashion, zines, music, food, flowers, photographs, workshops, events, or something else completely. Grants of £1,000 are available to cover the cost of equipment, courses, applicant's time, materials, travel, etc. Applications are open to UK-based individuals, aged over 18, who and identify as a person of colour. The deadline for the current round is 7 August 2024. Full details ; [Grand Plan \(grandplanfund.co.uk\)](#)

Historic England Initiative for Youth-Led Local History Projects Invites Applications

The History in the Making initiative provided by Historic England is seeking to fund around 15 projects with grants of between £10,000 and £15,000. The initiative is intended to enable underrepresented young people (aged 13-25) to research, discover and commemorate local histories, fostering a sense of belonging through exploring local identity and stories. Applications will be accepted from organisations of all types including community interest groups, charities and local authorities. Individuals can apply if they are registered as sole traders. The programme is aimed at engaging young people from the priority audiences targeted in Heritage England's inclusion strategy. These are young people who:

- Are disadvantaged by their social and/or economic background or circumstances, or by where they live.
- Are from the global majority, e.g., Black, Asian, dual-heritage, and/or from a minoritised ethnic group.
- Identify as LGBTQ+
- Are disabled young.
- Are Neurodivergent.

Successful applicants will have up to 18 months to complete their project, which must be delivered between 1 January 2025 and 1 July 2026. The deadline for applications is 2 September 2024 (23:59 BST). Full details : [New Funding Announced for Young People to Uncover Hidden Histories | Historic England](#)

Funding to Help with Maintaining Public Memorials in UK

Grants are available to help with VAT on the construction, repair and maintenance of public memorial structures in the UK for work which took place on or after 16 March 2005. The funding is intended to cover the costs of VAT already paid. The maximum grant available is the full rate of VAT (20% of project costs). Applications will be accepted from registered charities and faith groups excepted from registering as a charity to help with the cost of works like repairing and cleaning public memorials or installing a new memorial. The memorial can commemorate a person/people, an animal/s or event/s. The funding can only be provided for works that have already taken place. It cannot be used for future works. Part-funding is available for ongoing work for parts of the work which have been completed. The deadline for applications is 30 September 2024. Full details:

[Applying for a memorial grant - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Cash for Kids - Sports Challenge Now Open

The Cash for Kids Sports Challenge is a fundraising competition for grassroots sports groups. The funds support initiatives to encourage the participation of disadvantaged or disabled children and young people in sports. The following organisations who work for the benefit of disadvantaged or disabled young people (up to and including the age of 18) may apply:

- Local sports groups with a formal governance document.
- Charities, community, and voluntary groups that deliver sport or physical activity in their community with a formal governance document.
- Community amateur sports clubs.
- After-school sports clubs.

If selected, the group must fundraise as much money as they can (from 7 September to 7 October) and finalise the Cash for Kids grant application form on the GivingIsEasy platform that was completed as part of the application process. The top three fundraising groups will receive an additional £5,000, £2,500 and £1,500, respectively. Furthermore, there are special awards of £500 each for the Teamwork Award and Sports Challenge Champion Award. The closing date for applications for groups to be considered for the fundraising competition is midday on 2 September 2024. Full details [Sports Challenge | Cash for Kids | Helping the children that need it most](#) (the web pages can be slow to load).