Funding Newsletter

Funding for Charities Supporting Vulnerable Communities (UK / International)

The Souter Charitable Trust invites applications from UK-registered charities that work to reduce hardship and improve people's lives in the UK and overseas. The Trust particularly supports organisations guided by Christian values, although charities without a Christian focus are also welcome to apply.

The Trust works with organisations that share its values and aims to support people and communities who are vulnerable or lack access to support. Funding is intended to help charities provide practical help and improve both physical and spiritual wellbeing.

There is no fixed minimum or maximum grant amount, but most awards range from £1,000 to £3,000. The Trust has supported a wide range of projects, including malaria prevention programmes and the provision of daily school meals for children in Africa.

Grants are limited to UK-registered charities. Because of UK legal requirements, the Trustees cannot fund overseas organisations directly, as they are not able to carry out the required checks.

Grant applications must be submitted by close of business on Thursday 26th November 2026 to be considered at the next Trustees' meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday 3rd December 2026.

https://www.soutercharitabletrust.org.uk/

Grants of up to £25,000 Available to Prevent People Entering the Criminal Justice System (UK)

UK registered charities working in the areas of Social and Criminal Justice can apply for funding to deliver projects that prevent people from entering the criminal justice system and to support those already in it to rebuild their lives.

Funding is being provided through the Charles Hayward Foundation's Main Grants Programme, which supports projects over one to three years with grants ranging from £15,000 to £25,000 per annum.

The Foundation will fund projects in the following categories:

- Targeted early intervention programmes aimed at reaching the most troubled and vulnerable families in a community.
- Targeted preventative and diversionary projects for young people at risk of offending, including interventions identifying and addressing the particular needs of girls and young women.
- Programmes combining prison-based and community interventions dealing with the rehabilitation of offenders, accommodation and support on release, maintaining family relationships, mentoring, and creating pathways to employment.
- Schemes offering viable alternatives to custody, in particular for women and young people.

Charities with an annual income of between £350,000 and £4 million are eligible to apply.

The next application deadline is 5 February 2027.

Useful Links:

Eligibility Quiz

https://charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk/grants/social-criminal-justice/

Grants for Better and Safer Roads (UK)

The Rees Jeffreys Road Fund offers project grants ranging from £5,000 to £30,000 to support research, educational endeavours, and community projects. The overarching goal is to enhance road infrastructure design, engineering, and aesthetics while improving the overall experience of road users.

Funding is available for a variety of activities, including courses leading to qualifications in traffic engineering and transport planning, research initiatives, and programs to enhance the highway network and roadside environment, such as the development of roadside parks and open spaces.

In exceptional cases, the Fund's trustees may consider awarding approximately £50,000 to projects that can bring about significant and transformative changes in the provision and experience of roads within the UK.

The Fund prioritises projects that fall outside the responsibility of other funding sources, such as government agencies and research councils. The Fund also welcomes applications that include contributions from other funding partners.

The Fund's Trustees show a preference for:

- Proposals that have a national, rather than merely local, impact or significance.
- Collaborative projects involving other funding partners, unless the request for funding is for a very modest amount.
- Innovative ideas and topics that have not yet been explored or addressed elsewhere, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and the provision of safe, sustainable, and enjoyable roads in the UK.
- Projects that have garnered support from relevant stakeholders or decision-makers or have a well-defined plan for securing such support.
- Initiatives capable of effecting tangible change or improvements within a 24-month timeframe.

Eligible applicants encompass educational institutions, charitable organisations, and social enterprises.

Individuals considering applying to the Fund are advised to initiate the process by contacting the Secretary at secretary@reesjeffreys.co.uk. This initial contact should include a brief overview of the proposed project and the desired level of funding. Applicants will receive further information and an application form upon registration of their interest.

The next application deadline is 9 April 2027.

Useful Links:

http://www.reesjeffreys.co.uk/

Grants of Up to £100,000 Available for Animal Rescue Charities (UK)

Grants of up to £100,000 are available to registered charities rescuing and rehoming domestic pets through the Pets Foundation's Rescue and Rehoming programme.

The Foundation supports animal welfare organisations across the UK. Funding can cover

- Running costs – such as vet bills, utility costs, boarding fees, food and bedding
- Equipment – including trapping cages, washing machines, microchip scanners, incubators and more
- Vehicles – such as animal ambulances or horse boxes
- Building work – for example, animal accommodation or onsite veterinary facilities

Applicants must have operated for at least two years, have three unrelated trustees or directors, and primarily rescue and rehome domestic pets. Small and medium-sized charities are prioritised.

Grants for running costs are generally limited to £10,000 or 25% of the relevant annual costs, whichever is lower. Capital projects, including building work and vehicles, can receive up to £100,000. Salaries, fundraising costs and retrospective projects are excluded.

Key points

- Registered charities in the UK, Isle of Man and Guernsey can apply.
- Organisations primarily operating animal sanctuaries or rehoming overseas pets are excluded.
- Previous recipients must wait 12 months before reapplying.
- Applicants must request an application form online.

Applications are accepted year-round, subject to available funds. Requests below £50,000 are reviewed monthly, with decisions potentially taking four to five months. Organisations seeking more than £50,000 must contact the Foundation before applying.

Useful Links:

https://www.petsfoundation.co.uk/grant-programme/rescue-and-rehoming/

Grants to Support Animal Welfare Charities (UK / International)

Charities registered in the UK that work to provide sanctuary, rehoming, and rehabilitation for animals both domestically and/or internationally are invited to apply for grants of between £1,000 and £10,000.

Organisations involved with wildlife conservation, the rescue, rehabilitation and (where possible) release of animals are also eligible to apply.

The funding can be used for general running costs or capital purchases.

This funding opportunity is provided by the Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust, which welcomes repeat applications from charities, subject to funding availability.

Preference is given to smaller animal welfare charities.

The next deadline to apply is 1st December 2026. Awards are usually made within 4 months of the application deadline.

Examples of projects funded by the Trust include:

- **Wild Hogs Hedgehog Rescue, Gloucestershire** – a £25,000 grant to replace old rehabilitation hutches with veterinary-standard accommodation. The funding also supported specialist hoglet-care training for volunteers and other rescue centres.
- **Saving Strays Animal Rescue** – a £5,000 grant supporting emergency veterinary treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping, animal transport, food, bedding, behavioural rehabilitation, fostering and rehoming.
- **Hill Pony Resources, Cornwall** – a £3,000 grant towards hay, feed, bedding and field rental for rescued Dartmoor ponies awaiting permanent or foster homes.
- **Doris Banham Dog Rescue, Nottinghamshire** – a £15,000 grant towards the construction of emergency boarding kennels for rescued dogs.
- **Helping Rhinos** – a £17,500 grant to expand the Zululand Rhino Orphanage. The funding supported secure rehabilitation enclosures and improvements to its intensive care unit for injured and orphaned rhino calves.

Useful Links:

https://www.jeansainsburyanimalwelfare.org.uk/

Funding Available for Community Organisations Promoting Equality and Social Justice (UK)

Applications are now open for grants of up to £30,000 over three years to support organisations delivering socialist political education and activities that promote equality, democracy, human rights and social change across the UK.

The funding is available through the Lipman-Miliband Trust's Large Grants Programme. The Trust is a UK charity supporting socialist education, research and public understanding of social and political issues.

Grants of £27,000 to £30,000 are available over three years, with annual funding of £9,000 to £10,000. Funding can cover running and core costs, including work that strengthens organisations and supports longer-term activities.

Applicants must have been established for at least two years, demonstrate recent impact, have annual income between £5,000 and £500,000, and have at least three unrelated board members.

lipman-miliband.org.uk

Key points

- UK-based organisations; qualifying Irish organisations may also apply.
- Individuals and unregistered organisations are excluded.
- Party-political activities and retrospective costs are ineligible.
- Applications from outside London and the South East are encouraged.
- Applications involve two stages, with an initial deadline of 26 February 2027. Shortlisted organisations will be invited to submit a full application by 1 May 2027.

Previously funded projects have included:

ACORN the Union – Political education workshops (2025)

Workshops in working-class communities examining the housing crisis, cost-of-living pressures and public services. The activities aim to develop participants' understanding of social issues and collective community action.

People's History Museum – Art as Resistance (2024)

An exhibition drawing on the museum's political poster collection, supported by educational activities exploring anti-racism, housing and community organising.

Useful Links:

https://lipman-miliband.org.uk/grants/large-grants.html

Funding to Support Crafts, Heritage & Classical Music Projects (UK)

Applications are now open for grants of up to £7,500 to support heritage, crafts and music projects across the UK through the Radcliffe Trust.

The Trust, one of Britain's oldest charities, provides funding through two schemes. Its Heritage & Crafts Scheme offers grants generally ranging from £2,500 to £7,500, while its Music Scheme offers £2,500 to £5,000.

Heritage funding supports traditional craft skills, conservation, training and emerging craftspeople. Music funding supports classical music performance and education, particularly chamber music, composition, youth orchestras and activities for people with additional needs.

Applications are accepted from organisations, including community interest companies, charitable incorporated organisations and other not-for-profit groups. Individuals cannot apply directly.

Key points

- Heritage & Crafts grants: £2,500–£7,500.
- Music grants: £2,500–£5,000.
- One application per organisation, per scheme, per round.

The current application round closes on 31 January 2027, with decisions considered at the July trustees' meeting.

Useful Links:

https://theradcliffetrust.org/

Funding to Support Arts and Music Projects (UK)

The Fidelio Trust is offering grants of up to £5,000 to talented early-career individuals and groups working in the arts, particularly music including:

- Opera
- Lieder
- Composition
- Theatre.

The Trustees aim to help talented individuals and groups that would not be able to carry out a project or activity without financial support, particularly those at an early stage in their careers. Such individuals and groups must be recommended by an appropriate institution, college, Arts Festival, or similar organisation.

Funding is available towards:

- Special tuition or coaching costs
- To participate in external competitions
- To be supported for a specially arranged performance
- To receive support for a musical composition

The closing date for applications is midday on 22 January 2027.

Useful Links:

http://www.fideliocharitabletrust.org.uk/index.php

Funding Available for Christian Organisations Delivering Community Projects (UK & Ireland)

Christian charities, churches and cathedrals across the UK and Ireland can apply for funding to tackle social challenges and strengthen local communities through Benefact Trust's Community Impact Grants programme.

The Trust is a charitable grant-maker supporting Christian organisations.

Priority is given to projects that:

- **Address social challenges facing communities**, such as poverty, homelessness, isolation and loneliness, and addiction or substance misuse

- **Grow and sustain congregations and Christian communities,** such as faith development, youth work, church planting, volunteer training, or staff roles that support long-term sustainability (for example, volunteer coordinators or bookings administrators)

Funding is available for projects lasting up to three years,

Grants typically cover 10% to 30% of eligible project costs, rising to a maximum of 50% in most cases. The average grant awarded in 2025 was £23,000.

Funding can cover project staff, training, volunteer expenses and other revenue costs, with an additional 10% contribution towards core costs.

Applicants must have secured at least 30% of eligible project costs from other sources before applying. Applications are accepted year-round through an online application process.

Key points

- Applicants must normally be registered charities with annual income of at least £25,000.
- Projects must cost at least £2,000.
- Schools, educational institutions and hospices are excluded.
- Capital and building projects are not eligible.

The Community Impact Grants programme is open for applications throughout the year, and applications can be made at any time.

Useful Links:

https://www.benefacttrust.co.uk/grants/community-impact-grants/

Funding for School Geography Fieldwork (UK & Ireland)

Schools in the UK and Ireland planning geography fieldwork and expeditions are eligible to apply for grants of up to £700.

The Frederick Soddy Schools Awards programme, delivered in association with the Royal Geographical Society, welcomes applications from schools undertaking fieldwork that includes an element of human geography.

The grants aim to enable students aged 5 to 18 years to gain the valuable experience provided by fieldwork, regardless of background or circumstances. Previous awards have supported field trips to destinations such as the Eden Project and Snowdonia.

Grants are awarded on the merits of each project, with priority given to schools not funded the previous year.

The closing date for applications is 30 November 2026.

Useful Links:

https://www.rgs.org/exploration/grants/teacher-grants/frederick-soddy-schools-award

Funding for High Achieving State School Students to Explore Studying in the USA (UK)

Applications are open for the Sutton Trust Fulbright US Programme, offering free support to UK state-school students from lower-income families who want to study at American universities.

The programme helps academically able students explore US higher education and apply for university places, financial aid and scholarships. The Sutton Trust is a UK charity working to improve social mobility.

The Trust does not directly pay students' US university tuition fees or living costs. Instead, it covers the costs of participating in the programme, including residential activities, travel and accommodation. Students receive guidance on securing university financial aid, which may cover tuition fees and living expenses.

According to the US-UK Fulbright Commission, more than 700 programme participants have received offers of university places and funding.

Key points

- Applicants must have always attended state-funded schools or colleges.
- Eligible year groups are Year 12 in England and Wales, S5 in Scotland or Year 13 in Northern Ireland.
- Household income should generally be £50,000 or less.
- Applicants must not hold US citizenship.

The closing date for student applications is 11.59 pm on 10 January 2027. Schools have until 13 January 2027 to submit their references.

Useful Links:

https://us.suttontrust.com/how-to-apply/

Grants to Promote Latin and Roman Studies and Activities (UK)

The Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies has announced that the next application closing date is 1 February 2027.

The Roman Society makes grants to schools to help promote Latin and Roman studies. Most grants are awarded for purchasing textbooks and other books on Roman topics. The Committee also awards groups, schools, and museums that organise lectures or study days on Roman themes, and money has recently been made available for archaeology fieldwork bursaries.

Schools that have recently been awarded funding include:

- Hereford Cathedral School received funding to run weekly Latin masterclasses;
- A grant from the Roman Society enabled Feniton C of E Primary School to buy books and extra resources to help their pupils have fun learning;
- A grant from the Roman Society enabled thirty pupils in Year 9 at Ysgol Brynhyfryd to study Classical Civilisation GCSE;
- The Sir Robert Hitcham CEVAP School Robert received a grant to help Year 4 pupils study aspects of the Roman invasion and its impact.

Applications from schools planning to start Latin courses are particularly welcome. Grants usually range from £50 to £750.

The Society now also offers grants to schools working with the *Minimus* books.

Useful Links:

https://www.romansociety.org/Grants-Prizes/Grants-for-Schools

Five £200 Supermarket Vouchers Available to Support School Activities (UK)

Schools and educational settings across the UK can enter a prize draw to win one of five £200 supermarket vouchers through Twinkl's November Community Collection giveaway.

Twinkl, an educational resources provider, is offering the vouchers to help schools and other educational settings meet the costs of festive activities and support their communities during winter.

The vouchers could be used to purchase books, Christmas presents, party supplies and treats for pupils. They could also support local families through community initiatives and food banks.

Entries must be submitted on behalf of a UK school or educational setting by a staff member with authorisation from the headteacher or senior leadership team. Applicants must complete an online form explaining how they would use the voucher.

Five winners will be selected at random within 30 days of the closing date. Winners must provide a photograph or video and a short written comment for promotional use.

Key points

- Five £200 supermarket vouchers are available.
- Open to UK schools and educational settings.
- Entries require senior leadership authorisation.

The deadline for submitting entries is 11.59pm on 30 November 2026.

Useful Links:

https://www.twinkl.co.uk/giveaway/communitycollectionoct

Funding Available to Help Wounded and Injured Veterans Take Part in Sport (UK)

Grants of £1,000 to £15,000 are available to UK not-for-profit organisations helping wounded, injured and sick veterans and serving personnel participate in adapted sporting activities.

The Veterans' Foundation has committed £250,000 to the Access Unconquered: Adaptive Sport Grants programme, delivered in partnership with Invictus Games Birmingham 2027.

Funding aims to improve physical and mental health by removing barriers to participation. Eligible costs include specialist equipment, coaching, staffing, group training, taster sessions, travel and reasonable project overheads.

Eligible projects could include:

- Adaptive sports sessions: Providing additional places for veterans and serving personnel to participate in adapted sports, such as wheelchair rugby.
- Specialist sports equipment: Purchasing or hiring equipment that enables people with injuries, illnesses or disabilities to take part.
- Sports events and taster sessions: Organising activities that introduce participants to adapted sports.
- Coaching and staffing: Funding professional coaches, sessional workers and other staff needed to deliver activities.
- Travel and access support: Covering reasonable travel and related costs that enable participants to attend sporting activities.
- Staff and volunteer training: Providing group training in adapted equipment and inclusive coaching or delivery methods.

Applicants must have substantial recent experience supporting the Armed Forces community, annual income of no more than £1 million and at least 12 months of independently examined or audited accounts. Projects must exclusively benefit wounded, injured and sick veterans and serving personnel.

Key points

- UK-wide funding of £1,000 to £15,000.
- Applicants must be incorporated not-for-profit organisations.
- Projects must include clear sporting adaptations.
- Applications require an online eligibility check.

Applications close on 4 December 2026, although the deadline may change depending on demand. Projects must complete spending by 31 May 2027.

Useful Links:

https://www.veteransfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/

Funding Available for Accessible Technology for Blind and Partially Sighted People (UK)

The Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) has announced that its Technology Grants programme is open for applications. The grants are available to blind and partially sighted people who need support to access useful technology that can help them live independently. RNIB is a UK charity supporting people affected by sight loss through advice, services, campaigning and practical support.

Grants are available to UK residents who are registered as blind or partially sighted, receive an eligible means-tested benefit, have savings of less than £6,000, have been refused local authority funding for the item needed, and have not received an RNIB grant in the last three years.

Funding can only be used towards specific accessible technology, including:

- accessible smartphones, tablets and e-readers, up to £400;
- computer accessibility software, braille displays, notetakers and video magnifiers, up to £500;
- DAISY players, smart home devices, wearable technology, talking watches, accessible kitchen equipment and RNIB Penfriend labelling devices.

Applications are accepted at any time by online form, post or email, and must be supported by a professional who knows the applicant's circumstances. RNIB says complete applications can usually be decided within a week.

Useful Links:

https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/money-and-benefits/benefits-concessions-and-grants/grants-from-rnib/

The National Churches Trust’s Medium Grants Programme (UK)

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to listed and unlisted Christian places of worship of any denomination across the UK for project development and investigative work up to RIBA Stage 1. This support is for churches preparing for a major project and developing it to the point where they can approach a major grant funder. Grants will never exceed 50% of the net project costs for this phase.

The National Churches Trust's Medium Grants Programme can now offer grants of up to £10,000 for urgent and essential maintenance and repair projects costing between £20,000 and £80,000. Grants cannot exceed 50% of the net project costs.

The deadline for applications is 15 December 2026.

Useful Links:

https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/medium-grants

Grants of up to £5,000 Available for Overseas Research Expeditions (UK)

Grants of £500 to £5,000 are available to support UK-led teams undertaking overseas expeditions that advance geographical knowledge. The funding is offered through the Royal Geographical Society's RGS Explore Grants programme, which aims to support the next generation of explorers and field researchers.

The grants support original, challenging expeditions involving meaningful collaboration with local communities or partners. Priority is given to those undertaking their first overseas projects.

Teams must have at least three members aged 18 or over, with a UK-resident team leader. Expeditions must take place outside the UK and involve at least four weeks of fieldwork, ideally between April and October.

Project budgets must be below £25,000, with the grant covering at least 20% of costs. PhD fieldwork, departmental field trips, volunteering, charity fundraising and commercial activities are excluded.

Key points

- Grants of £500 to £5,000.
- Minimum three team members aged 18 or over.
- Overseas fieldwork lasting at least four weeks.
- Equipment costs normally limited to 20% of the award.

Applications, including two references, must be submitted by 8 January 2027.

Previous awards have supported projects investigating glacier melt in Greenland and Sweden, mangrove conservation in Brazil, traditional farming in Central Asia, and biodiversity and Indigenous knowledge in Ecuador.

Useful Links:

https://www.rgs.org/exploration/grants/expedition-grants/rgs-explore-grants

Grants Available to Combat Isolation and Loneliness Amongst Older People and Adults with Disabilities (England, Scotland & Wales)

Barchester's Charitable Foundation is a grant-giving charity that helps older people and other adults with disability across England, Scotland & Wales lead more fulfilled lives and reach their full potential.

The Foundation focuses on connecting or re-connecting people with others in their local community, helping combat isolation and loneliness and enabling people to be active and engaged.

Funding of between £100 and £2,500 (£1,500 for individuals) is available for individuals, charities and small community groups to help improve people's mobility, independence and quality of life. Applications for individuals must be completed by a third-party sponsor such as a health care professional, social worker or charity/support group representative.

The Foundations helps individuals with:

- Manual and powered wheelchairs
- Mobility scooters
- Specialised trikes / bikes
- Car adaptations

Groups and organisations can apply for grants to help with:

- Activity projects
- Equipment and materials for use by members
- Member transport
- Day trips, outings and group holidays in the UK

Applications are assessed on a case by case basis, with funds allocated to those who demonstrate greatest need.

The Foundation is open for group and charity applications in January, April, July and October, and will notify applicants of the outcome within two months.

Applications on behalf of individuals can be submitted at any time. Group and charity applications reopen on the 4th January 2027.

Useful Links:

https://www.bhcfoundation.org.uk/apply

Music Grants for Older People (England & Wales)

The registered charity, Concertina makes grants of up to £250 to charitable bodies that provide musical entertainment and related activities for the elderly.

The charity is particularly keen to support smaller organisations which might otherwise find it difficult to gain funding. Concertina has made grants to a wide range of charitable organisations in England and Wales. These include funds to many care homes for the elderly to provide musical entertainment for their residents. Some of the charities that have received grants from Concertina include:

- Theatre Chipping Norton to help fund high calibre music recitals in six Care Homes in the area.
- Sue Ryder Care, Lancashire to fund access to music therapy workshops at Birchley Hall near Wigan and St Helen's.

The next closing date for applications is 30 April 2027.

Useful Links:

http://www.concertinamusic.org.uk/Grants.php