**Funding opportunities for Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise organisations**

**24.4.25**

INDEX

Below is a shortcut to each Fund. You can just press ‘Ctrl-Click’ on the fund you chose and it will take you straight to more details about it further down the document:

* [Food Project Resilience / East Suffolk Council](#_Toc1653563226)
* [Environment & Countryside / Nineveh Charitable Trust](#_Toc766818991)
* [Improving Patient Outcomes Fund / Air Ambulance UK](#_Toc620225182)
* [Community Projects / Persimmon Homes](#_Toc991141743)
* [Disadvantage - Environment - Health - Older People & Youth / Hobson Charity](#_Toc1651158191)
* [Loans Available to Support Co-operative Enterprises](#_Toc2071645268)
* [Community-Education-Health-Social Welfare / Bernard Sunley Foundation](#_Toc328745752)
* [Community-Environment-Health-Youth & Other Categories / Garfield Weston Foundation](#_Toc1612653293)
* [Rural Communities / NFU Mutual Charitable Trust](#_Toc283978672)
* [Reducing Isolation & Loneliness (Older People) / Barchester Healthcare Foundation](#_Toc1226930654)
* [Community Engagement Fund / Home Office](#_Toc1067120217)
* [Access to Justice for Disabled People / The Three Guineas Trust](#_Toc1968346481)
* [Supporting Early-Stage Social Enterprises / Shackleton Foundation](#_Toc1658426959)
* [And just a reminder….](#_Toc1037478582)
* [‘Try it’ Small Grant Scheme / Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership](#_Toc1973872495)
* [Heritage Open Days in East Suffolk / East Suffolk Council](#_Toc1503491601)
* [Nature First small grant scheme / Greenprint Forum](#_Toc589841493)
* [Usual tips to empower your own Funding Search/Applications](#_Toc1357743132)
* [FREE Funding search tool - Funding 4 Suffolk:](#_Toc334701646)
* [Suffolk Community Foundation](#_Toc1290595181)

# Food Project Resilience / East Suffolk Council

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to food projects to help them better address food insecurity by creating food independence for the long term rather than providing emergency assistance. This might be by projects becoming more self-sufficient, sustainable and resilient for the future, by streamlining processes and using technology to become more efficient or by supporting clients out of hardship and into food independence in new ways.

**Deadline: It will close when all the funding has been allocated or on 31st March 2026, whichever is earlier.**

**Website:** [**Food Project Resilience grant scheme » East Suffolk Council**](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/food-project-resilience-grant-scheme/)

# Environment & Countryside / Nineveh Charitable Trust

Funding for a broad range of projects and activities that promote a better understanding of the environment and countryside, whilst facilitating improved access, education and research. Schools and not for profit organisations can apply. **No deadline at present.**

**Website:** [**How to apply | THE NINEVEH CHARITABLE TRUST**](https://ninevehtrust.org.uk/how-to-apply/)

# Improving Patient Outcomes Fund / Air Ambulance UK

AAUK air ambulance charity members will soon be able to apply. The fund is committed to improving outcomes for patients, their loved ones and air ambulance crews following an incident. More information on how to apply, and application dates, will be available soon

**Website**: [**AAUK Improving Outcomes Fund - Air Ambulances UK**](https://www.airambulancesuk.org/aauk-improving-outcomes-fund/)

# Community Projects / Persimmon Homes

Persimmon Homes has 30 offices across the UK and awards around £6,000 every quarter to support community projects.  Not for profits groups or organisations and Schools can apply for Revenue or Capital grants, typically £1,000, but grants of £2,000 and £3,000 have been awarded too. **No deadline.**

**Website:** [**Community Champions | Persimmon Homes | Persimmon Homes**](https://www.persimmonhomes.com/community-champions)

# Disadvantage - Environment - Health - Older People & Youth / Hobson Charity

Supporting a broad range of issues or themes, along the lines of this eligibility:

* The relief of poverty, suffering and distress of those in need in the United Kingdom, including the provision of facilities for recreation and leisure in the interests of their social welfare;
* The advancement of education

**No deadline.**

**Website:** [**THE HOBSON CHARITY – A GRANT GIVING CHARITY**](https://hobsoncharity.org.uk/)

# **Loans Available to Support Co-operative Enterprises**

Co-operative and Community Finance is offering loans of up to £85,000 for new or existing co-operatives to assist with the expansion, setup, or development of a co-operative enterprise.  **Applications can be submitted at any time.**

**Website:** [**Co-op Loan Fund – Unique lending: to co-ops, from co-ops**](https://loanfund.coop/#welcome)

# Community-Education-Health-Social Welfare / Bernard Sunley Foundation

Funding for capital projects which include new buildings, extensions, refurbishments and recreational spaces…and…New minibuses and other vehicles that provide a vital service to those most in need in their local community. **Applications are accepted all year round.**

**Website:** [What We Fund - Bernard Sunley Foundation](https://bernardsunley.org/grants/what-we-fund)

# Community-Environment-Health-Youth & Other Categories / Garfield Weston Foundation

Funding for Capital, Project and Revenue costs covering a wide variety of categories – please see their website. **No deadlines at present.**

**Website:** [**Home - Garfield Weston Foundation**](https://garfieldweston.org/)

# **Rural Communities /** NFU Mutual Charitable Trust

Offering grants for organisations working in agriculture, rural development, and insurance a to deliver projects and activities across one or more of the Trust’s main objectives including: Education (agriculture) / Education of young people within rural areas / Poverty within rural areas and more – please see website.

Trustees met twice a year to consider applications, typically in June and November. **The next deadline for applications is 23 May 2025.**

**Website:** [**NFU Mutual Charitable Trust: What do we do | NFU Mutual**](https://www.nfumutual.co.uk/about-us/charitable-trust/)

# **Reducing Isolation & Loneliness (Older People) /** Barchester Healthcare Foundation

Offering grants of up to £2,500 for small community groups and local charities for projects that help reduce isolation and loneliness, promote group activities, and generally improve mobility and quality of life for older people and adults with physical, learning, or mental disabilities.

**Applications can be submitted at any time.**

**Website:** [Homepage | Barchester Charitable Foundation](https://www.bhcfoundation.org.uk/)

# Community Engagement Fund / Home Office

Funding to support grassroots and community groups to engage communities and raise awareness of priority Home Office policy areas and the support available. Some nationality groups, including Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nigeria, Ghana and India, despite possibly having been impacted, are not coming forward for compensation to the Windrush Compensation Scheme. Two virtual information sessions and how to submit an application are on: Thursday 1 May (14.00-15.30) and Tuesday 6 May (11.00-12.30). Groups must register at least 48 hours in advance of the session they wish to attend. **Deadine 28 May 2025 (16:00).**

**Website:** [**2025/2026 Community Engagement Fund - GOV-UK Find a grant**](https://www.find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/grants/20252026-community-engagement-fund-2#summary)

# Access to Justice for Disabled People / The Three Guineas Trust

Funding for projects supporting Disabled or neurodivergent people to exercise their rights on: Income, welfare benefits or debt / Housing and homelessness / Community care / Personal liberty / Equal access to goods and services Applications will be accepted from not-for-profit organisations. **Dead deadline for applications is 12 June 2025.**

**Website:** [**Access to justice for Disabled people | Three Guineas Trust**](https://threeguineastrust.org.uk/grants/access-to-law/)

# Supporting Early-Stage Social Enterprises / Shackleton Foundation

Seed funding grants and support are available to inspirational leaders and early-stage social enterprises in the UK to establish their own non-profit ventures with the potential to provide solutions to intractable social problems faced by disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people. **Deadlines Aug 4th and October 31st.**

**Website:** [**Shackleton Foundation**](https://shackletonfoundation.org/?page_id=44)

# ***And just a reminder….***

# **‘Try it’ Small Grant Scheme /** Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership

Voluntary organisations and community groups are invited to apply for funding up to a maximum of £1,000. The applications must recognise one or more of the Community Partnership priorities:

1. To improve their mental health and wellbeing using the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Connect/Get Active/Take Notice/Learn/Give
2. To reduce social isolation and loneliness. We are particularly keen to receive applications covering Lowestoft Central, Kirkley and Gunton west wards.
3. To improve healthy eating and activity in children by targeting and engaging with year 5 children, staff and parents through communication and education.

We are looking for **NEW** ideas/projects that have not been previously supported by the partnership. **Opens 21 April and closes on 6 June 9am.**

**Website:** [**Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership » East Suffolk Council**](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-partnerships/lowestoft-and-northern-parishes-community-partnership/)

# Heritage Open Days in East Suffolk / East Suffolk Council

East Suffolk Council is proudly supporting Heritage Open Days, the UK’s largest free festival of history and culture, taking place this year from 12 to 21 September. Funding up to £500 is available to encourage local groups, societies, venues, and organisations to get involved by opening a historic building, leading a walk, running a workshop, or sharing untold stories. This year’s theme is architecture. Voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise organisations can apply. **Deadline 4pm on 1 May.**

**Website:** [Supporting Heritage Open Days in East Suffolk » East Suffolk Council](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/supporting-heritage-open-days-in-east-suffolk/)

# Nature First small grant scheme / Greenprint Forum

The Nature First small grants fund is provided by East Suffolk Council on behalf of the East Suffolk Greenprint Forum and is available for projects that specifically contribute to the enhancement of local biodiversity and/or its understanding and appreciation by the local community. Eligible projects may include work to restore existing habitats, creation of habitats, provision of nesting / roosting places for birds, pollinators and other animals, or activities to help local people of any age learn about and enjoy their local biodiversity. Eligible projects must contribute to the Greenprint Forum’s goal of an East Suffolk where the value of nature is recognised by the majority, visitors are attracted because of it and everyone actively cares for it.

If you are considering making an application but aren’t sure if this grant scheme is appropriate for your project, please contact greenissues@eastsuffolk.gov.uk.

**Applications can be submitted at any time**, there is no deadline as the Panel will convene approximately once per month (subject to the need) to consider applications **on an ongoing, first come first served basis until the funding has all been allocated**.

**Application form and guidance:** [Greenprint Forum small grants scheme “Nature First” – application form](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Environment/Green-Issues/Nature-First-Small-Grants-Scheme/Nature-First-project-fund-application-form.docx) ; [Greenprint Forum small grants scheme](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Environment/Green-Issues/Nature-First-Small-Grants-Scheme/Nature-First-small-grants-guidance-for-applicants.pdf)

**Projects supported so far:** [Nature First projects supported in 2021-2022](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Environment/Green-Issues/Nature-First-Small-Grants-Scheme/Nature-First-projects-funded-2021-2022.pdf)

# Usual tips to empower your own Funding Search/Applications

**East Suffolk Council Funding opportunities for local communities and charitable organisations:**

Use this link to see a summary of our CURRENT funding schemes; a host of Funding Tips & Advice and examples of other external funding organisations:

[**Community grants and funding » East Suffolk Council**](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants-and-funding/)

# FREE Funding search tool - Funding 4 Suffolk:

Hosted by Community Action Suffolk, via a collaborative partnership with local authorities including East Suffolk Council. Tailored to the needs of **Suffolk’s** voluntary sector, it gives you access to a COMPREHENSIVE list of all the current funding opportunities on the Grantfinder database and you can ‘tailor’ a search to your own needs. It also aims to help support you and your organisation to secure funds, build capacity and improve your grant making efforts. The site also has guides to help you get the best from the search tool and top tips from funders on how to write successful applications….as well as, listings of local funder events and training opportunities. It means you can undertake a search at ANY TIME and it is the main source I use when searching for opportunities!

[**Home | Funding 4 Suffolk (idoxopen4community.co.uk)**](https://funding.idoxopen4community.co.uk/suffolk/)

# Suffolk Community Foundation

They regularly have a large number of opportunities. Please see: [**Current grants - Suffolk Community Foundation**](https://www.suffolkcf.org.uk/current-grants/)

**Please contact the individual funder, not me, if you have any questions about a specific Fund (unless an East Suffolk Council one of course!)….**

**…*and if you are successful with an application, I’d love to hear about it please! Thank you.***