



Funding opportunities for Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) organisations 11.12.25



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Food Banks / Health / Arts-Culture-Heritage / Education

Wise Music Foundation: What we support: education, cultural activities and arts & heritage, health issues, food banks and other worthy causes. **Four rounds per year.**

Website: <https://wisemusicfoundation.com/apply/>

Support for Animal Welfare

UK registered charities can apply now for funding to support projects. Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available for projects or activities that benefit and protect animals, relieve the suffering of animals, address the conservation of wildlife or encourage a greater understanding of animals. The grants can be used toward revenue and capital costs and will support:

- General running costs associated with the rescue, rehabilitation and re-homing of domestic, wild and exotic animals.
- Costs associated with the direct protection of endangered species.
- Feeding, capturing, neutering and releasing of feral cats.
- Assistance with vets' fees and neutering costs of animals owned by those on low incomes.
- Donations toward the purchase or improvement of property or fixed buildings, provided that the property is clearly in the ownership of the charity, or at least 10 years is left to run on the charity's lease, or a letter from the landowner states that the charity will be reimbursed for the improvements on sale of the property or at the end of the lease.

To be eligible, charities must be registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales, the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, or the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland for a minimum of 12 months when they apply. **There are three deadlines for applications each year. Awards are usually made within four months of the deadline. The next deadline is 1 April 2026 for the Summer 2026 meeting.**

Website: [Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust | Support Animal Welfare Today](#)

Coastal & Marine Environments

Sea Changers is offering grants of up to £2500 for community groups and other not-for-profit organisations to help prevent negative impacts on UK coastal and marine environments and species by reducing marine litter through the provision of well-located coastal water fountains that will significantly reduce the use of non-reusable plastic drinks bottles.

The Coastal Fountain Fund will support groups to cover the cost of purchasing a water fountain unit for installation in a busy or environmentally important coastal location. Priority will be given to new applicants who have not previously received funding. Funding is only for the cost of purchasing a water fountain. Installation or maintenance costs will not be considered. **The deadline for applications is 28 February 2026.**

Website: [Coastal Fountain Fund 2026 | Sea-Changers](#)

Community Projects

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 stated.**

Website: [Community Champions](#) | [Persimmon Homes](#) | [Persimmon Homes](#)

Children and Young People Development especially Beccles area

Whilst organisations in Suffolk are eligible to apply, they are keen to see applications from communities in: **Beccles**. Tesco UK Stronger Starts supports thousands of local community projects with priority given to projects that support young people. Grants are up to £1,500 each quarter. Examples of eligible applications supporting children and young people and/or food security for families could include:

- a school providing pupils with food for breakfast clubs or snacks throughout the day.
- a school wanting to buy equipment for outdoor or indoor activities.
- a voluntary organisation working with families to run a food bank.
- a healthy eating project that supports families to cook healthy meals on a budget.
- a uniformed or other community group needing funding for new play equipment or activities.

The Tesco Stronger Starts scheme is a rolling programme, allowing groups to apply at any time. There is a rolling deadline but if applications are submitted before **6 January** they have a higher chance in the upcoming round of **April-June** vote in store round.

No deadline stated.

Website: [Apply for a grant](#) Questions? Alice Browne: alice.browne@groundwork.org.uk

Environmental Groups Offered Chance to Double Donations

Organisations working to protect the planet have a new funding opportunity through The Big Give's Earth Raise campaign. The aim of Earth Raise is to create what The Big Give calls "the annual, defining moment for environmental fundraising" and to mobilise "millions for the planet" via high-impact charities. The week-long match-funding drive, which will run around World Earth Day, aims to double every public donation made to eligible environmental charities. Under the scheme, UK-registered charities whose **core mission** encompasses environmental work, such as biodiversity, climate change, waste, energy, transport, or pollution, can apply.

The campaign is open to organisations with a minimum annual income of £25,000 and offers two options: a 1:1 match model (public fundraising target: £1,000–£10,000) or a Pledge

model (public fundraising up to £100,000, combined with a pledge fund and champion match funding).

Once accepted, charities will receive ring-fenced match funding from Champion donors which is unlocked as public donations arrive during the campaign week (22-29 April 2026).

The application window closes on Friday 16th January 2026.

Website: [Green Match Fund / Earth Raise - Big Give](#)

Funding to Help Children and Young People Reach Their Full Potential

Schools, community groups, clubs, societies and other not-for-profit organisations can apply now for grants of up to £5,000 for projects that help to improve the education and development of children and young people (between the ages of six and 22 years). The funding (most grants are for less than £2,000) is for the cost of specific, relatively small-scale projects that might not happen at all or would only happen on a lesser scale without the support of the funder. Projects can be educational, cultural, sporting or other activities but particular consideration will be given to those that help the self-confidence, team working skills and future employability of children and young people.

Projects could include but are not limited to:

- Academic education / Art and design / Community projects.
- Debating / Drama / Educational excursions/ Enterprise projects.
- Music / Public speaking / Sport / Vocational training.

The grants can cover a range of costs including:

- Educational materials / Sports equipment / Musical instruments.
- IT equipment / Drama tuition / Music tuition / Art and design equipment.
- Educational training courses / Vocational training courses.
- Educational excursions / Competitions / Educational events.
- Seed funding for enterprise projects / Drama production costs.

The funding will not support projects for children or young people under the age of 5 or over the age of 22; life-skill mentoring services; counselling services; holiday clubs or playgroups; construction, maintenance or repair of buildings or facilities; training adults who work with children or young people; student fees or maintenance; running costs or general activities of an organisation.

Applications are currently being accepted for work in early spring 2026.

Website: [Home - Blue Spark Foundation](#)

Social Welfare & Recreational/Leisure Facilities

A broad range of issues or themes (youth, disadvantaged, deprived, disabled, elderly, the environment). supported under eligibility:

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

No deadline stated.

Website: [THE HOBSON CHARITY – A GRANT GIVING CHARITY](#)

Support for Older People & People with Disabilities

The Older People capital grants (from £25,000 to £75,000) programme supports Registered Charities and Local Authorities (CQC Rating of Good) that provide care and services for older individuals, particularly those with neurodegenerative conditions or experiencing social isolation. Projects with total costs exceeding £80,000 are expected to secure at least 25% in match funding before submitting a Stage 2 application. The funding is designated for new buildings, refurbishment work, or equipment purchases that contribute to improved service delivery and organisational stability. Projects should also aim to increase the financial sustainability of the organisation. **Two rounds per year.**

Website: [Funding for charities working with older people](#)

Environment / Heritage & Personal Development

The aim of the Swire Charitable Trust is to make grants to charities who are working hard to transform the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our society, as well as those working to protect our country's heritage and environment:

- Nature: Connecting people to the environment and supporting the UK's biodiversity
- Heritage: Regeneration through restoration and safeguarding endangered skills
- Opportunity: Improving life chances, realising potential

No deadline stated.

Website: [Apply for funding - The Swire Charitable Trust](#)

Digital Inclusion & Employment for Blind and Vision-Impaired People

UK organisations supporting blind and vision-impaired people can now apply for grants of up to £30,000 to tackle digital barriers to employment. The fund prioritises projects that use technology to prepare vision impaired individuals for work, support job applications, aid job retention and progression, and create pathways into tech careers. Eligible applicants include UK-registered charities, CIOs, charitable companies, CICs limited by guarantee, and exempt charities such as universities. The funding is being made available by the charity Fight for Sight through its new Digital Inclusion Fund. **Applications close 6th January 2026 at midday.**

Website: [Fight for Sight - The Digital Inclusion Fund](#)

Grants for support Learning Disabilities services

Funding is normally considered for capital and revenue costs and for both specific projects and for general running/core costs - UK Charities, Parent Teachers Associations, and schools can apply. The following areas of work normally fall within the Fund's current policy providing they benefit the learning disabled:

- Capital building/renovation/refurbishment works for residential, nursing and respite care, and schools
- Employment schemes including woodwork, crafts, printing and horticulture
- Play schemes and play therapy schemes
- Day and social activities centres including building costs and running costs
- Support for families, including respite schemes
- Independent living schemes; Support in the community schemes; Snoezelen rooms.

Small Grants (below £9,000) can be applied for at any time. Main grants deadline is 31st December 2025.

Website: [General programme | Baily Thomas Charitable Fund](#)

Marginalisation or Discrimination

Our focus is on funding specific groups that experience marginalisation and/or discrimination and we currently make grants through seven funding programmes. **No deadline given.**

Website: [The Allen Lane Foundation](#)

Arts and Music Projects

The Fidelio Trust is offering grants of up to £5,000 to talented early-career individuals and groups in the arts, particularly music, who couldn't pursue their project or activity without financial support. An appropriate institution, college, Arts Festival or similar organisation must recommend Individuals and groups. Funding is available towards special tuition or coaching costs, to participate in external competitions, support for a specially arranged performance, and to receive support for a musical composition.

The application deadline is 12pm, Friday 16th January 2026.

Website: [Fidelio - Applications for grants in support of the Arts | Fidelio Charitable Trust](#)

Grassroots Music

Arts Council England has announced that its Supporting Grassroots Music Fund has reopened to applications. The Fund offers grants between £1,000-£40,000 for projects lasting up to three years, supporting venues, festivals, promoters, and recording or rehearsal studios to strengthen and develop their work. It aims to improve opportunities for music creators, particularly those early in their careers, by expanding access to rehearsal and recording spaces, supporting touring activity, and enhancing the sustainability of small venues. Applications are encouraged by organisations working across all genres, including electronic, hip-hop and grime, indie and alternative, metal and punk, and pop/rock.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and require 10% match funding.

The next application deadline is Friday 23rd January 2026.

Website: [Supporting grassroots music | Arts Council England](#)

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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](#)

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 \(idoxopen4community.co.uk\)](#)

Suffolk Community Foundation

They regularly have a large number of opportunities. Website: [Current grants - Suffolk Community Foundation](#). You can contact their Grants Team at grants@suffolkcf.org.uk

Suffolk County Council

They also offer funding at various times and give other forms of help, support and possible funding sources too: [Community Funding - Suffolk County Council](#)

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.