**COMMUNITY FUNDING BULLETIN (FUNDING WITH A DEADLINE)**



**Edition 57 JULY 2025**

**Welcome to Derry City & Strabane District Council’s monthly Community Funding Bulletin!** It can also be found on-line [here](https://www.derrystrabane.com/about-council/strategic-finance-funding)

* **Derry City & Strabane District Council** provides **free** access to a **Community Funding Portal** **for those residing within the Council area**. This online tool allows you to browse, search and create tailored searches to identify your own funding opportunities. Follow the links to register and/or log-in [here](https://funding.idoxopen4community.co.uk/derrystrabane_com)
* If you wish to be added to the e-mail mailing list or have any other queries, please e-mail: karen.dyson@derrystrabane.com

***USEFUL INFORMATION BOARD***

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| ***HELP WITH COST OF LIVING ADVICE*** ***For advice on help with Finance, Food, Fuel and Bills and other useful info see:**** [***www.derrystrabane.com/helpwithcostofliving***](http://www.derrystrabane.com/helpwithcostofliving)
* ***NI Direct’s Cost of Living Info and Advice*** [***here***](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/cost-living)

***ESMEE FAIRBAIRN FOUNDATION – SOURCES OF FUNDING HELP***[***Other sources of funding help | Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (esmeefairbairn.org.uk)***](https://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/applications/other-sources-funding-help/)***NISRA WEBSITE FOR STATISTICS******The NI Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) provides statistics, census results and other information which can be useful for funding applications, see:***[***https://www.nisra.gov.uk/***](https://www.nisra.gov.uk/)***BUSINESS SUPPORT INFORMATION**** ***Derry City and Strabane District Council’s Business Support Section*** [***https://www.derrystrabane.com/Business/Business-Support***](https://www.derrystrabane.com/Business/Business-Support)
* ***NI Business Info*** [***https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/***](https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/)
* ***Invest NI is the regional business development agency:*** [***https://www.investni.com/***](https://www.investni.com/)

***CROWDFUNDER******Crowdfunding is a way of raising money through the collective effort of family, friends, customers, individual investors and the public at large via social media and crowd-funding platforms. You can crowd-fund through donations, rewards, community shares and equity.***[***Crowdfunder UK - Where Ideas Happen | Crowdfunder UK***](https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/)***ON-LINE: CHAT TO THE FUNDER EVENTS******Useful funder events,*** ***including those organised by the Community Foundation NI, appear on this Eventbrite site.***[***Chat to the funder Tickets, Multiple Multiple Dates | Eventbrite***](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/dk-kCW7LVuL4XoF6EEFta?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com)***GENERAL SCOPING FORM FOR POTENTIAL FUNDING APPLICATIONS******Please find below a General Scoping Form, developed by the Council’s Funding Advice Unit, which may assist you to scope out your project ideas before applying for any funding. Please note, this is not an application form and is just for your own use.******GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER******For free access to SOME latest funding opportunities for schools scroll downwards on this link:*** [*Grants4Schools*](https://www.grants4schools.info/) |

**USEFUL INFO FOR (SMALL) CHARITIES**

NICVA free training: Governance Health Check for Boards & Committees 4

Free NICVA Membership for small organisations (annual income of less than £20k) 4

Association of Chairs – A Toolkit for Financial Leadership in Small Charities 4

**GENERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH VARIOUS DEADLINES Page**

Free School Meals and Uniform/Physical Education Allowances 2025/26 – apply now! 4

Community Foundation NI: Equity In Action Fund Apply anytime – No deadlines 5

Public Health Agency NI: Work Well Live Well (workplace health support for businesses) 5/6

National Lottery NI – Strengthening Communities Apply anytime - No deadlines 6

Police Property Fund – Large Grant Scheme 7

The Arts Council/Chomhairle Ealaíon (ROI) – Available Funding Page Various deadlines 7

PRS Foundation: Funding Opportunities (new music & talent development) Various deadlines 7

**BBC Charity Appeal Ongoing 8**

BBC Radio Ulster/Foyle – Apply for a Broadcast Appeal Ongoing 8

**JULY 2025 Deadlines**

North West Carnival Initiative: Open Call for Artists’ & Facilitators’ Panels 4/07/25 9

Co-op Annual Local Community Fund 6/07/25 9

Arts Council NI: WOMEX (World Music Expo) Delegate Bursaries 2025 10/07/25 10

The Nature Save Trust 10/07/25 10

Social Enterprise NI Awards 2025 10/07/25 10

Money Saving Expert (MSE) Charity Grants (finance) 10/07/25 11

Arts Council NI: National Lottery Major Individuals Awards (Support for Individual Artists Programme) 11/07/25 11

Arts Council NI: Rosy James Memorial Trust (Makers) 11/07/25 12

Fluxus Arts “Magnetic” Residency, France (for NI Visual Artists) 14/07/25 12

Arts Council NI: New Small Grants Programme 18/07/25 12

Scottish Power Foundation’s Art for Climate Fund 18/07/25 13

Scottish Power Foundation’s Annual Grants Programme 18/07/25 13

Self-Employment for Persons with Disabilities Programme 2025 31/07/25 13/14

Irish Language Theatre Production and Touring Award 31/07/25 14

**AUGUST 2025 Deadlines**

Arts Council NI: Musical Instrument Funding (2 categories) 1/08/25 14/15

Parkinsons UK: Physical Activity Grants for Marginalised Communities 2025 10/08/25 15

Arts Council NI: National Lottery Support for Individual Artists Programme: Project Funding for Individuals 14/08/25 16

Material Focus: Circular Electricals Fund 14/08/25 17

Performance Film & Media: Short Film Competition (5 Categories) 20/08/25 17

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Peace and Security Programme 22/08/25 18

Arts Council NI: Small Capital Grants Programme 28/08/25 18/19

**SEPTEMBER 2025 Deadlines**

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Northern Ireland Programme 1/09/25 19/20

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Power & Accountability Programme 1/09/25 20/21

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Sustainable Futures Programme 1/09/25 22

Cultural Bridge Fund 2026-27 Funding Programme (exchange with Germany) 1/09/25 23

Institute of Physics: Public Engagement Grant Scheme 1/09/25 23/24

The Theatre’s Trust/Wolfson: Theatre Improvement Scheme 5/09/25 24

Nordic Culture Fund (Arts) Northern European Mobility Opportunity (opens 18 Aug)15/09/25 25

Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation Grants (UK/Japan collaboration) 15/09/25 25

Heart Research UK – Healthy Hearts Grants for NI 17/09/25 26

Northern Ireland – Police Property Fund - Large Grants Scheme 22/09/25 26

Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership Funding (NI) 25/09/25 27

**OCTOBER 2025 Deadlines**

Nuffield Foundation Programme Grants: Research, Development and Analysis Fund6/10/25 27/28

Nuffield Foundation Programme Grants: Racial Diversity UK Fund 6/10/25 28

NFU Mutual Charitable Grants (agriculture and rural) 10/10/25 28/29

NI Good Relations Week: 13-19 October 2025 (sign up now to participate) 13/10/25 29

Maker Relief Fund (for Craftspeople in Need) 31/10/25 29

**November 2025 Deadlines**

Tree Council: Branching Out Fund 18/11/25 30

**2026 Deadlines**

Community Relations Council NI: Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Funds 16/01/26 30/31

Sport NI – Creating Opportunities (with Crowdfunding) (50%match funding) 29/01/26 32

Duke of Edinburgh Award – Access Without Limits Funding 31/01/26 32

Listed Place of Worship Grant Scheme (extended) 31/03/26 32

UK Government: Connect Fund (NI and rest of UK): Round 1 30/04/26 32/33

**2027 Deadlines**

National Lottery Community Fund: Dormant Assets For All (NI) (New!) Deadline TBA for 2027 33

PEACEPLUS ChangeMakers Programme (Cross Border or Cross Community)No Deadlines 33/34

**USEFUL INFO FOR (SMALL) CHARITIES**

**\*\*\*\*NICVA free training: Governance Health Check for Boards & Committees\*\*\*\***

The Developing Governance Group will deliver **five online workshops** this year, one for each of the Code's five principles, to help organisations start reviewing their practices.

**11 June 2025:** Workshop 3, Principle 3: Maintaining control, making effective decisions and managing risk
**24 September 2025:** Workshop 4, Principle 4: Acting with integrity
**12 November 2025:** Workshop 5, Principle 5: Being open and accountable

These seminars are open to trustees and employees of voluntary and community organisations and those who advise them.

To register for any of the workshops, visit the [NICVA website](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/gn3kCnrx1iGx50gt9kIVSJoImM?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com)

**\*\*\*\*\*FREE NICVA Membership for small organisations (income of less than £20k pa)\*\*\***

Membership of the NI Council for Voluntary Associations is free for small organisations with an income of less than £20,000 per year. They can provide you with a lot of useful help and information. See link below for details:

[Free NICVA membership for small organisations | NICVA](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/N2KVC32QNfmWq1jHgf9SQ1-wK?domain=nicva.org)

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| **Association of Chairs – A Toolkit for Financial Leadership for Small Charities**The Association of Chairs has published a [**toolkit for chairs of small charities**](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/j4TJCzKvkfRO6o0T4ySoS9Xdkq?domain=esmeefairbairnfoundation.cmail19.com). It offers reflections and recommendations on the chair's role when it comes to the financial stewardship of their charity; and signposts to further resources and guidance. <https://www.associationofchairs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/AOC-Finance-Guide-Dec-2024.pdf> |

**GENERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH VARIOUS DEADLINES**

**Free School Meals and Uniform/Physical Education Allowances 2025/26**

Apply for Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance for the new school year beginning September, through the Education Authority’s online portal, [EA Connect.](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/yJxfC6RXQfoWlJjTpkFph5A26H?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com)

Applicants in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Jobseeker’s Allowance, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance or Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit must upload a Proof of Benefit Letter, dated no earlier than the start of the month before they apply, which can be obtained by visiting this link. Parents in receipt of Universal Credit do not need a Proof of Benefit letter but must upload their most recent Universal Credit Claimant Statement.

Further information available [here](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/OqwiC861VCjk8gDSnWIOhyr7xS?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com)

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/pupil-applications-and-grants/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

**Community Foundation NI: Equity In Action Fund** (Applications can be made at any time)

Grants of **between £3,000 and £5,000** are available to support **small-scale, innovative, and community-based initiatives** that actively address and counter:

* **Hate crimes and hate incidents.**
* **The spread of misinformation and disinformation (particularly online).**
* **The intersection of both, including how false narratives contribute to prejudice and violence.**

Applicants must:

* Be a constituted organisation with charitable purposes.
* Demonstrate experience or a clear plan to engage in work aligned with the fund’s themes.
* Be able to deliver the proposed project within a 12-month period.

Projects should address one or more of the following:

* **Prevention of Hate Crime:**Community engagement, education, or interventions that reduce bias-motivated incidents.
* **Countering Misinformation and Disinformation:** Fact-checking initiatives, public education campaigns, or media literacy efforts.
* **Support for Affected Communities:** Programmes offering legal, mental health, or community support to those impacted by hate crimes or targeted misinformation.
* **Digital Resilience:** Tools, workshops, or campaigns helping communities recognise, report, or resist online manipulation and hate speech.
* **Youth Engagement:** Youth-led or youth-targeted initiatives addressing online harm, radicalisation, or bias.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

* Financial support for people who are afraid to leave their homes/relocate affected people.
* Co-ordinating local response across groups.
* Resourcing community support spaces and costs associated with security measures.
* Provision of additional safeguarding and mental health support to staff and those they work with.
* The sharing of safety information with people at risk.

The Foundation will be flexible with costs and can **support costs associated with staff time, materials, events, technology, training, outreach, evaluation, or anything that will align well with the fund priorities.**

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-equity-in-action-fund/>

**Public Health Agency NI: Work Well Live Well Project (workplace health support for businesses)**

We are excited to announce that 2025 registration for the **Work Well Live Well** program is now open! This is a Public Health Agency **fully funded workplace health and well-being support service, which is designed to help organisations create healthier, happier, and more productive work environments.**
The program offers tailored support, including:

* **Health and well-being initiatives to meet the needs of your workforce.**
* **Expert guidance to develop sustainable workplace health strategies.**
* **Access to resources and training that prioritize employee well-being.**

Whether you’re looking to address mental health, physical health, or overall workplace culture, Work Well Live Well can help your organisation achieve its goals. Don’t miss this opportunity to invest in your team’s well-being for 2025.

[Find out more](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/CZV7CJqyBT8X57qSV5sjcy_6ki?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com) and [Register now](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/qBkHCKZ1DtqJmj2SM7tVc5fLm1?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com)

**National Lottery NI – Strengthening Communities**  (no deadlines – apply anytime)

This new fund is available to voluntary and community organisations across Northern Ireland and will invest £20 million each year in support of NLCF’s 2030 strategy  ‘[It starts with community](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/about/our-strategy)'.

* **Grants of between £20,001 and £500,000 are available for up to five years.**
* **Grants of between £20,001 and £200,000 are available to organisations with an annual income of under £500,000.**
* **Grants of between £200,000 and £500,000 are available to any size of organisation.**

The Fund has a targeted approach distinct from previous programmes, as it is intended for **projects focused on early intervention with a particular focus on people who experience poverty, disadvantage or discrimination.** The Fund will start by targeting two of the NLCF's mission areas:

* **Help children and young people thrive.**
* **Enable people to live healthier lives.**

Projects must align with at least one of the following outcomes:

* **Communities help to reduce health inequalities.**
* **Communities support people’s physical health, mental health and wellbeing.**
* **People have positive relationships and connections.**
* **Communities help young people to reach their potential and thrive as adults.**
* **Children and young people develop good social and emotional skills.**

Organisations are encouraged to consider how to make their **projects accessible to vulnerable and excluded communities.** The Fund is interested in vulnerable or excluded communities that struggle to access support for reasons such as:

* Living in an isolated area.
* They are socially excluded.
* They can't use online services.

**Organisations are encouraged to make their project inclusive and accessible for these groups.**

The following costs are eligible for funding:

* Equipment.
* Staff costs.
* Training costs.
* Transport.
* Utilities.
* Volunteer expenses.
* Small refurbishment projects that are needed to deliver a service.
* Overheads for the project.

**Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (no deadlines).**

[Strengthening Communities | The National Lottery Community Fund (tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/strengthening-communities)

**Police Property Fund – Large Grants Scheme**

This call for applications will award a total of £150,000 in **large grants of between £20,000 and £30,000 to eligible projects.**

The Police Property Fund is made up of assets recovered by the PSNI as a result of criminal investigations, and administered by the Board in line with the Police (Property) Regulations NI 1997. The Policing Board agreed to implement the Fund through a Small Grants Scheme (80% of available Funds) and a Large Grants Scheme (20% of available Funds). To date the Board has progressed two Small Grants Funding Calls which have seen almost £320,000 awarded to eligible projects across Northern Ireland.

Applications for funding will need to demonstrate that the project

* is strategic in nature
* engages with local police
* contributes to building community safety and/or confidence in the police in your area
* is aligned to a charitable purpose

**Register your interest and get notified when the Scheme launches by emailing us at**policepropertyfund@nipolicingboard.org.uk

**The Arts Council / Chomhairle Ealaion (Republic of Ireland)**

**Eligible** arts organisations, artists, and groups working within the arts can apply for The Arts Council / Chomhairle Ealaíon (ROI) funding. **This is mostly for organisations in Republic of Ireland but some cross-border projects may be eligible.** Discover what funding is available and if you are eligible, see website below (scroll down). You can also register for

[online services](https://onlineservices.artscouncil.ie/) to submit an application on this website.

<https://www.artscouncil.ie/available-funding/>

**PRS Foundation: Funding Opportunities for Music**

The Performing Right Society (PRS) Foundation is the UK’s leading charitable funder of **new music and talent development**. Check out all their great funding opportunities below:

See the upcoming deadlines for all upcoming opportunities at PRS Foundation here:

<https://prsfoundation.com/funding-s0upport/deadlines/>

Before applying to any of our initiatives, we highly recommend you read the respective FAQs. **All deadlines are 6:00pm**unless otherwise stated.

If you are a music creator, to find out which funds you might be eligible for, click [here](https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/).

If you are an organisation, to find out which funds you might be eligible for, click [here](https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-for-organisations/).

Any queries: email us.

**BBC Charity Appeals**
If you would like a chance to reach BBC audiences with the story of your charity and toapply for a BBC Radio 4 or BBC One Lifeline Appeal, please email the BBC Charity Appeals Unit telling us:

* Name of your charity
* Your Charity Registration number (you **must** be registered with the UK Charity Commission to be eligible)
* Name of **charity contact** (email + phone no.) i.e.the person who is going to fill out the application form.

| **Application Deadline** | **Transmission Dates** |
| --- | --- |
| **1st September 2025** by 23:59 | **2 Aug 2026 - 25 Oct 2026** |
| **7th December 2025** by 23:59 | **1 Nov 2026 - 24 Jan 2027** |

The Appeals Advisory Committee meets quarterly to discuss and approve applications. You should be informed of their decision approximately 3 months after the application deadline. Please note you **must**meet the criteria to be eligible for an appeal.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/charityappeals/apply>

**BBC Radio Ulster/Foyle – Apply for a Broadcast Appeal**

The BBC provides **up to 11 broadcast slots** to **local charities each year on BBC Radio Ulster/Foyle.** These opportunities are available to **local charities and organisations that operate at regional or sub-regional level, or which are involved in international work**.

Appeals are accompanied by **short ‘explainer videos’** which are published on the BBC’s digital platforms and can be used to promote awareness of a charity’s work, or to make a request for volunteers and/or financial support. The latter requires additional information about your charity’s finances. All Broadcast Appeals are subject to the BBC’s Editorial Guidelines and its Broadcast Appeals Policy.

Application forms and assessment criteria for Broadcast Appeals can be downloaded by clicking on the website link below. Completed application forms should be submitted to **paula.gilmurray@bbc.co.uk**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/northernireland/appeals/apply>

**FUNDING WITH DEADLINES**

**North West Carnival Initiative: Open Call for Artists’ &Facilitators’ Panels**

The North West Carnival Initiative (NWCI) is **seeking to recruit a panel of experienced and enthusiastic artists and facilitators to deliver community-based workshops in Derry and the wider North West region.** These artists/facilitators will contribute to NWCI’s ongoing mission to **promote inclusive participation in the arts and develop creative skills through carnival-inspired practices**.

This opportunity is ideal for artists working in areas such as **visual arts, prop-making, costume design, puppetry, performance, music, and storytelling, who are passionate about community engagement, cultural celebration, and participatory practice.**

The initiative aims to support year-round activity that feeds into Derry and Strabane District Council flagship events such as the **Halloween, Spring Carnival, and Foyle Maritime Festivals, as well as one-off seasonal and community commissions.**

Please **contact Jim** for Terms of Reference by emailing nwcarnival@gmail.com or by ringing NWCI Office: 02871 414243

**Deadline for Submissions: 4 July 2025**

**Co-op Annual Local Community Fund**

Each year, the Co-op offers grants to supports projects in Co-op members’ communities that provide access to opportunities and resources for people to thrive. **The Local Community Fund is seeking applications for a new round of funding, which starts in October 2025.**

The new round will support **projects that enable people to access food, create opportunities for young people, improve people’s mental wellbeing, promote community cohesion and build sustainable futures.** The funder is also keen to **support projects that promote and celebrate diversity and inclusion.**

There is a total of £5 million for Co-op communities across the UK with **£6,000 to share between three local causes in each community. Successful groups will receive a minimum of £1,000 to support their projects. Projects must take place or still be running after November 2026.**

To apply, groups must:

* Be registered or based in the UK or Isle of Man
* Have their own bank account
* Deliver activity in their local community
* Be not-for-profit
* Provide a Co-op membership number for one of the people making the application (non-members can join online or via the Co-op App).

**Successful groups will be part of the Local Community Fund for 12 months** from 19 October 2025 to 17 October 2026. **Their local cause will receive funds in November 2026.**

**Deadline: 6 July 2025 (midnight)**

<https://causes.coop.co.uk/>

**Arts Council NI: WOMEX (World Music Expo) Delegate Bursaries 2025**

Applications are now open for delegate bursaries to attend WOMEX World Music Expo, the most important international professional market for world music of all kinds. **Taking place in October in Finland, the four-day event attracts over 2000 delegates from over 90 countries**, including hundreds of concert and festival bookers, labels, publishers, distributors, managers, and the world's media.

**Deadline: 10 July 2025 at 5pm**

[WOMEX 2025 Bursaries | Arts Council NI](https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-individuals/womex-2025-bursaries)

**The Nature Save Trust**

Charities, social enterprises, community groups, voluntary organisations, small grassroots groups and businesses who are **working to connect their communities to nature can apply now for a grant of up to £5,000.** The funding is intended to encourage nature connection initiatives within the local community, such as:

* Arts and cultural activities.
* Community gardening.
* Green gyms.
* Eco anxiety and mental health.
* Training a community with green skills.
* Conservation volunteering.
* Urban nature programmes.
* Social prescribing.
* Access to nature.
* Community wildlife surveys.
* Nature mindfulness.

Or perhaps you have a nature connection initiative that we haven’t even considered! If you have a completely new approach to encouraging nature connection, then we are all ears. Applicants must be entirely based in the UK and have a website or social media presence.

**Deadline: 10 July 2025 (12 noon)**

<https://naturesave.co.uk/naturesave-trust/>

**Social Enterprise NI Awards 2025**

Social Enterprise Northern Ireland is delighted to announce the official launch of the much-anticipated 2025 Northern Ireland Social Enterprise Awards, **the only awards dedicated to recognising and celebrating the outstanding achievements of social enterprises across the region**.

Returning for what promises to be another inspiring year, the Awards shine a spotlight on organisations using business as a force for good **from creating jobs and delivering vital services to tackling some of society’s biggest challenges, all while reinvesting profits for purpose.** To promote inclusivity, **video applications have been introduced for the first time in the Award’s 13 years history**.

**Deadline: 10 July 2025** [www.socialenterpriseni.org/awards](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/ZY5qCOyMKhAMn66CEBCwhGPZF_?domain=nwcn.us3.list-manage.com)

 **Money Saving Expert (MSE) Charity Grants (finance)**

Funded by Money Saving Expert, the MSE Charity offers a small number of grants twice a year to small not-for-profit organisations based and working in the UK. The funding is **to help them deliver activities within the UK that improve people’s ability to become more financially capable in their present and future circumstances. Grants of between £2,000 and £10,000** can be used to support activities such as:

* Money management workshops.
* Training volunteers to deliver workshops or to provide peer-support to others.
* Upskilling existing staff to access financial capability training to support their end-users directly.
* Provide access to financial inclusion activities for people who are disadvantaged in anyway such as by age, disability, ethnicity or gender.

**The funding is to be used for specific activity costs related to financial capability projects only. UK registered charities, community interest companies (CICs), credit unions, not-for-profit companies limited by guarantee, and social enterprise companies can apply.**

To be eligible, applicants must be based in the UK, looking for funding for UK based activities, and meet the following criteria:

* Have a total annual income of between £10,000 and £600,000.
* Hold between one- and six-months running costs in free reserves.
* Been established and active for at least 18 months.
* Have a governing document (a constitution, rules, or articles of association).
* Have a governing body of at least three unconnected individuals.
* Have a bank account in the group’s name.

The first step is to take **the Eligibility quiz which is now open for the summer 2025 round**. Groups who have successfully completed the quiz will receive an email on 2 July with a link to access the online application form.

**Applications open on 2 July and close on 10 July 2025**

<https://www.msecharity.com/>

**Arts Council NI: National Lottery Major Individuals Award (SIAP)**

Major Individual Artist Awards are intended to create the circumstances in which established artists with national / international recognition may develop extended or ambitious work. Your proposal should result in a significant creative outcome. Costs can be for specific projects, specialised research, personal artistic development and materials/equipment.

**Four awards of up to £15,000 each are being offered in 2025/26**.

**Deadline: 11 July 2025** **(noon)**

[National Lottery Major Individuals Awards (SIAP) | Arts Council NI](https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-individuals/siap-major-individuals-award)

**Arts Council NI: Rosy James Memorial Trust**

Artists, designers and makers based in Northern Ireland can apply for **bursary support** through the Rosemary (Rosy) James Memorial Trust Award, administered by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. The award offers **up to £15,000 to support individuals in the development of a new body of work which would otherwise be financially unfeasible. The work must culminate in a public exhibition in Northern Ireland and be completed between 1 September 2025 and 27 February 2027.**

Eligible applicants include those working with materials such as **clay, glass, metals, textiles, wood, plastics or paper, where material transformation is central to their practice. Applicants must be aged 18 or over and not in secondary education. They must also have contributed to artistic activities in Northern Ireland for at least one year within the past five years**. Employees of statutory bodies and students may apply, but the proposed activity must be unrelated to their employment or academic studies. Prior recipients of this award, students seeking funding for assessed work and applicants already funded by the Arts Council are not eligible.

**Deadline: 11 July 2025 (12:00)**

<https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-individuals/rosy-james-memorial-trust-award>

**Fluxus Arts “Magnetic” Residency, France (for NI Visual Artists)**

Magnetic is a network of 10 residencies in France and the United Kingdom launched in 2022 under the umbrella of Fluxus Art Projects. Now in its fourth iteration, for 2025, Magnetic continues in the same format following three successful previous iterations with **twelve international partners and a total of 27 supported artists from the UK and from France.**

**The Dunkirk-based residency is open to visual artists from Northern Ireland. Artists will receive a threshold monthly fee of €2,500 (£2,100), as well as curatorial mentoring.** See two websites below for more information.

**Deadline: 14 July 2025**

[NI visual artists invited to apply for artist… | Arts Council NI](https://artscouncil-ni.org/news/ni-artists-invited-to-apply-for-artist-residency-in-france-magnetic-4?utm_source=NewZapp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Arts+Council+newsletter+21+May+2025)

[Fluxus](https://fluxusartprojects.com/magnetic-residencies)

**Arts Council NI: New Small Grants Programme**

The New Small Grants Programme, funded by support from the Department for Communities, aims **to encourage greater participation in the arts** and **to increase equality of access to and opportunities in the arts across all Section 75 groupings.**

Participating in the arts, and coming together as communities, can make a vital contribution to improving health and wellbeing, building confidence, and integrating communities. We want to encourage projects which facilitate greater participation in the arts across every section of our society.

**Deadline:** **18 July 2025 @ 12:00PM**

<https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-organisations/new-small-grants>

**Scottish Power Foundation’s Art for Climate Fund**

The ScottishPower Foundation’s Art for Climate Fund will finance **two multi-year projects that contribute towards the goal of building knowledge and capacity to meet climate change**. Specific objective is **to use the arts to inspire evidence-based action for climate and to promote sustainable development, by increasing participation in the climate debate and fostering an understanding and appreciation of nature**.

A two-year grant from this fund aims to increase the capacity of arts charities to design, develop and implement innovative solutions that respond to the climate crisis. It is anticipated that the fund will award **two grants of £100,000 administered over two years**.

**Deadline: 18 July 2025**

<https://www.scottishpower.com/pages/scottishpower_foundation_art_for_climate_fund.aspx>

**Scottish Power Foundation’s Annual Funding Programme**

The program supports projects in four key areas:

* **Education, Training and Research:** Focuses on STEM education, raising aspirations, and innovative solutions to societal needs.
* **Biodiversity and Climate Change:** Aims to protect and restore habitats, enhance biodiversity, and create solutions to climate change.
* **Art and Culture:** Supports the restoration, development, and conservation of artistic and cultural heritage, as well as cultural initiatives.
* **Social Initiatives:** Prioritizes supporting social inclusion, reducing poverty, and promoting economic opportunity for vulnerable groups.

We accept applications for between **£35K- £150K**. The average grant for the last three years was £60K. Decisions to award a grant will be made based on the quality of delivery and perceived benefit for beneficiaries rather than amount requested.

**Deadline: 18 July 2025**

<https://www.scottishpower.com/pages/annual_grants_programme.aspx>

**Self-Employment for Persons with Disabilities Programme 2025**

An exciting new course **for persons with disabilities who wish to start their own business** will **begin on September 17th** and will take place **ONLINE each Wednesday from 11.00 - 13.00 for 12 weeks**. This course has previously been offered in the Republic of Ireland and is now open to applicants from Northern Ireland.

AIB is kindly supporting this course, so it is free for all successful applicants. It will be hosted and delivered by the Technological University (TU), Dublin. The course aims to **break down barriers and ensuring that disabled people have access to the skills and support needed to become successful entrepreneurs**. **Participants in NI can also receive localised support from Disability Action NI, who will assist with recruitment, onboarding, and offer in-person support throughout the course.**

The programme is open to disabled people, including those with **visible, invisible, sensory, learning, mental health, or neurodivergent conditions who wish to start their own business**. This course is specifically designed for people at the early stages of developing a business idea. If you're already running a business or looking for broader entrepreneurship training, this may not be the best fit. The programme has already seen remarkable success in the Republic of Ireland with several participants having already begun the journey of launching their own start-ups, ranging from innovative products to creative enterprises.

Following a review of the applications, a shortlist will be created, and potential course participants will be interviewed by telephone to discuss their business ideas in greater detail and to eliminate anyone considered ineligible for the course. There are **20 places available** on the course, and the selection will be made based on the information presented during these **two stages of the application process**.  Please apply using this [Application Form](https://forms.office.com/e/1XaeAD2Wku). Any queries relating to the course should be emailed to thomas.cooney@tudublin.ie

 **As the programme is significantly oversubscribed each year, early applications are advised**

**Deadline:31 July 2025**<https://www.tudublin.ie/explore/news/aib-and-tu-dublin-self-employment-for-persons-with-disabilities-programme-2025.html>

**Irish Language Theatre Production and Touring Award**

The Irish-Language Theatre Award **supports the production and touring of large-scale Irish-language theatre. It focuses on ensuring more people can enjoy high-quality theatre experiences in the Irish language throughout the country.**

The **maximum awarded is €400,000 to organisations and individuals working professionally in theatre who must be based on the island of Ireland.**Proposals must clearly show benefit to the arts in the Republic of Ireland and **include performances in at least four major urban centres on the island of Ireland, with a minimum of two nights in each centre, at least one of which must be in Northern Ireland.**

**Deadline: 31 July 2025 at 5pm**

[Irish-Language Theatre Award - The Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon](https://artscouncil.ie/funding-opportunities/irish-language-theatre-award/)

**Arts Council NI: Musical Instruments Funding**

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is inviting applications for two of its annual funding programmes, designed to support both **community bands** and **professional as well as non-professional performing groups with acquiring musical instruments**. These programmes form part of the Arts Council's effort to foster and sustain the performing arts sector.

Currently, applications are open for the following initiatives:

* **Musical Instruments for Bands** - for traditional and community bands to replace old instruments and purchase new ones, **offering grants of up to £10,000.**
* **Musical Instruments for Professional and Non-Professional Performing Groups** - aimed at helping both professional and non-professional groups acquire new instruments and related equipment, this programme provides **grants of up to £30,000**.

All instruments funded through these programmes **must be purchased and delivered by 31 March 2026.**

**Deadline: 1 August 2025 (noon)**

<https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-organisations/musical-instruments-for-bands>

<https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-organisations/musical-instruments-for-professional-and-non-professional-performing-groups>

**Parkinsons UK – Physical Activity Grants for Marginalised Communities**

Parkinson's UK has introduced **a new pilot grant of up to £3,000 this year which aims to help more marginalised communities to deliver physical activity sessions for people living with Parkinson's.** The funding is for any innovative new projects that will help marginalised Parkinson's communities who are not currently accessing physical activity opportunities and local authorities with the highest levels of deprivation indicated by the Index of Multiple Deprivation in the UK (2019). **Derry City Council and Strabane Council Area is eligible.**

Applications will be accepted from:

* **Community based not for profit organisations (including charities, CICs and constituted community groups)**
* **Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs).**
* **Community benefit societies and co-operatives.**

To apply, applicants need to work with or be a part of one of the following marginalised communities and community groups:

* **Ethnic minority groups.**
* **Anyone with physical or learning disabilities.**
* **Low affluence areas and low socio-economic groups.**
* **Anyone from the LGBTQIA+ community.**
* **Refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant communities.**
* **Anyone who identifies as a woman.**

**Or they need to work with the Parkinson's community in any of the locations listed on the Parkinson's UK website.**

The following are **not** eligible for funding:

* Parkinson's UK Local groups or branches
* Projects taking place outside of the eligible locations.

**The funding can be used for exercise class provision, consultation with the Parkinson's community and towards engagement events. Applicants can apply for up to 60% of their funding to contribute to physical activity sessions and 40% towards community engagement.**

**Applications will be accepted from 2 June to 10 August 2025**. Notification of decisions by 1 September 2025.

Parkinson's UK is holding **a webinar on 9 July (13:00 to 14:00)**. [Registration is required](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf4RHTWSjIwVd2RM8rdFjjUH5cWp9cRy6BbA13DFQoWm2sttg/viewform):

<https://www.parkinsons.org.uk/news/physical-activity-grants-pilot-launches-marginalised-communities>

**Arts Council: National Lottery Support for Individual Artists Programme (SIAP) – Project Funding for Individuals**

The aim of the overall Support for Individual Artists Programme (SIAP) is **to support artists across all disciplines to create work and develop their practice. Broadly, awards can be for specific projects, specialised research or personal artistic development.**

Eligible applicants to SIAP are as follows:

* **Artists of all disciplines and in all types of working practice (including DJs)**. In a limited number of cases, individual technical staff/administrators of professional artistic companies may also be eligible.
* **Emerging Artists**: The Arts Council particularly welcomes applications from emerging artists – an emerging artist is someone who is in the early stage of their career as a professional artist. They are developing their artist ‘voice’ and are in the process of establishing a reputation and recognition among critics, galleries, producers etc, and will have practised as a professional artist for less than 5 years.
* **Practicing artists who are also undergraduates, postgraduates and academics employed at 3rd level educational institutions are eligible to apply but** – where their project proposal lies within the same artform area as their study or work – they must prove that the funds which they are seeking are for costs which are not properly the concern of their employer and/or are not related to their work or academic study. They must submit evidence of this in the form of a letter on headed paper from their Head of Department.
* **In the case of post-graduate students, the letter must clearly state the title of the student’s PhD thesis and include a declaration by the Head of Department.** This declaration must state “The project for which funds are being sought does not form part of any academic work undertaken in relation to the above-titled PhD nor will it be assessed as part of any academic course”.
* **Applicants undertaking a Masters or a PhD must also include a separate statement which provides information on how the project applied for differs from their Masters or PhD work.**

Please note: The Arts Council may use its own judgement in determining this matter.

You can apply for:

* Art materials
* Costs of your own time in undertaking the proposed activity
* Residency costs, including travel costs and subsistence
* Artistic or technical fees including those towards production or post-production costs associated with presentation or exhibition of work
* Venue hire e.g. rehearsal space
* Travel costs, including mileage costs (@25.7p per mile) and air travel
* Subsistence costs @£25 per day
* Technical equipment related to the project/proposal (equipment requests cannot comprise more than 50% of the value of your request)
* IT Equipment : equipment requests cannot comprise more than 50% of the value of your request; a maximum contribution of £1,200 will be made towards laptops and pcs, and £500 towards tablet computers.

**Deadline: 14 August 2025 @ 12 noon**

[National Lottery Support for Individual Artists… | Arts Council NI](https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-individuals/project-funding-for-individuals)

**Material Focus: Circular Electricals Fund**

Material Focus is offering **grants of up to £150,000 to support new ideas and innovative approaches aimed at keeping electricals and their materials in use for longer and reducing e-waste.** The new £1 million fund will **support industry bodies, start-ups, non-profits, companies and research institutions exploring new, innovative or significantly improved initiatives that apply and develop circular economy principles, reducing environmental impact and enhancing resource efficiency.**

Funding is available for organisations working on projects within one or more of the following areas of innovation:

* **Materials:** encouraging the development of technologies and processes that optimise the use and recovery of raw materials and reduce waste associated with electronic products
* **Products:** supporting innovations that improve the durability, repairability, and upgradability of consumer electricals by extending their useful life
* **Business models:** promoting business models that prioritise service over ownership, which can reduce waste and encourage product reuse.

**Projects can begin from October 2025**. Successful applicants will have the opportunity **to collaborate with electricals producers, retailers, local authorities, recyclers and waste management companies.** The grant can be used for **equipment and materials, salaries or wages, logistics, testing and innovation, communications campaigns, health and safety, data collection and other things.**

**Deadline: 14 August 2025**

<https://www.materialfocus.org.uk/partnerships-with-material-focus/circular-electrical-fund-form/>

**Performance Film and Media Insurance - Short Film Competition (5 Categories)**

An annual awards programme **providing financial prizes to UK based short film makers across a number of creative categories is open for entries.** The Short Film’s Competition objectives are:

* Helping to get more film projects made.
* Connecting people within the industry together.

In 2025, awards will be made in the five following categories:

* **Best Comedy Short**
* **Best 'Short' Short (less than five minutes in length)**
* **Best Documentary Short**
* **Best Horror Short**
* **Best Drama Short**

Each of the five category winners will receive a cash prize of £1,500. Entries will be accepted from film makers who are resident in the UK and aged 18 years and over. To be eligible, the submitted film must have been completed since 1 January 2023, and have a maximum running time of 20 minutes.

D**eadline: 20 August 2025**

[Performance Media Insurance - Short Film Competition](https://www.performance-insurance.com/short-film-competition-2025/?_gl=1*to4n4q*_up*MQ..*_ga*MjE0MTU4NjExMy4xNzUxMDI4MDUz*_ga_4957BHZDEP*czE3NTEwMjgwNTMkbzEkZzAkdDE3NTEwMjgwNTMkajYwJGwwJGgw)

**Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Peace and Security Programme**

Grants are available for UK not-for-profit organisations to support projects in the UK aimed at **working towards the creation of a peaceful and just world.** JRCT seeks a shift in the UK defence and security paradigm away from the highly militarised and “securitised” responses towards a new approach **based on participatory and accountable governance, human rights, non-violence, diplomacy and mediation, and environmental sustainability.**

Funding is at the discretion of the Trustees and is available for work in the following areas:

* **Challenging militarism** – work which highlights and holds the UK government to account for the human, economic, environmental and security costs of militarised response to conflict.
* **Scrutiny of counter-terrorism measures** in the context of human rights and peacebuilding
* **Building support for alternative approaches to defence and security.**
* **Responding to the harms of systemic racism** related to JRCT policy areas.

The Trust is primarily interested in supporting work focused on achieving an impact in the UK context. Work focused on European or other international institutions (such as the UN and NATO) will only be considered if it has the capacity to have a significant impact in the UK context.

**Grants are made to a range of organisations and to individuals**. It is not necessary to be a registered charity to apply to the Trust, however, the Trust can only support work which is legally charitable as defined in UK law. **Applicants should be undertaking work at a national level, ie, work that seeks to make positive change across the UK as a whole, or across one or more of its member countries.**

Groups who have not registered on the JRCT grants management system need to do so **by 8 August 2025** in order to submit an application for the current round.

**Deadline: 22 August 2025**

<https://www.jrct.org.uk/peace-and-security>

**Arts Council Small Capital Grants Programme**

Funding is available for voluntary and community organisations in Northern Ireland **to buy equipment and make minor improvements to their premises, helping them stay active in the arts sector.**

The Small Capital Grants Programme provided by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland is intended **to support organisations in maintaining their creative spaces and addressing any issues that hinder their work. This includes ensuring necessary equipment is in place to welcome staff, artists and audiences, and supporting the delivery of the arts to maintain and improve artistic quality, accessibility, environment and audience experience.**

**Grants of up to £25,000 are available.** The following criteria apply:

* Applicants do not have to be primarily an arts organisation (for example, community groups may apply to the scheme); however, the purpose of the requested equipment and/or minor works must be clearly focused on the arts.
* Local authorities are eligible to apply but they are a low priority.
* Registered charities and other fully constituted organisations which cannot distribute a profit are eligible to apply.
* Commercial organisations can only apply for support if the equipment and/or minor works is primarily for the benefit of the public rather than their own commercial interests.
* If the organisation has a limited membership, it must show that the equipment and/or minor works will benefit the wider public.
* Groups of organisations (consortia) working together to deliver specific projects may apply.

Grants are used to support **the costs of equipment and/or minor works to help adapt the organisation's venue or working practice**. Eligible costs and activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

* New equipment/structures to enhance accessibility/delivery.
* Accessibility equipment and minor works.
* Creation of safe spaces.
* IT equipment to assist/improve arts delivery.
* Software (pre-loaded operating systems and packages only).
* Works in relation to upgrading and maintaining existing systems.
* Transport.
* Tablet computers (maximum ACNI contribution of £500).
* Laptops/PCs (maximum ACNI contribution of £1,200).

All purchases and minor works must be completed by 31 March 2026.

**The deadline for applications is 28 August 2025 (noon).**

[https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-organisations/small-capital-grants-programme](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/F28hCoQV1CXmyLqH1frhpNvFL?domain=artscouncil-ni.org)

**Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Northern Ireland Programme**

This funding is for UK registered, excepted or exempt charities whose work **to promote peace, equality, inclusion and human rights contributes to the ongoing transformation of the Northern Ireland conflict.**

While the primary focus of the programme lies within Northern Ireland, the committee will consider applications for initiatives that **work on an all-island basis, or that will strengthen civil society relationships on an East-West or North-South basis (in partnership with organisations in Britain and Ireland).**

**Local work** will be supported **only where it is likely to have a wider impact**, for example if it is testing a model which can then be replicated or is addressing a local issue that has wider social or political implications.

Priority will be given to applications that demonstrate ‘**upstream’ characteristics**:

* **Dealing with root causes.**
* **Systemic impact.**
* **Long-term impact.**
* **Intersectional.**
* **Done by communities**.

**No minimum or maximum amount of grant is specified.** Funding is available for work in the following priority areas:

**Strengthening human rights and equality**- work which:

* Aims to ensure the implementation of human rights commitments by the state.
* Promotes policy initiatives and advocacy campaigns aimed at achieving equity and inclusion for marginalised or minoritised communities.
* Strengthens the anti-racist voice in systems of power and accountability in Northern Ireland.

 **Reimagining society** - work which:

* Fosters a positive, forward-thinking political landscape in Northern Ireland, emphasising participation, inclusion and sustainability.
* Promotes inclusive, evidence-based and responsible public discourse.
* Facilitates the growth of progressive social movements within Northern Ireland.

**Cultivating peace and reconciliation**- work which:

* Promotes a shared understanding of the root causes of past violence.
* Encourages groups engaged in armed struggle to take steps towards exclusively non-violent strategies and to engage in comprehensive processes of transition from paramilitarism to civilian life.
* Assists communities heavily influenced by paramilitarism in cultivating democratic, anti-sectarian, and non-violent methods for expressing and managing political differences.

Applicants are advised to **contact the programme staff before they apply** with any queries or questions regarding the application guidelines and/or process or if their work is a fit with the programme areas. Groups who have not **registered on the JRCT grants management system** need to do so **by 18 August 2025 in order to submit an application for the current round**.

**Deadline: 1 September 2025 at 12 noon** (for decisions the week commencing 8 December 2025)

<https://www.jrct.org.uk/northern-ireland>

**Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust – Power & Accountability Programme**

The Trust is interested in funding work which:

* **Is about removing problems through radical solutions, and not simply about making problems easier to live with.**
* **Has a clear sense of objectives, and of how to achieve them.**
* **Is innovative and imaginative.**
* **Shows the grant has a good chance of making a difference.**

The Fund aims to support people to create a world in which power is more equally shared, and in which powerful institutions are responsive and accountable to wider society and aligned with the long-term public interest. **No minimum or maximum amount of grant is specified.**

Applications will be accepted from a range of organisations. It is not necessary to be a registered charity to apply to the Trust, however, the Trust can only support work which is legally charitable as defined in UK law. Organisations should be undertaking work at a national level. This means work that seeks to make positive change across the UK as a whole, or across one or more of its member countries - England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.

**Organisations that are a registered, excepted or exempt charity based within the UK** and all of their work fits within the published programme are encouraged **to apply for unrestricted or core support, although they may apply for programme or project funding if they prefer**.

Funding is available for work in the following areas:

* **Strengthening corporate accountability**- the Trust is interested in funding work which:
	+ Develops and promotes mechanisms which increase the accountability and responsiveness of companies to shareholders, stakeholders, regulators and the long-term public interest, for example through improvements to corporate governance, corporate structures (including alternative corporate forms), company reporting or regulation.
	+ Develops and promotes mechanisms whereby those who suffer severely as a result of company actions, particularly marginalised groups, can gain access to justice.
	+ Promotes the application of the same standards of accountability to large digital companies as other commercial organisations, for example with respect to taxation, consumer protection, treatment of minorities and the protection of rights.
	+ Encourages a constructive dialogue across private, public and civil society sectors to define and develop values and norms of corporate accountability and transparency in relation to new digital technologies.
* **Strengthening democratic accountability** - the Trust is interested in funding work which:
	+ Develops and promotes mechanisms which ensure an accountable, transparent and proportionate relationship between the private sector and government.
	+ Develops and promotes mechanisms which enable civil society and the general public, including marginalised groups, to engage appropriately and effectively with government policy making.
	+ Encourages government, parliament and other statutory agencies to be more representative of the wider public they serve.
	+ Supports the modernisation of the democratic infrastructure to increase its accessibility, relevance and resilience in a digital age.
	+ Promotes greater transparency by digital intermediaries in relation to their impact on democracy and elections.
* **Encouraging responsible media** - the Trust is interested in funding work which:
	+ Encourages accurate and responsible media, with appropriate safeguards.
	+ Helps to develop a relevant and proportionate response to the risks of misinformation and disinformation in commercial media.
	+ Explores and promotes ways for all forms of media to play a constructive role in holding government, companies and other powerful actors to account.
	+ Helps to develop and strengthen infrastructure to support new forms of community journalism for the public benefit.

Groups **who have not registered on the JRCT grants management system** need to **do so by 18 August 2025** in order to submit an application for the current round.

**Deadline: 1 September 2025 (10am)** (for decisions the week commencing 8 December 2025)

<https://www.jrct.org.uk/power-and-accountability>

**Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: Sustainable Future Programme**

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT) is once again accepting applications to this programme which has an overall focus on **developing and promoting sustainable, low-carbon alternatives to the current consumerist and growth-based paradigm. Grants of no set amount are available for work in the following areas:**

**Better economics** – for work that:

* Explores and promotes ways that wellbeing and sustainability could be placed at the heart of public policy, rather than traditional forms of economic growth.
* Explores and promotes mechanisms that could better align business and investor behaviour with environmental sustainability and the long-term public interest.
* Researches and develops innovations and new practical models of enterprise that can be embedded within community practice.
* Challenges future investment in, or subsidies for, fossil fuels.

**Beyond consumerism** - for:

* Campaigns, initiatives and mechanisms which encourage radical, large scale shifts in behaviour and culture away from consumerism towards more sustainable ways of living and using resources.
* Exploration of initiatives and models which promote positive alternatives to consumerism for a more fulfilled life.
* Work which engages people individually and collectively in holistic and value-led approaches to transformed behaviour and lifestyle, as an alternative to consumerism.

**New voices** – for:

* Campaigns and movements that give marginalised or under-represented groups a voice on issues of environmental and economic justice.
* Initiatives that encourage organisations from outside the traditional environmental field to get involved in environmental justice.
* Networks that link and support local environmental justice groups.
* The replication of innovative local projects regionally or nationally.

**It is not necessary to be a registered charity to apply to the Trust, however, the Trust can only support work which is legally charitable as defined in UK law. Applicants should be undertaking work at a national level.**

Groups who have not registered on the JRCT grants management system need to do so by 18 August 2025 in order to submit an application for the current round.

**Deadline: 1 September 2025 (12pm)**

 [Sustainable Future](https://www.jrct.org.uk/sustainable-future)

**Cultural Bridge Fund 2026-27 Funding Programme (exchanges with Germany)**

This is a unique investment programme between the **UK arts councils and leading German cultural institutions that supports the development of cross-border partnerships**. Since launching in 2021, it has enabled arts organisations that place communities at the heart of their work, to build and develop new partnerships that allow **exploration and exchange of practice** across the UK and Germany.

The Fund is open to all arts and cultural organisations with proven expertise in socially engaged/participatory practice. Partnerships must be bi-lateral, including at least one German partner and one UK partner, from any one of the four nations: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The total budget for the 2026-2027 programme is £370,000. **It is anticipated that 20 awards will be made.**

Two tiers of funding are available for activity that starts from 1 April 2026 and is completed by 31 March 2027:

* **Tier 1 - Practice exchange and development of new partnerships** - supports the development of brand new partnerships between arts and cultural organisations in the UK and Germany. Grants of between £5,000 and £10,000 per partnership.
* **Tier 2 - Co-development and project delivery for established partnerships** - supports further development of partnerships, where organisations already have experience of working together. Grants of up to £30,000 per partnership.

Organisations who are interested in applying for Tier 1 funding can complete the 'New Partner' interest form which will provide access to the details of other potential partner arts organisations in the UK or Germany. Once granted access, groups may then research and reach out to any of the organisations whose work is of interest to them. **The deadline to submit this form is 1 September 2025.**

Further information about the Cultural Bridge Fund be provided during **an English language information session on 1 July at 12:00 noon BST** [Register](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/S4uZCPZ7Lt471PKTzfpfx36Fo?domain=fldgqpc8ayi.typeform.com)

**Applications will be accepted from 1 October to 12 November 2025**

<https://www.britishcouncil.de/en/about/press/applications-2026-27-cultural-bridge-programme-will-open-october-2025>

**Institute of Physics: Public Engagement Grant Scheme**

The Institute of Physics provides funding **for projects across the UK and Ireland that improve people’s relationship with physics in their family or community groups and encourage young people currently underrepresented in the physics community to carry on doing physics post 16.** IOP is specifically trying to reach families with young people under the age of 16 that identify with one or more of the following groups:

* Girls and young women.
* Disabled young people.
* LGBT+ young people.
* Young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.
* Black Caribbean young people.

The **IoP’s “Limit Less” Strategy’s** key messages are positive messages around physics that aim to challenge some of the stereotypes that put young people off doing physics post 16. They include:

* Doing physics empowers young people to change the world
* Physics is for people of all identities and backgrounds
* Physics depends on teamwork and diverse viewpoints
* Being a Physicist is not the only career available to physics students
* Physics opens the door to many stable career options, including well-paid jobs that do not require a degree.

**Main Grants of between £500 and £4,000 are available to individuals and organisations to run physics-based activities** in the UK and Ireland. This includes but is not limited to: **Community groups, Not-for-profit organisations. IOP members, Museums, Libraries, Arts groups, Researchers in academia or industry**. Applications will also be considered from **self-employed and freelance science communicators, artists, and content producers.** It is not a requirement to be a member of the IOP; however, **projects will need to involve physicists to be considered for funding.**

The IOP is looking for **projects which showcase physics and physicists as role models, so those from underserved and underrepresented communities can see themselves reflected in those roles, see the diverse career paths provided by physics and the breadth of roles within the physics community.** To be eligible, projects must:

* Present physics content in a clear and accurate way.
* Target audiences who are underrepresented in the physics community. Key audiences include women/girls, people with a disability, people from lower socio-economic backgrounds, people of Black Caribbean heritage and those that identify as LGBT+.
* Finish within one year.

**Deadline for Main Grant Round 2 applications: 1 September 2025**

(Projects funded in Round 2 must start in 2025 and should be completed by 30 June 2026)

<https://www.iop.org/about/support-grants/public-engagement-grant-scheme>

**The Theatres’ Trust/Wolfson: Theatre Improvement Scheme**

Theatre operators can apply for **grants of up to £20,000 towards their building or equipment** as part of the scheme. **There is no match funding requirement although if the project costs are above £20,000 it will strengthen the bid to demonstrate where additional support will be found.** This scheme will **prioritise capital development projects which improve a theatre building’s environmental sustainability and demonstrate how a small intervention can produce big reductions in environmental impact**, such as:

· purchase of key plant and machinery

· replacement of inefficient or out-dated equipment

· improvements to building heating or insulation

· planting sedum roofs or green walls

· impactful, high-quality interventions.

**Deadline: 5 September 2025**

<https://www.theatrestrust.org.uk/how-we-help/grants-funding/theatre-improvement-scheme>

**Nordic Culture Fund (Arts) Northern European Mobility Opportunity** (opens 18 Aug)

NEMO is **a pilot programme for mobility and artistic exchange, supported by the Nordic Culture Fund and the arts funding agencies of Ireland, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales**. The programme aims to foster international collaboration, strengthen artistic networks across the region and support more artists and arts professionals in engaging with international partners. The call focuses on **individual artists and arts practitioners in the early stages of their careers**, reflecting a shared recognition among the partners that this group has a particular **need for additional support and opportunities in the current climate**.

**Opens for applications:** **18 August 2025**. **Deadline: 15 Sep 2025**

<https://nordiskkulturfond.org/en/funding-programmes/nemo-northern-european-mobility-opportunity>

**Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation Grants (for UK/Japan collaboration)**

The Foundation is offering **grants of up to £5,000 for cultural and educational activities that foster good relations between the UK and Japan by advancing the education of the people of both nations in each other’s culture, society, and achievements.**

Funding is available to support activities in the following fields:

* Arts and culture.
* Science, technology, and the environment.
* Humanities and social issues.
* Japanese language.
* Medicine and health.
* Youth and education.
* Sport.

Grants can be used to pump-prime a range of projects, such as:

* Visits between the UK and Japan by academics, professionals, creative artists, teachers, young people, journalists, and representatives of civic and non-governmental organisations
* Research and collaborative studies, seminars, workshops, lectures, and publications in academic and specialist fields.
* Teaching and development of Japanese language and cultural studies in schools, Further Education colleges and universities.
* Exhibitions, performances and creative productions by artists, musicians, filmmakers, writers, and theatre groups.

Priority will be given to projects in the fields of science and technology, medicine and health, environment and social issues, Japanese studies, and the Japanese language.

Applications originating from the UK and Japan are considered separately at different meetings by the Foundation’s London and Tokyo offices respectively.

**Next deadline for applications to the London office: 15 September 2025**

<http://www.gbsf.org.uk/grants/overview/>

**Heart Research UK: Healthy Hearts Grants NI**

Heart Research UK offer Healthy Heart Grants of **up to £15,000 for community projects aimed at supporting adults to reduce their risk of coronary heart disease, helping them to live healthier, happier and longer lives**. They currently only accept applications from small, registered charities and community interest companies with annual incomes of less than £1 million.

**Northern Ireland fund opens at 9am on 20 August 2025**

**Deadline: 17 September 2025 at 5pm.**

Online presentation date for shortlisted applications is **5 November 2025**

<https://heartresearch.org.uk/healthy-heart-grant-apply/>

**Northern Ireland – Police Property Fund – Large Grants**

Funding available will be administered in both **Small Grants and Large Grants calls**. This application call will administer £150,000 total in funding for Large Grants. **Community Groups and organisations in NI may apply for Large Grants of between £20,000 and £30,000**. **Eligible projects and activities should include engagement with the PSNI and should contribute to community safety and/or building confidence in policing.** Applicants and projects must meet the following criteria:

* Demonstrate engagement with the PSNI.
* Be strategic in nature.
* Make a contribution to community safety and/or building confidence in policing in their local area.
* Be closely aligned to one or more of the following 'Charitable Purposes' as outlined in The Charities Act 2008:
	+ The advancement of education.
	+ The advancement of health or the saving of lives.
	+ The advancement of citizenship or community development.
	+ The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science.
	+ The advancement of amateur sport.
	+ The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion or religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity.
	+ The advancement of environmental protection or improvement.

Organisations should be legally constituted (a copy of the organisation's constitution should be included with the application for support). Organisations should also be financially stable and have sufficient accountability and controls (a copy of the most recent official accounts must be submitted by successful projects in advance of receipt of a Letter of Offer).

**Deadline for Large Grants: 22 September 2025** **(noon)**

[Police Property Fund Grant Schemes | Northern Ireland Policing Board](https://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/police-property-fund)

**Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership Funding (NI)**

Funding is available to **community organisations working in partnership with community pharmacists on projects and initiatives that address local health and social wellbeing needs across Northern Ireland.**

The Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership (BCPP) is a joint venture between the Community Development and Health Network (CDHN) and the Health and Social Care Board with strategic direction offered by a multi-agency Steering Group. The programme works towards:

* Enabling project participants to reach their full potential.
* Promoting the role of community pharmacies in public health advocacy.
* Supporting community partners to address and recognise health inequalities in their community.
* Increasing social capital to build connected and engaged communities.

**Both of the programme's grant streams are currently open to applications from community organisations working in partnership with community pharmacists:**

* **Level 1** - for groups interested in developing ideas and a community pharmacy partnership. **Grants of up to £2,500 will be awarded for projects lasting up to six months.**
* **Level 2** - for groups seeking to develop a community pharmacy partnership that will address a range of locally identified health and well-being needs. **Grants of up to £12,000 will be awarded for projects lasting approximately one year.**

**Participants must be key in the planning, delivery and evaluation of initiatives**.

**Deadline for Level 1 applications: 25 September 2025**

**Deadline for Level 2 applications is 6 November 2025.**

[Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership Programme | Community Development and Health Network](https://www.cdhn.org/bcpp)

**Nuffield Foundation Programme Grants: Research, Development and Analysis Fund**

The Nuffield Foundation is an independent charitable trust with a mission **to advance educational opportunity and social well-being**. The Foundation’s funding grants are awarded **to research that examines the inequalities, disadvantages and vulnerabilities people face** throughout their lives, and **produces findings that can influence future policy**. They look for comprehensive proposals that use rigorous methodology and can make a difference.

**The Research, Development, and Analysis (RDA) Fund** offers grants under their three core areas of [**Education**](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/nUOaCpQ81Czw29GfDKsmhGGdzk?domain=nicva.us2.list-manage.com), [**Welfare**](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/LHLECqY71IO2Q1DhXnULhEnRRq?domain=nicva.us2.list-manage.com) and [**Justice**](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/e5nvCrR81fAmqrpu4KIkh43NTB?domain=nicva.us2.list-manage.com) for projects within a UK-context. There are two deadlines a year for this fund: **Spring: Grants of up to £750,000 and Autumn: Grants of up to £750,000**. **Please note, the majority of grants we award are less than £300,000**. For funding applications that are larger in scale and address our core areas of interest, we will consider awards towards the higher end of the current funding scale, providing applications can demonstrate a strong case and value for money.

The Foundation has simplified and speeded up the process of applying to the RDA fund and there is a new shortened application. **There are two stages to apply for funding:**

* **Stage 1:**Submit an outline application form online
* **Stage 2:**Shortlisted applicants will be invited to complete a full application form for peer review and Foundation consideration.

If you have any questions about the new process or your application, please contact **applications@nuffieldfoundation.org**.

**Next outline application deadline: 6 October 2025**

[Research, Development & Analysis Fund | Nuffield Foundation](https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/funding/research-development-and-analysis-fund)

**Nuffield Foundation Programme Grants – The Racial Diversity UK Fund**

The Racial Diversity UK Fund offers research funding **to understand the barriers and pathways to a racially just and inclusive society.** Grants from **£15,000 to £750,000** are available.

This programme aims to be **broad in its reach, interested in questions of socio-economic equality, senses of place, belonging and identity, barriers to and opportunities for inclusion, demographic trajectories, and the interrelationship between these themes. Research may also address how the UK compares internationally. Race and ethnicity should be the central focus from which any intersectionality with class, disability, gender, place and other dynamics would be explored**.

We expect the research we fund to:

* **Contribute to understanding, public debate, policy and/or practice on tackling racial inequalities, discrimination and disadvantage.**
* **Map pathways towards a UK that is comfortable with and reaping the benefits of its growing racial diversity.**

Where proposals to Racial Diversity UK overlap with the Foundation’s continuing interests in [**education**](https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/research/education), [**justice**](https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/research/justice) or [**welfare**](https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/research/welfare), we encourage applicants to contact us early to discuss which of our [**funding streams**](https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/funding) your application fits best with. Broadly, we expect Racial Diversity UK to consider funding research where racial diversity, disparity or discrimination is the primary lens through which social well-being is explored, or where their role in shaping communities or places is foregrounded.

**Deadline: 6 October 2025**

[Racial Diversity UK | Apply for Funding | Nuffield Foundation](https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/funding/racial-diversity-uk-fund)

**NFU Mutual Charitable Trust Grants (agriculture and rural)**

NFU Mutual Charitable Trust is offering grants **for organisations working in agriculture, rural development** and insurance across the UK to deliver projects and activities across one or more of the Trust’s main objectives:

* To advance the education of the public using research and the dissemination of information concerning agriculture.
* To advance the education of young people within rural areas.
* To relieve poverty within rural areas.
* To promote the benefit and social welfare of inhabitants of rural communities by associating together with the inhabitants and local authorities, voluntary and other organisations to advance education and leisure.
* To promote research into agricultural-associated activities.
* To advance the education of the public using research and the dissemination of information concerning insurance.

Priority will be given to larger initiatives that would have a significant impact on rural communities, as well as **initiatives in the areas of education of young people in rural areas, relief of poverty within rural areas, and support for the next generation of farmers.** Funding is at the discretion of the Trust. However, **most grants fall within the range of £1,000 to £50,000.**

Trustees met twice a year to consider applications, typically in June and November.

**Next deadline: 10 October 2025**

<https://www.nfumutual.co.uk/about-us/charitable-trust/applications-for-funding/>

**NI Good Relations Week: 13-19 October 2025** (Sign up now to participate!)

Good Relations Week 2025 will be taking place from **13th to 19th October this year and** embraces **‘Connect’** as its theme – recognising that the foundation of a better community is built on People, Planet, and Prosperity, all connected by the goal of Peace. By showcasing the dynamism, creativity, and dedication of local groups, organisations, and individuals, we can highlight the transformative power of working together and connecting with one another to address key challenges such as sectarianism, racism, inequality, health and well-being, poverty, and education.

Get involved in Good Relations Week 2025 and help create a future where peace is not just an aspiration, but a reality. Register and receive an email with all the information you need to host an online, physical or hybrid event for Good Relations Week 2025.

<https://goodrelationsweek.com/>

**Maker Relief Fund (for craftspeople in need)**

The Maker Relief Fund is offering grants to **UK-based professional craftspeople facing financial hardship. Grants of £1,000 will be awarded to 50 eligible applicants over the course of a year, starting in November 2024 and running through to the end of October 2025.** These grants are intended to provide flexible financial support, allowing recipients to use the funds without restrictions. Practising professional craftspeople are eligible to apply if they identify with one or more of the following groups:

* Individuals on low incomes.
* Working-class people.
* Black and ethnically diverse people (including Gypsy, Roma, and Travellers).
* People with disabilities, neurodiversity or those managing chronic physical or mental health issues.
* LGBTQIA+ individuals.
* People with caring responsibilities.

The initiative aims to support these people in sustaining their careers during times of financial difficulty.

**Deadline: 31 October 2025**

<https://www.heritagecrafts.org.uk/makerrelieffund/>

**Tree Council: Branching Out Fund**

Tthe Branching Out **small grants funds to support a new season of tree planting** has re-opened. Open to **schools, community groups, volunteer Tree Wardens, and others** to undertake well-planned tree planting projects over winter annually, preferably during National Tree Week, applicants can apply for from **£250 to £2,500. Early applications are encouraged** and assessed on a rolling basis until final deadline.

**Deadline: 14 November 2025 (midnight)**

[Branching Out Fund - The Tree Council](https://treecouncil.org.uk/grants-and-guidance/our-grants/branching-out-fund/)

**Community Relations Council – Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grants**

Northern Ireland's Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme is inviting applications from **locally based voluntary and community organisations to develop their capacity to engage in community relations work and to enhance the community relations potential of projects they undertake.** Groups can apply for grants of **up to £10,000** but most grants awarded will be **between £2,000 and £5,000.**

The scheme is aimed at **community development groups, cultural organisations, women's and men's groups, faith-based groups, tenants' associations, youth groups and rural groups involved in community relations, reconciliation projects and cultural engagement for projects primarily involving adults.**

The funding is for projects which address **at least one** of the Community Relations Council's objectives:

* Develop opportunities for groups to explore their own cultures, beliefs and traditions increasing their capacities to develop relations with those from other cultures.
* Develop opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding of others' cultures, beliefs and traditions.
* To enable groups to challenge stereotypes of their own and other communities to acknowledge and address differences.
* To increase the ability and confidence of groups and organisations to identify issues which divide them.
* To develop networks of communication, trust and cooperation between divided communities.
* To promote models of good practice for community relations work in Northern Ireland.

**Deadline: 16 January 2026 (16:00)**

<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/funding-scheme/community-relations-cultural-diversity>

**Sport NI – Creating Opportunities (with Crowdfunding)**

This programme is provided by Sport NI and is designed to e**nable investment in new and additional projects to connect communities, enabling more people to take part in sport and physical activity. Please note this is a match-funding initiative delivered in partnership with Crowdfunder and thus not a traditional grant scheme (funds awarded are conditional upon applicants first securing crowdfunding via Crowdfunder's platform).** **Approved applicants will receive from Sport NI project match funding of 50%, up to a maximum of £5,000. Applicants are required to raise a percentage of their total project costs from crowdfunding.**

The focus of the programme is to 'level the playing field', so that accessibility and inclusion is felt and experienced by those **who have been traditionally excluded f**rom not only participating in sport, but playing an active role within the club (eg coaching, officiating and leading as part of a board). To be eligible, applicants must be one of the following:

* A constituted sports club which is affiliated to a governing body of sport which is recognised by Sport NI or Sport Ireland.
* A community or voluntary organisation that delivers or enables sport and/or physical recreation as its primary activity. Sports and activities must be recognised by Sport NI.
* A charitable trust that delivers or enables sport and/or physical recreation as its primary activity. Sports and activities must be recognised by Sport NI.
* A constituted Parent Teacher Association (PTA) that delivers or enables new/additional extracurricular sport and/or physical activity including outdoor activity residentials. Sports and activities must be recognised by Sport NI.

The Creating Opportunities initiative is being administered by Sport NI through the Crowdfunder UK website. If the fund’s conditions are met, **Sport NI will pledge up to 50% of the applicant's target up to a maximum of £5,000. The applicant must then raise the remaining amount from their supporters to achieve 100% of their funding target.**

Applications should focus particularly on people from at least one of the following priority groups:

* **Women and girls.**
* **People with disabilities.**
* **Children and young people - especially those aged between 11-18 years.**
* **Older people aged over 50.**
* **Ethnically diverse communities.**
* **LGBTQ+ community.**
* **People living in areas of greatest need (based on NISRA postcode, quartile 1).**
* **People living in rural areas (based on NISRA postcode).**

Sport NI will consider supporting almost any project (within reason) providing it delivers the outcomes of the Creating Opportunities programme. Sport NI can also **consider reasonable running costs associated with the delivery of a Creating Opportunities project.**

All projects must be completed, and Sport NI funding spent by 31 March 2026.

**Deadline: 29 January 2026** (unless the funds are exhausted before this date)

Applications are made by setting up an eligible project on the Crowdfunder UK website.

To receive a pledge from Sport NI, applicants will need to do two things:

* Raise at least 25% of their initial target.
* Raise this from a minimum of 25 qualifying (unique) supporters.

If the application is approved by Sport NI, the applicant will get match funding of 50%, up to a maximum of £5,000. This offer will be valid for two weeks after the date of notification. If the applicant does not launch their crowdfunding campaign within two weeks of notification, the offer will be rescinded. Campaigns requesting from £4,000 to the maximum £5,000 must include a bespoke project video which outlines:

* Who the club is.
* What the project is about (how it will contribute to 'levelling the playing field').
* What the project will deliver.
* Why the funding is needed.
* How the money raised will be spent.  [Creating Opportunities | Sport NI](https://www.sportni.net/funding/creating-opportunities/)

**Duke of Edinburgh – Access Without Limits Funding**

This Fund aims to **open up access to the Duke of Edinburgh Award to young people living in difficult circumstances, including those unable to afford to take part due to the cost of living crisis. Grants of up to £10,250 are available**. The grant will be combined with support from a dedicated member of staff who will **help the grant recipient set up, launch and deliver the Award programme.** The package includes:

* Licence fee support for community and voluntary organisations.
* Access to staff and volunteer training courses.
* Free participation places for young people.
* Expedition kit start-up costs.

Not-for-profit voluntary, community or social enterprise organisations can apply. To be eligible, organisations must fit into several specific criteria – please check website for details.

**Final Deadline for applications: 31 January 2026**

Applicants will need to initially discuss their project with an Operations Officer and should contact Georgina Harper at DofE for further information about how to go about this (e-mail: georgina.harper@dofe.org)

<https://www.dofe.org/access-without-limits/community/ni>

**Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (UK) (extended)**

**The scheme gives grants towards VAT paid on repairs and renovations to the UK’s listed sites of worship, such as works to the foundations, masonry and monuments integral to the buildings.**The extension of the scheme recognises that listed places of worship represent an important part of UK heritage and provide spaces for communities to come together. Listed places of worship of any size or faith within the UK can apply to the scheme for support with repairs and renovations until the end of March 2026.  There will be **a cap of £25,000 that an organisation can claim during the year. This can still be spread across multiple claims.**

**Deadline: 31 March 2026**

<https://www.lpwscheme.org.uk/>

**UK Government: Connect Fund: Round 1**

The Connect Fund awards funding **to strengthen civic East-West collaboration on matters of shared interest, including mutual challenges and opportunities across a range of sectors that directly affect communities in Northern Ireland**. The Government supports an inclusive United Kingdom and acknowledges the importance of bringing together community groups across the United Kingdom to better improve the lives of all communities in Northern Ireland.

**Funding can be provided for both standalone/one off projects** (e.g. attending a conference or facilitating a visit) **or for a more recurrent project** (e.g. establishing a UK-wide forum for community organisations).

Applications must have **a clear East-West lens** and deliver on one or more of the following objectives:

* Strengthen East-West connections by developing long lasting civic relationships;
* Propose an original approach to developing East-West connections;
* Support the development of cultural, sports and people-to-people links;
* Build leadership capability opportunities for community leaders on an East-West basis; or
* Facilitate positive and constructive dialogue on shared opportunities/challenges facing communities in the UK.

There will be **two funding rounds both distributing £500,000; applicants can bid for £300 to £50,000**.  Applications accepted on a rolling basis but must be submitted by the 10th of the month for a decision at the beginning of the following month starting August 2025.

**Round 1** will run from 12 June 2025 to **30 April 2026**

**Round 2** will run from 1 May 2026 to **31 March 2027**

<https://www.find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/grants/connect-fund-1>

**National Lottery Community Fund: Dormant Assets for All (Northern Ireland)**

This funding is for voluntary, community and social enterprise (VSCE) organisations in Northern Ireland. We want to help these organisations be stronger and able to deal with future challenges.

**The work we fund must make your organisation more resilient and prepared for the future.**

You should do this by increasing the skills and capacity in your organisation. You should focus on what will strengthen your organisation the most. For example, you could improve:

* Confidence and skills in using digital technology
* How you track and measure your impact
* Financial skills and management
* Governance and leadership skills
* Volunteer recruitment and management.

See here for more details: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/dormant-assets-for-all#section-3>

We’ll only fund projects that will make your organisation stronger. **We will not fund the delivery of an activity in your community.** **We offer funding from £300 to £20,000 and can support your project for up to 2 years**. This funding comes from financial accounts that people have not used in over 15 years. The total funding pot available is £4 million and **we expect to be taking applications until 2027. The deadline will be announced nearer the time**.

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/dormant-assets-for-all#section-1>

**PEACEPLUS ChangeMakers Programme (Cross Border/Cross Community)**

The Change Maker Funding Programme will distribute €40m **over the next three years to support people to people projects on a cross community and/or cross-border basis, delivering awards of** up to €100,000 directly into communities**.**

Grants are provided under the following TWO [PEACEPLUS](https://www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS_Programme_Manual) strands:

1: **Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities**

* + **To promote positive relations characterised by respect, where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn, and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.**

 and

6: **Building and Embedding Partnerships and Collaboration**

* + **To strengthen trust-building activities among citizens as a founding pillar for cross-border co-operation.**

**Strand 1: Small grants programme is the focus of their first call**

This objective is to **promote positive relations characterised by respect, where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn, and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance. Funded projects will enable community groups to work on shared challenges, on a cross-community basis. Applications should clearly identify a Lead Partner Organisation.**

A total value of €20 million has been allocated to this Investment Area with individual projects from €10,000 to €100,000.

* **Applications between €10,000 and up to €20,000 are now open for Strand 1 (Cross Community Projects) and is available on a rolling basis (no deadlines).**
* Applications over €20,000 up to €60,000 and up to €100,000 will have **three calls to be advertised with various Opening and Closing dates throughout the programme timescale**.

For Strand 6: The programme area is:

* **Northern Ireland; and**
* **the border counties of Ireland (Counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, and Sligo),**

and thematic focus of projects may span a broad range of areas and groups.

Grants are available to cover 100% of the eligible costs of the project.

**For support enquiries e-mail:** changemakers@cooperationireland.org

See also: <https://www.seupb.eu/peaceplus/change-maker-funding-programme>

***Compiled by: KAREN DYSON, DCSDC, FUNDING ADVICE OFFICER Last updated 2/07/2025***