

Community Funding Bulletin

August 2023 Edition



Cultural Multi-Annual Grants

Our Cultural Multi-Annual Grants scheme is open for applications. Under this scheme, we offer two funding strands which are available for two or four years.

This scheme includes:

Arts and Heritage Grants

For arts and heritage organisations with a year-round programme of activity:

- two-year (2024-2026)
- four-year (2024-2028)

Festival and Events Grants

For festivals and events:



Belfast
City Council

- two-year (2024-2026)
- four-year (2024-2028)

Applications opened on Monday 7 August 2023 and will close at 12 noon on Friday 6 October 2023.

For more information or to apply, go to [Belfast City Grants](#) (link opens in new window). You can also email culture@belfastcity.gov.uk for the guidance notes.

Christmas Festive Fund

Council's Christmas Festive Fund is now open for applications, closing date 12 noon on Friday 22nd September 2023:

The Christmas Fund will support community associations from Towns, Villages and hamlets to help celebrate Christmas. Please note that only **one** community group per settlement will be successful and projects/events must take place between 25th Nov and 16th Dec 2023. **Please note that if your community organisation is situated within Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Coleraine & Limavady and receive a Council Christmas event, then your group is unable to apply.**

Fund A – Applications for settlements with a population of 1000 can apply for a range of costs relating to festive entertainment, priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for outdoor events – up to £2500.



Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council

Fund B – Applications for settlements with a population between 100-1000 can apply for a range of costs relating to festive entertainment, priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for outdoor events celebrating the festive period - up to £750

For more information and to apply please click on our council website –

www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk or to discuss your application, you can directly contact the Events team – Tracey Freeman – tracey.freeman@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Anita Doonan, Funding and Social Value Officer
Email: anita@supportingcommunities.org Tel: 07840849453

Read about our Funding Support Services here [Funding support and advice for community groups in Northern Ireland. — Supporting Communities](#)



Awards Programme for Outstanding NI Rural Community Projects Invites Applications

Applications are being invited by an annual awards programme that celebrates the work of rural community groups across Northern Ireland.

Financial prizes and award recognition are available to community groups who have delivered outstanding projects to improve health, wellbeing, and individual and community development for residents of rural Northern Ireland settlements.

The Rural Community Awards programme provided by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive is accepting applications from community groups, residents' groups, voluntary groups or other groups having a constitution and acting in the interest of a rural settlement within Northern Ireland.

For the purpose of this awards programme, 'rural' settlements are defined as those with a population of less than 5,000.

There are three award types:

- The Rural Community Spirit Award is open to all community groups based in rural areas who work together to make their village or small settlement a better place to live.
- The Cleaner & Greener Rural Community Award seeks to reward and encourage those rural communities who have come together to protect

and enhance their built and natural environment and to promote sustainability with their residents.

- The Community Champion Award is open to extraordinary individuals nominated by the rural community group they represent.

In 2023, the following awards will be made:

- A £1,000 prize will be awarded to each of the winners of the northern and southern Rural Community Spirit and Cleaner & Greener Rural Community awards.
- Each winning individual of the northern and southern Rural Community Champion Awards receives a plaque, together with a £500 donation to the community group associated with their work.

The prize money awarded to winning groups is to be used to support and extend activities or projects which benefit their local rural community.

The deadline for applications is 29 September 2023 (4pm).

For more information and to apply, please visit [The Housing Executive - Rural Community Awards \(nihe.gov.uk\)](https://www.nihe.gov.uk)

The Primary Club - James Fund

The Primary Club (the Club), now in its 68th year, provides financial support for a wide range of recreational and sporting facilities for the blind and visually impaired (VI). It is the major supporter of the thriving network of VI cricket clubs in the UK. But, while its origins and heart are in cricket, the Club also supports VI futsal, goalball, golf, skiing, swimming, tandem cycling and Braille chess.

The Club is both a registered charity and a membership organisation – open to anyone who has ever been out first ball, in any form of cricket (from a game in the back garden to an Ashes Test Match). It is run entirely by volunteers and its income is derived from donations, legacies and occasional events.

In 2022/23, the Club made grants to 43 clubs and organisations. The average grant was just under £4,000. However, following a significant legacy in 2023 from the late Kenneth G James, the Trustees are keen to encourage applications for more substantial funding for relevant new projects.

How much funding is available?

The Trustees have earmarked a total of £75,000 for this initiative. The maximum amount available for any individual applicant or project is £25,000. There is no

lower limit, although applicants for less than £10,000 may be better advised to apply under the normal process.



Which projects are eligible?

The following criteria apply to all funding provided by the Club

- All projects must relate clearly to the sporting and/or recreational needs of the blind and partially sighted.
- The Trustees generally prefer to support 'grass roots' and 'start up' activities rather than, for example, international teams of visually impaired sportsmen and women.
- The Trustees generally prefer to fund the whole of the cost of a project, even where this is spread across two or more years, rather than to be one of a number of contributors.
- The Trustees generally prefer to support running costs or the purchase of equipment, as distinct from items which will significantly increase the recipient's long-term asset base.

For more information and to apply, please visit [Trustees launch James Fund – The Primary Club](https://www.primaryclub.org.uk)



September Deadline for NI Arts and Leisure Venue Access and Inclusion Programme



A capital grant funding programme aimed at promoting a more inclusive society in Northern Ireland by enabling disabled people to participate more fully in arts, cultural and active recreation activities is inviting applications.

Funding is available to arts, culture and active recreation venues in Northern Ireland to enable both physical improvements at facilities and works that will enhance the experience on offer to people with disabilities.

The Access and Inclusion Grants programme provided by the Northern Ireland Executive's Department for Communities is accepting applications from local arts, culture and active recreation venues in Northern Ireland which are either:

- A museum accredited by Northern Ireland Museums Council.
- A local authority-owned venue where the council is providing Access and Inclusion programme support directly. Interested parties should contact their local council to confirm their eligibility and the support available.

The following criteria apply:

- There must be a demonstrable need for the project supported by evidence of consultation with and/or input from individuals with disabilities or the

disability sector.

- An accessibility audit must be completed and attached to each application for a council-owned venue.
- Whilst an accessibility audit is not essential for an application from an accredited museum, the project must have the endorsement of Northern Ireland Museums Council.
- If the applicant is a community or voluntary organisation, it must have an agreed constitution which includes arts, culture (including leisure) or heritage as a primary objective of the body.

The programme is particularly keen to welcome applications for Changing Places facilities, accessible equipment for play parks and projects that will impact positively on sustainability and climate change.

Grants of up to £30,000 are available, to fund up to 90% of total project costs.

The deadline for applications is 14 September 2023 (5pm).

For more information and to apply, please visit [Funding opportunities for Accredited Museums | NIMC](#)

Empowering Local Communities Grant

Applications open: 28th August to 3rd November 2023

Funding for activities & events: Before 1st March 2024

This grant is one of three grants underneath our 'Grassroots Grants' programme and is designed to support a broad range of activities helping to transform communities and improve lives. We know every community need is different and therefore we will support and fund what is needed and important to your community. What do local groups in your area need support for? What would make the biggest difference for the people in your community?

Your group must meet the eligibility criteria below. Please check carefully before applying.

Group Criteria

1. The group is not for profit
2. The end beneficiaries are community groups of people
3. The group has a presence locally and its work benefits the local community
4. The group has a bank account in its group name and can provide proof



5. The group has suitable governance to be able to manage funds from Asda Foundation. E.g., Financial reporting, committee meetings
6. The applying organisation must have a live safeguarding plan in place. The applicant needs to provide contact details of their Safeguarding Lead. Documentation may be requested.
7. There is no minimum timescale for how long the group has been in existence
8. Groups can apply for a maximum of one Grassroots Grant per year (in round 1, 2 or 3).

Grassroots Grants are: Empowering Local Communities, Under 18s Better Starts and Cost of Living. This year's Grassroots Grants started at the end of February. If groups received a grant in Round 1 or Round 2 2023, they cannot apply again this year. Groups must not apply to multiple stores; they should work with one store only.

For more information please visit [PowerPoint Presentation \(asdafoundation.org\)](#)



Crowdfunder Cost of Living Crisis Emergency Fund



Crowdfunder are supporting projects who are tackling food poverty caused or accelerated by the cost of living crisis.

Projects can get up to £5,000 for their community food project.

This fund has been donated by members of the public who want to support community projects through the cost of living crisis. You can still [donate to the fund](#) to support good causes.

To be eligible to apply for match funding your organisation must:

- Be based in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland and is for the benefit of communities within the UK.
- Have a UK mainland bank account in the name of the organisation.
- The outcome of this crowdfunding campaign will need be delivered by 31st December 2023.
- Be raising funds for running costs only (capital costs such as building refurbishment are not eligible).

Have been operating for at least 12 months.
Be one of the following:

- Registered UK Charities
- Registered community benefit organisations
- Registered social enterprises and charity companies

The funding would be applicable for projects that are focused on helping to resolve cost of living issues around food poverty and food education.

Typical projects may include (but are not limited to):

- Supporting the creation or continuation of foodbanks
- Providing support to those helping to provide free meals for children during the summer holidays
- Providing food budgeting or food education support to those in financial difficulties
- Reducing food waste and therefore food costs through community fridge creation/continuation

Selection process:

All projects that meet the criteria set out above will be assessed to determine which will receive match funding. Project owners will be informed whether their application has been successful or not. We will focus on prioritising organisations which are new to crowdfunding as well as seeking to ensure funding is distributed equitably, particularly in terms of geographic location and types of beneficiaries. A range of projects will be selected to achieve this.

Match Funding criteria:

To receive match funding (once approved), the following conditions must all be met:

- For every donation made towards your project we'll match it up to £250, so if your project receives a donation of £20 we'll add another £20. If your project receives a donation of £600 then you'll receive an additional £250.
- Only one donation per supporter will be matched (we will not provide match funding where a supporter is deemed to have made multiple donations).
- You can receive a maximum of £5,000 of match funding per organisation.

Timeline:

The Crowdfunder Cost of Living Crisis Emergency Fund will close when the funds are fully allocated.

Only one application per group or organisation will be accepted.

Please read the full [Eligibility Criteria](#) before applying.

Projects will be required to agree to the [Terms and Conditions](#).

For more information and to apply, please visit [Crowdfunder Cost of Living Crisis Emergency Fund | Crowdfunder UK](#)



Grand Choice 2023

Grand Choice is a Participatory Budgeting initiative which means that local people get to decide how public funds are used to address needs in their area. Community Planning Partners have pooled their resources to fund community projects.

Local people with a valid email address and Castlereagh South postcode can apply for up to £1,000 for a project they think will benefit their area of Castlereagh South - and best of all, it is the local residents who decide which projects should go ahead!

Your project should take place between and must be within Castlereagh South District Electoral Area. This includes Beechill, Cairnshill, Carryduff East, Carryduff West, Galwally, Knockbracken, Newtownbreda

Stage 1. Application Form

Generating Ideas and Apply Stage – where groups complete a short application form outlining their project idea.

If you decide to apply for funding and use your personal contact details in the Stage 1 application form. This information will be stored in a safe place and used to contact you about the application. Your full name will not be used in publicity material and contact details will not be shared.

If you are under 18 and you decide to add your personal contact details to the form you must ask a parent/ guardian/ carer to complete the online consent. It must be submitted by 17th September 2023.

When you submit your entry, we will check if it meets with our themes – we might give you a call for some further information.

We aim to let groups know if they've been shortlisted by 21st September or as soon as possible thereafter.

The shortlisted projects will be required to exhibit their proposal at a Community Decision Event on Saturday 21st October 2023.



Stage 2. Community Decision Event

At the Community Decision Event in October you will tell the voters what you plan to do and what you hope to achieve as they visit your stand. All you need to do is tell them some information about what you do, what the project is about and how this will be good for the Lisburn North area. You can do this by using pictures, posters and/or display boards etc.

Your views, ideas and proposal may appear in reports and press releases once that information is made public.

Voting Process

The people attending the Community Decision Event will vote on which projects should be funded. They will be required to vote for 10 projects.

You can apply for up to £1,000 for a local project.

Key themes

Your project must demonstrate how it relates to one or more of the Take 5 Ways To Wellbeing themes:

- Connect – with the people around you and keep in touch with each other
- Be Active – to help us feel good both physically and mentally
- Take Notice – to ensure the community is safe
- Keep Learning – new things that give us a sense of achievement, enjoyment and increased confidence
- Give – doing something that gives back to our community and help each other

For more information and to apply, please visit [Grand Choice in Castlereagh South \(lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk\)](https://lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)



ONGOING FUNDING AVAILABLE

Community Grants Programme

The overall aim of the Halifax Foundation is:

To support charitable organisations within Northern Ireland to enable people, who are disadvantaged or with special needs, to participate actively in their communities.

The Foundation has two main target areas to which it seeks to allocate funds:

- Social and Community Needs
- Education and Training



Types of costs funded include - materials and equipment, contribution towards salary costs, overheads, transport costs, volunteer expenses, training/tutor costs, activity costs and refurbishment costs.

For more information and to apply, please visit [Funding Opportunities 2023 | Halifax Foundation NI](#)

The Foyle Foundation

Small Grants Scheme Guidelines

These guidelines were last updated on 8 March 2022. Guidelines and application forms are updated regularly throughout the year – please ensure you download the most recent guidelines to read through and to use the most recent application form links.

The Foundation understands that charities are now operating in different circumstances due to the pandemic. We are keen to be as flexible as can be in our support of small charities following this difficult and constantly changing period, while maintaining a focus on those who can demonstrate a clear (usually local) need for their services and financial viability over the twelve months from the date of their application.

Who Can Apply

Our Small Grants Scheme is designed to support charities registered and operating in the United Kingdom, especially those working at grass roots and local community level, in any field, across a wide range of activities. Please note we are not able to support individuals. School PTAs and Friend groups are not eligible to apply. We are unlikely to support newly set up charities without a track record.

Online applications can be accepted from charities that have an annual turnover of less than £150,000 per annum. Larger or national charities will normally not be considered under this scheme. We take into consideration your latest complete financial year, however, if you expect your turnover to exceed £150,000 in your current financial year, you are unlikely to be supported.

Please note that competition is intense; we receive many more applications than we are able to fund.

What the Foundation will Fund

Our focus will be to make one-year grants only, to cover core costs, projects, essential equipment or building projects.



Our priority will be to support local charities still active in their communities which are currently delivering services to the young, vulnerable, elderly, disadvantaged or the general community.

If applying for funding towards a capital project please apply towards the end of your fundraising campaign, when the majority of funding has been raised and you have an estimated start date for the works. We are unlikely to consider a request if the lease is less than 10 years. If your application is successful, the pledged grant offer is only valid for 12 months. Please note that the Foundation does not fund feasibility studies.

The Foyle Foundation does not fund religious activity or activities promoting religion. If applying from a religious organisation and/or place of worship we will expect to see a clear division in both your accounts and application between your religious and non-religious activity.

Applicants must show how any grant will make a significant difference to their current work.

How Much Can You Apply For

Charities can apply for between £2,000 and £10,000. Please note that if successful, the Trustees may award less than the amount requested.

When Can You Apply?

There are no deadlines - online applications can be submitted at any time. Once received, it will take up to four months, occasionally longer, to receive a decision from Trustees.

For more information and to apply, please visit [Small Grants Scheme - \(foylefoundation.org.uk\)](#)



Funding in Northern Ireland

The National Lottery Community Fund is the largest community funder in the UK. Each year we distribute millions of pounds of funding raised by National Lottery players to community groups and charitable projects across Northern Ireland.

Our priority is to keep money flowing to support communities across Northern Ireland.

We are here to help and want to talk to you about your ideas to support local communities. We have a range of open funding programmes and are happy to chat to you about these.

Contact us if you have an idea on 028 9055 1455 or at enquiries.ni@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk

National Lottery Awards for All Northern Ireland £300–£10,000

- Projects bringing local people together to make positive changes in their community.
- No deadline, so groups can apply any time.
- Applying is quick and simple.
- Applications welcome from constituted voluntary or community organisations, schools, and statutory bodies.
- If we funded you within the last two years, we may have to give priority to other groups that have not recently been funded through this programme.
- This funding is for projects that will run for 12 months or less

People and Communities £10,000–£500,000

- Project ideas should come from the community. Talk to the people you want to help and get them

involved in shaping and planning the project.

- Your project should make good use of the skills, knowledge, resources and energy of people within your community; making it stronger and ready for the future.
- Understand the need for your project and how it fits with the work of other organisations. Build relationships and work together on shared goals.
- Applications welcome from constituted voluntary or community organisations, and social enterprises.
- This funding is for projects that will run for between 1 and 5 years.



Empowering Young People £10,000–£500,000

- This funding is for projects that work with young people (8 – 25 years old), and which will run for between 1 and 5 years.
- Projects will help young people to: have the skills they need for the future; have better relationships with their support networks and communities; and/or have improved health and wellbeing.
- Young people must be involved in the planning and delivery of the project. They must be able to develop the skills to help themselves, and their support networks and communities need to be involved too.
- Applications welcome from constituted voluntary or community organisations, and social enterprises.

Apply here - [Funding in Northern Ireland | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

Community Solutions to Housing and Homelessness

The programme supports the development, testing, and delivery of new ideas and collaborations. Addressing the root causes of housing issues and homelessness, by working with a range of organisations and giving voice to individuals with lived experience across Northern Ireland.

Expressions of interest are now open! We also have a number of online information workshops so you can find out more about the programme and ask your questions. [Sign up here.](#)

Expected outcomes:

- New collaborations emerge amongst organisations working on housing issues and homelessness
- New solutions to specific challenges within housing

and homelessness are developed and tested, placing the insights and voices of people with lived experience at the centre

- New opportunities to influence decision making and public services relating to housing and homelessness
- Enhanced knowledge and skills in creative problem solving for participating individuals and organisations

For more information please visit [Community Solutions to Housing and Homelessness - Community Foundation Northern Ireland \(communityfoundationni.org\)](https://www.communityfoundationni.org)



Grants for Northern Ireland

Before you apply

- Are you a charity or waiting to be called forward by the Charity Commission (have received a password) ?
- Do you produce annual accounts (if over one year old)?
- Do you have a written set of rules?
- Do you have a bank account in the name of the group which requires at least two unrelated signatories?
- Does your project fall within the criteria?

We accept requests for up to 3 years of funding when running costs are required. Preference is given to organisations seeking funding for projects which fall within the Foundation's target areas for giving which are:

- **core running costs**
- **volunteer out of pocket expenses**
- **education and training costs**
- **venue and travel costs**
- **one-off project costs**
- **small items of equipment (if part of a wider project)**

Trustees will continue to review the Foundation's grant making policy at regular intervals.

No grants are made to individuals, nor are grants made for capital building projects or for work that clearly falls



under statutory responsibility. Please see [What We Do Not Fund](#) for a complete list of our exclusions.

The size of grant varies, but we prefer to give smaller grants to a larger number of projects. Applications may be refused where we feel that the organisation concerned is already well funded or has large reserves. If your group is not a registered charity, you may apply for funding as long as the work you do is charitable in law.

The types of organisations / projects that we like to support

Those that are:

- trying to build and strengthen communities
- working in partnership with others
- carrying out trust building initiatives
- addressing previously unmet needs
- providing advice and support
- trying to change attitudes and broaden horizons

For more information, please visit [Grants for Northern Ireland - John Moores Foundation \(jmf.org.uk\)](http://jmf.org.uk)

BBC Children In Need

At BBC Children in Need, children and young people are at the heart of what we do. After the events of the last few years, we have developed a new charitable ambition and grantmaking strategy. This strategy focusses on our principles of:

- Sharing power with children and young people
- Acting flexibly
- Using our voice to build awareness and empathy around issues
- Building partnerships to bring communities and investors together

As part of this, we have made some significant changes to our grantmaking model:

- We will continue to offer project based funding, similarly to how we have in the past.
- We will be offering funding for core (organisational) costs as a separate grants stream.
- In spring 2023, we will launch a funding stream for smaller, emerging organisations. This stream is

aimed at organisations who may need greater support to access our funding.



Organisations will only be able to apply for one of these streams per year. Your organisation should choose which stream is most suitable to your work and we will provide more detailed information about them, over the coming months. We will also give more details about our funding priorities at a local and regional level.

Funding currently open for applications are -

- [Project Grants Funding Stream - Project Costs Funding Stream - BBC Children in Need](#)
- [Core Grants Funding Stream - Core \(Organisational\) Costs Funding Stream - BBC Children in Need](#)