

Funding Opportunities Newsletter

A roundup of current grant programmes, deadlines, and useful fundraising resources for community and voluntary organisations.

Wax Chandler's Award Programme for Small Charities

The Wax Chandler's Award Programme for Small Charities is now open and offers an excellent opportunity for eligible small charities and community organisations to secure funding for their work. The Wax Chandlers' Charities Small Awards Programme for Bexley was created from a bequest by William Kendall and will only fund projects that enable the delivery of a specific new, improved, or extended charitable benefit to the community in Bexley. Organisations are encouraged to carefully review the funding guidelines before applying to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria and understand the fund's priorities.

[More Information](#)

London Communities Micro Grant Fund

The London Communities Micro Grant Fund launched on 24 August 2026 and is now open for applications.

Please see the information below for details about the fund and share this opportunity within your networks. An online grant information workshop will be hosted by Groundwork London on Wednesday 9 September 2026, from 4:00pm to 5:30pm, for anyone interested in learning more about the fund.

There is also an Accessibility Fund of up to £500 per applicant available to support applications, including costs for BSL interpretation, translation or interpreting services, scribe support, and assistance with completing the application form.

For any enquiries about the London Communities Micro Grant Fund, please contact:

 LondonCommunitiesMicroGrant@groundwork.org.uk  020 7239 1292

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



Wildlife Trusts – Green Community Grants Programme

Grants of up to £25,000 are available for charities and community groups working on environmental and nature-based projects across England, Scotland and Wales. Funding is aimed at projects that support nature recovery, tackle climate change, improve access to green spaces, or encourage sustainable community activities. Eligible organisations must be not-for-profit, have an annual income between £10,000 and £1 million, and have been operating for at least 12 months.

Funding can support activities such as community gardening, habitat improvement, recycling projects, litter picking, beach cleans, outdoor education, and sustainable transport initiatives. Priority is given to smaller organisations, groups in disadvantaged communities, and organisations supporting marginalised people. There are multiple application rounds during 2026, with the next round opening from 24 June – 15 July 2026

[More Information](#)

Drapers Charitable Fund Grants

This is from the Drapers' Charitable Fund to improve the quality of life and aspirations of people and communities, particularly those who are socially excluded or disadvantaged. Most grants support charities in the Greater London area. Priority is given organisations whose projects involved textiles and heritage, social welfare and education and young people. No Deadline.

[More Information](#)

Groundwork Grassroots Grants

Groundwork is working with People's Postcode Lottery for the third year to deliver Grassroots Grants. Funding can be used for core organisational costs that support the important work organisations deliver in their communities. The funding offered is unrestricted and therefore flexible and can be used where it is most needed. Priority will be given to organisations that work with and support communities classed as marginalised or vulnerable. Deadline: 30th September 2026

[More Information](#)



Arts Council England will soon invite applications to the Music Growth Fund (MGF),

An investment programme within the UK Government's wider Music Growth Package announced in August 2026

Grants are available through two strands: £1,000 to £40,000 and £40,001 to £100,000.

Applicants must apply to the strand matching their request. Support can cover activities lasting up to three years.

The fund is open to UK-based music industry organisations and businesses, including micro, small and medium-sized companies, sole traders, charities, CICs, not-for-profit organisations and eligible consortia. National Portfolio Organisations and Investment

Eligible applicants may include festivals, promoters, managers, record labels, recording studios, rehearsal spaces, music publishers, grassroots music venues, sector bodies and approved sector support organisations, provided they develop, promote, platform and distribute new music for commercial exploitation.

Supported costs can include organisational development, skills and capacity building, operating and programming expenses linked to growth aims, equipment and software, touring, small-scale capital infrastructure and research and development to improve capacity, efficiency, innovation, sustainability, audience reach or market growth.

The two strands of the Music Growth Fund have a different number of decision rounds each year. In each full year of delivery there will be ten decision rounds for the £1,000 to £40,000 strand and four decision rounds for the £40,001 to £100,000 strand.

[More Information](#)

British Film Institute Funding for Organisations to Deliver Creative Development Programmes

The British Film Institute is inviting applications to the National Lottery Creative Challenge Fund, which provides financial support to UK organisations delivering creative or talent development activity.

BFI is seeking organisations to design and run development programmes for UK creatives with narrative, documentary or animation feature film projects, as well as those working on narrative immersive media projects. These programmes are expected to offer structured development environments that help participants advance their projects and position them for future marketplace funding.

Applicants can request between £12,000 and £150,000 for a single edition.



Eligible organisations include production companies, film festivals, local authorities, statutory bodies, community interest companies, registered charities and other groups with relevant experience. For-profit entities may apply if the supported activity is delivered on a not-for-profit basis.

Funding may be used for staff and freelance fees, participant payments, venue and equipment hire, travel and accommodation, mentoring, access requirements, creative practice sessions and reasonable overheads not already covered by public funding.

The second Challenge One deadline for applications is 21 September 2026, to support programme activity taking place between 1 January and 30 June 2027.

[More Information](#)

Funding Opportunity Available Through ASDA

Asda has just paid out £2m to good causes and are expecting to pay similar out again in November so they would like to remind organisations to register and/or start using easyfundraising now so they will get paid in November.

Please find the opportunity attached for further information, including eligibility criteria and application details.

Interested organisations are encouraged to review the information and consider applying.

[More Information](#)

Government Announces Second Round of the Common Ground Award for England

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has announced the second round of the Common Ground Award will open for applications on 14 September 2026.

[Registration](#)

The Common Ground Award aims to:

- Identify and reward good practice in building social connections across and between different communities and people from different backgrounds.
- Invest in the shared physical facilities, spaces and equipment that builds cohesion and resilience through enabling people from different backgrounds to come together.



- Build a community of practice, for knowledge sharing across the voluntary and community sector and with government

Applicants must be directly working on at least one of the following core themes:

- Encouraging and enabling social mixing, promoting understanding and reducing divisions between different communities and people from different backgrounds.
- Reducing prejudice, discrimination and hatred directed toward individuals and communities because of their background.
- Resolving conflict and addressing tensions across and between communities.

MHCLG is providing more money this year, with up to £2.5 million for the 2026-27 financial year with grant payments of between:

- £20,000 and £50,000 for an individual organisation.
- £100,000 and £250,000 for a consortium.

Who Can Apply

VCSE organisations with a base and operating in England, with charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes may apply.

This includes:

- An organisation registered as a charity with the Charity Commission
- A charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) registered with Companies House and with the Charity Commission
- A company limited by guarantee registered with Companies House, that is established for charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes
- A community interest company (CIC) registered with Companies House
- A community benefit society registered by the Financial Conduct Authority
- An unincorporated community group or organisation, or an unincorporated association that is:
 - established for charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes
 - has a governing body with at least three members
 - has an inclusive membership policy
 - has a governing document
 - can provide accounts for the last two financial years
 - has its own UK business bank account



- can hold land or property and enter into contracts either by itself or via trustees.

Individual applicants can set out how capital investment could be scaled up to a maximum of £100,000, which may be considered in exceptional cases.

The capital grants can be used to support new builds, refurbishment, and expansion of facilities used to build connections across and between different communities. Funding can also cover essential equipment, such as laptops or furniture for the property.

VCSE organisations with a base and operating in England, with charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes may apply either as an individual organisation or as a consortium. Applicants must have an annual turnover or income below £5 million.

The prospectus for round two is available now on GOV.UK website.

A webinar will be held on 10 September 2026 (12:30 to 13:15). [Registration](#) via the GOV.UK website.

Applications open 14 September 2026 and close 12 October 2026.

Annual Churchill Fellowship Opens for Applications

The Fellowship was created in 1965 as the living legacy of Sir Winston Churchill for the nation. It aims to honour his memory and spirit in a unique community of changemakers across the UK.

Each year the Fellowships offers support to UK citizens who wish to carry out research projects that require overseas travel. Funding is awarded to allow Fellows to spend up to two months investigating inspiring practice in other countries, either by travelling overseas or online from the UK, in order to identify new and better ways of tackling a wide range of current challenges facing the UK.

The grant covers living costs and travel costs incurred while learning as well as the costs of interpreters, visas and vaccinations, and support workers if needed.

Up to 120 fellowships are awarded each year to UK citizens, resident in the UK and aged 18 or over. There is no upper age limit or any other restrictions. The Fellowship covers every area of society and reflects the life of the nation.

Applicants need to be addressing a clearly stated need or issue in UK society and exploring one of the current annual themes:

- Building a society that cares
- Building prosperous, resilient economies
- Caring for our natural environment



- Civic and democratic engagement (new this year)
- Climate change
- Making space for the arts
- Promoting lifelong health
- Supporting engagement in education
- Tech for All
- Open Options

Applications open once a year.

The deadline for applications is 20 October 2026 (midday) for a Fellowship to begin from 1 August 2027.

[More Information](#)

Community Radio Fund Accepting Applications for 2026-27 Funding Round

Ofcom, with funding from the Department for Culture, Media, and Sport (DCMS), is offering grants for Ofcom-licensed community radio stations broadcasting on AM, FM, or by a Community Digital Sound Programme (C-DSP) license on a digital radio multiplex to help support equipment costs and the essential core work involved in running a radio station.

For 2026-27, a total of £904,662 is available over one funding round, split across the following funding streams:

- Equipment Stream grants of up to £2,000 are available for studio and transmission equipment costs, including costs to improve accessibility, such as mixing desks, video and audio recording equipment, microphones, playout software, etc.
- Sustainability grants of up to £100,000 are available for job roles or projects that support the sustainability of the station, such as station management costs, administration, volunteer organisation, fundraising, etc.

In 2026-27 there is a limited number of multi-year awards (up to a maximum of three years) available under the Sustainability Grants stream.

Analogue community radio services that have been on air for ten or more years, and are on air at the time of application, can apply for both Equipment and Sustainability Grants. C-DSP stations that are on air at the time of application can apply for Sustainability Grants only.



Analogue community radio stations should have a minimum of fifteen months remaining on their licence from the closing date for applications. If there are less than fifteen months remaining on the licence, the licensee must have submitted an extension application to Ofcom by the closing date. Applicant stations must be on the air as of the date of their application for their application to be considered.

The deadline for applications is 14 October 2026.

[More Information](#)

Useful Funding Links - [Directory of Social Change - Fundraising](#)

[External funding and grants for businesses | London Borough of Bexley](#)