

Community Funding Bulletin

November 2023 Edition



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Funding roadshows will be held in December for any eligible organisations or groups who wish to apply to any of the programmes and would like to find out further information or require assistance.

These virtual roadshows will take place via Zoom and there will be a live presentation on the 10 grants available on the following dates:

- Monday 4th December 2023 @ 7pm
- Tuesday 5th December 2023 @ 2pm



To take part in any of the above roadshows, please email the Funding Unit on grants@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk detailing what session you would like to take part in or call 028 70347198.

Details on each of the Grant Funding Programmes can be found via the online funding hub which are available on Council's website:- www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/grantsandfunding

MSE Charity Announces Funding Theme for January 2024 Round

A small number of grants for not-for-profit organisations in the UK for projects that relate to the delivery of financial skills to different defined groups.

Money Saving Expert (MSE) Charity has announced the theme for its January 2024 grant round is 'Living with Long Term Challenges'.

This grant round will offer grants of up to £8,000 to support projects focused on improving and delivering personal financial life skills to people living with Long Term Challenges, such as:

- Dementia
- Autism
- Learning Difficulties
- Disabilities
- Caring Responsibilities
- Mental illness
- Brain injury / stroke

Small to medium-sized non-profit organisations with a

constitution can apply, including UK registered charities, community interest companies, social enterprises and credit unions. To be eligible, applicants must be based in the UK, looking for funding for UK based activities, have an annual income of less than £750,000 and unrestricted reserves that are less than six months of their running costs.

Applications are usually invited twice a year: in winter and autumn.

Please note that each grant round is limited to the first 40 accepted applications. Previous rounds have closed within a couple of weeks of opening.

Applications are expected to open on 15 January 2024 and close on 16 February 2024.

For more information, please visit [Home \(msecharity.com\)](http://Home(msecharity.com))



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



Ageism Action Day

Centre for Ageing Better has announced this new Ageism Action Day which is a chance for everyone to do something to change the narrative about ageing. It's an annual day for individuals and communities, workplaces, friends and families to learn, take action and improve lives. The Action Day is on 20th March 2024, and will happen every year around the same time.

How much is available?

Grants of up to £500 are available, with an additional up to £150 to cover anything needed to make the event or activity more accessible. The lower limit for applications is £75.

What can the micro-grant cover?

Groups can choose to mark the day as they would like, using the theme "see and be seen" as inspiration, which is all about improving the way ageing is represented in society and challenging negative portrayals and associations. It could be supporting art exhibitions, poetry competitions, fashion shows, film viewings, events which bring generations together, sharing stories of ageing or creating opportunities to discuss ageism at a coffee morning or pub quiz. The options are endless!



Action today for all our tomorrows

What is the deadline?

The deadline for applications is 10th January 2024 but we may have to close early if we receive a high level of demand so we encourage you to submit as early as possible.

Drop in sessions and questions

We encourage everyone interested in making an application to join an online information session on Friday 8th December between 10am and 11am or Thursday 14 December between 1pm and 2pm. Alternatively, you can email grants@ageing-better.org.uk with your specific questions and we will aim to respond.

For more information or to apply click: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/ageism-action-day-micro-grants-age-friendly-communities>

Funding opportunities available to assist local communities and artists

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council is offering over £268k of funding to assist local community groups and artists in 2024/25.

Several grants are now open for applications:

- Community Support Grant
- Community Festivals Fund
- Community Development Bursary Award
- Arts Organisations Grants
- Individual Artists Grants
- Making Art in Communities
- Young Artist of the Year
- John Hewitt International Summer School Residency Award
- Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary

These can be applied for online before 12 noon on Friday 15th December 2023.

Councillor Thomas Beckett, Communities and Wellbeing Chairman, said: "We welcome opportunities to invest in and support our communities and arts. It is hoped the early opening of these grants will help local groups, organisations and individuals plan their projects next year.

"We welcome applications that help to enhance our communities, improve community relations, reduce social isolation, promote integration or strengthen the sense of community at a grassroots level.

"Through arts grants and bursaries we can ensure arts and culture remain at the core the Lisburn and Castlereagh area. We want to offer chances for lasting, memorable and unique community-based projects to be created."



Those interested in applying for a grant scheme are invited to attend an information workshop. Please book in advance using the contact details below. The remaining workshop date is:

- Wednesday 6 December at 7pm in Moneyreagh Community Centre

Secure your place by emailing community.services@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk

Applications are online using the following links:

[Community Support Grant](#)
[Community Festivals Fund](#)
[Community Development Bursary Award](#)
[Arts grants and bursaries](#)



The Good Relations Awards 2024 are open for nominations

The Awards spotlight the vital role that Good Relations plays in delivering peacebuilding and community cohesion throughout Northern Ireland.

The Good Relations Awards are run annually by the Community Relations Council in partnership with The Executive Office (TEO).

You can help us recognise this exceptional commitment to good relations by the people who strive to make our communities better for all.

This year there are five Award categories:

- The Community Relations Council Exceptional Achievement Award;
- Good Relations Volunteer of the Year Award;
- Good Relations Community Champion Award;
- Good Relations Youth Award (Under 25)
- Good Relations Connecting Communities Project of the Year Award.



Equity | Diversity | Interdependence

The Awards are delivered with support from these organisations: Volunteer Now; NICVA; NI Youth Forum, and Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

If you know someone in Northern Ireland deserving of recognition – nominate them now for the Good Relations Awards 2024.

Closing date: Tuesday 19 December 2023 at 12 noon.

To nominate, please visit this link: [Home - Good Relations Awards 2024](#)

Funding to Support Youth-Led Social Action Across the UK

Co-op Foundation, in partnership with Co-op and the #iwill Fund, is offering grants of up to £20,000 for groups to support young activists, campaigners, disrupters, co-operates, and social entrepreneurs to lead social action to improve their communities and build upon Co-op's vision of 'Co-operating for a Fairer World'.

Through the Young Gamechangers Fund, a total of £600,000 is available for groups with an income of less than £250,000 that are:

- Committed to engaging in long-term projects as part of a network of young gamechangers.
- Focused on creating sustainable positive social change that aims to have a lasting impact on individuals and the wider community.
- Proposing or leading social action work that has a clear purpose.
- Rooted in the Young Gamechangers Fund priorities.

Preference will be given to groups that have previously not had access or experienced barriers to funding, groups that are led by and for marginalised communities, and groups that prioritise youth activism and shared power.



Funding can be used for specific project costs, or core and ongoing costs such as salaries, overheads, or other activities that support the group's work.

There is a two-stage application process. Groups must submit an online eligibility test before being invited to complete a full application.

The deadline for applications is 19 December 2023 (noon).

For more information please visit [£4.5m Young Gamechangers Fund - Co-op Foundation](#) (coopfoundation.org.uk)



The Fore's Unique Funding Programme Opens for Spring 2024 Registration on 6 December

The Fore is the only open-access funder in the UK offering development funding and strategic support to early-stage charities and social enterprises who have exceptional leadership, innovative idea and cost-effective solutions.

The Fore offers a 'wraparound' package of unrestricted, multi-year grant-funding (up to £30,000) training, skilled volunteers, peer-to-peer networks and impact measurement to UK registered charities, CIOs, CICs, and social enterprises with an annual revenue of less than £500,000 in the previous completed financial year.

The funding is intended to have a transformational impact on the organisations being supported by unlocking exponential growth, sustainability, efficiency or some other major step forward.

The unrestricted funding can be used for any purpose, including core costs and capital funding. The grant could help, for example, an organisation grow, increase internal capacity, serve new beneficiary groups, become more sustainable or more efficient, etc. Applications for core costs must show how the funding will move the organisation forward rather than enabling 'business as usual'.

There are three funding rounds each year (Spring, Summer, Autumn).

The next funding round will open for registration at noon on 6 December 2023 and close at noon on 13 December 2023.

Please visit [Home - The Fore](#)

Apply for a free defibrillator for your community

Applications for a free, BHF-funded defibrillator are now open. Applications will close on 15 March 2024.



All eligible UK-based community groups can apply. Each organisation can only apply for one award package.

A limited number of funded defibrillators are available. Applications will be reviewed monthly against a set of criteria so defibrillators can be awarded to communities that need them most.

For more information please visit [Defibrillator funding for your local community - BHF](#)

Funding for places

Our main grants programme provides support for places. These grants are for capital initiatives, i.e. buildings (new build or refurbishment) and equipment.



We fund a broad range of organisations working across the fields of education, science & medicine, health & disability, heritage, humanities & the arts.

Who can apply?

Before you apply for funding, please check the types of places we fund and their specific funding criteria. You can also take our [eligibility quiz](#) to see if we could support your project.

For more information please visit [Funding for places - The Wolfson Foundation](#)



Help the Homeless

Help the Homeless are a small charity with limited funds available. Please check carefully that both your organisation and your project meet the criteria before making an application.

CRITERIA

- Your organisation must be registered with the Charity Commission in England, Wales or Northern Ireland or a registered Scottish Charity.
- We are able to help only small charities with an annual turnover of less than £500,000.
- We can only accept applications towards the funding of capital projects. We are unable to accept applications towards running/core costs. Note: we are also unable to consider requests for computers and IT equipment.
- We provide small grants of up to £5,000. We do not consider multi-year requests.

There should be a minimum period of two years between the receipt of a decision or grant from us and making a further application.

APPLICATION FORM

All applicants must complete our [online application form](#).

Please note we no longer accept applications by post or email.

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS

The quarterly deadlines for applications for funding each year are: 5pm on 15th March/15th June/15th September/15th December.

You will be informed of the Trustees' decision within eight weeks of each deadline.

EXAMPLE GRANTS

Examples of recent grants made can be found [here](#).

For more information please visit [Applying for Funding — Help the Homeless \(help-the-homeless.org.uk\)](#)



The Live-Smart Community Environment Grant

The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough is known worldwide for its beautiful scenery and amazing visitor experience. Council wants to preserve that for years and generations to come – this requires everyone making a conscious effort to live a more environmentally-friendly lifestyle.

The purpose of the LiveSmart Community Environmental Grant Programme is to provide small grants up to a maximum of £500 to local community and voluntary organisations. The grants are to give financial assistance to allow groups and organisations to:-

1. improve the general cleanliness in their local area, particularly in respect of litter
2. promote recycling, reuse and waste reduction
3. look at ways of reducing carbon footprint by taking simple, practical actions such as planting

Community groups and organisations are being encouraged and supported to keep their local area clean and tidy, promote recycling, reuse and waste reduction and have a positive impact on their carbon footprint. There are a number of specific objectives which applicants must address. Your application can address more than one objective but only one is necessary.



- RecycleSmart: aims to reduce waste by educating, engaging and inspiring us all to buy less, reuse more, recycle and compost.
- LitterSmart: aims to reduce litter through education, encouraging responsible disposal and supporting local people to carry out litter lifts.
- ClimateSmart: aims to reduce our carbon footprint by increasing our knowledge of sustainability and empowering change with simple, practical actions such as planting vegetables, fruit, native shrubs and pollinator plants

Applicants can request a grant up to a maximum of £500. You can only apply for one grant per year. Applications for the LiveSmart Community Environmental Grant Programme should be submitted online at <http://grants.ccgbcapps.com/>

This is a rolling programme and will remain open until all funds are expended.



Tyrone Three Community Benefit Fund (Gortfinbar, Eshmore and Altamuskin)

This local community fund has been set up by Energia Renewables, working in close partnership with local groups from the areas surrounding the Tyrone 3 Windfarms. The Tyrone 3 Windfarms comprises three farms, which are:

- Altamuskin (6 wind turbines / 14.1MW)
- Eshmore (3 wind turbines / 7.0MW)
- Gortfinbar (5 wind turbines / 15.0.MW)

The windfarms are situated in close proximity to each other between the town of Ballygawley and the villages of Carrickmore, Sixmilecross and Beragh in County Tyrone. They are located in the Mid Ulster District and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council areas respectively.

Energia has set up the fund to ensure that the wind farm, whilst having obvious environmental benefits, will also provide significant social and economic benefits to the local community. The Tyrone 3 Windfarms Community Benefit Fund will be administered by the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

Funding will be available to local community projects that are planned and run for the benefit of the local population and are within 7 miles of the centre of the three windfarms – [as per map](#).

In the event of oversubscription, priority will be given to projects based within 5 miles of the centre of the three windfarms – [as per map](#).

The fund will support projects addressing issues within the following theme areas:

- Energy efficiency and sustainability
- Social, cultural or sporting benefit for the local community
- Educational issues with a sustainability angle
- Environmental benefit or economic benefit

Fund priorities:

- Projects that improve the utilisation of existing community space in areas within the fund boundary.
- Contributions towards running/administration costs and for purchasing additional equipment to expand and support new and existing services/activities in each of the areas.
- Particular emphasis will be placed on funding activities/services that are specifically aimed at older people, people with disabilities, children and teenagers (including pre-school children), providing skills development of local people and promoting health related activities or services.

- Applicants are encouraged to network, share best practice and co-operate more between the areas. Projects which demonstrate the ability to collaborate, network and share best practice will be encouraged and supported.
- Projects and programmes offering invaluable advice and information and signposting on key Rural issues should be supported e.g. Farm Support Services, Welfare & Benefits and Parenting/Family issues etc.
- Outdoor/Environmental projects will be considered in terms of encouraging a healthier and active community as well as protecting and enhancing the local environment.
- Wider community events and programmes that encourage greater community interaction (including cross community aspects) encompassing the local rich and varied cultural aspects of music, drama, dance and sport.

Examples of who can apply:

- Constituted voluntary organisations and community groups
- Local youth groups

Examples of projects that the fund might support:

- Local cultural projects recording and researching history
- Establishment of a “Men’s Shed” or other similar initiative
- Small capital works to a community facility
- Environmental awareness projects
- Activities supporting young people, the elderly, those with disabilities
- Community wide events
- Strategic projects that will benefit a number of communities, including partnership applications

Grants size: Grants up to £5,000

Closing date for applications is **8th December 2023 at 1pm**

For more information and to apply, please visit [Tyrone Three Community Benefit Fund \(Gortfinbar, Eshmore and Altamuskin\) - Community Foundation Northern Ireland \(communityfoundationni.org\)](https://www.communityfoundationni.org)



Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust Announce Themes for 2024/25 Funding

The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust has announced the themes for 2024 and 2025 for which it will offer funding.

The Trust operates a three-year rotation system, with different fields of interests being funded each year.

In 2024, support will be available for the following priorities:

- Rounds 1 and 2 – Disability, specifically employment and training for people living with disabilities to ensure better access.
- Rounds 3 and 4 – Food Poverty (due to the increasing levels across the UK).

In 2025, support will be available for the following priorities (full details published toward the end of 2024):

- Rounds 1 and 2 - Access to the Arts.
- Rounds 3 and 4 - Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

The project must fall within the relevant category for the year the application is submitted, and organisations may only make one application during any one year.

The Trust awards grants of either £1,000 or £5,000 depending on the grant round.

The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust

Organisations registered with the Charity Commission (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or OSCR, or exempt from registration, can apply.

The level of grant awarded is determined by the income of the charity:

- Grants of £1,000 are available for charities with an operating income of between £100,000 and £1 million.
- Grants of £5,000 are available for charities with a minimum operating income of £1 million. There is no maximum level.

There are four grant rounds each year. Charities may only apply for one grant per calendar year.

The first round is expected to open on 1 February 2024 and close on 29 February 2024.

For more information please visit [Home - The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust \(austin-hope-pilkington.org.uk\)](https://www.austin-hope-pilkington.org.uk)

Sea-Changers' Marine Conservation Social Fund Reopens for 2023

Sea Changers is offering up to seven grants of between £3,000 and £5,000 for UK-based charities and other not-for-profit groups to deliver marine conservation projects that also deliver health and wellbeing outcomes for participants and disadvantaged communities.

Through the Marine Conservation Social Fund, a total of £23,000 is available in 2023 for:

- Marine conservation education and engagement projects - such as campaigns or activities reaching out to and including those who do not access/engage with the sea and educating them about marine conservation issues and what they can do to help.
- Citizen science and/or practical/direct action projects – particularly where they engage disadvantaged communities and where they can show increased community cohesion/engagement and personal/health benefits of volunteering.



Sea-Changers is particularly interested in grassroots projects that galvanise community action, projects that increase the number of people acting for marine conservation, projects that may be formed through partnerships between marine conservation organisations and social welfare organisations, and pilot programmes that might be continued, expanded, or replicated with additional funding in future years.

The deadline for applications is 22 December 2023.

For more information and to apply, please visit [Marine Conservation Social Fund 2023 | Sea-Changers](https://www.sea-changers.org.uk/marine-conservation-social-fund-2023)



Windrush Day Grant Scheme Opens for 2024 Funding Applications

Funded by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and managed by Near Neighbours, the Windrush Day Grant Scheme 2024 will focus on bringing communities together across different ages and ethnic backgrounds to commemorate, celebrate and educate their local area about the contribution of the Windrush Generation and their descendants across the United Kingdom.

22 June each year marks National Windrush Day and projects must include a lead event or activity on this date. All further events and activities must take place within the 10-week period of 8 June 2024 to 31 August 2024.

Projects need to focus primarily on at least one of the following overarching aims of the scheme:

- To educate people about the Windrush story.
- To foster a greater sense of national pride and recognition of the historic and ongoing contributions made by the Windrush generation and their descendants to UK society.
- To develop the skills and entrepreneurial ambitions of young people.
- To celebrate and commemorate the continued contributions of the Windrush generation to the UK.



There is a total funding pot of £500,000 to fund activities across England and Northern Ireland with grants of between £5,000 and £50,000:

- Tier 1: smaller projects between £5,000 and £25,000.
- Tier 2: larger projects between £25,000 and £50,000.

Funding for all approved projects will be released in April 2024.

The deadline for funding applications is 17 December 2023.

For more information and to apply please visit [Windrush Day Grant Scheme Applications — Near Neighbours \(near-neighbours.org.uk\)](https://www.near-neighbours.org.uk)

Belfast City Council's Small Grants 2024-25 Tranche 1

Belfast City Council's Small Grants 2024-25 Tranche 1 are now open for applications for the grants listed below. The submission deadline for receipt of applications is **12 noon on Friday 12th January 2024**.

1. Community Festivals Fund
2. Arts & Heritage
3. Good Relations
4. Parks Events
5. Sports Events
6. S4S Large Development Grant
7. S4S Small Development Grant
8. S4S Hospitality Grant
9. S4S Sporting Individual Grant
10. Community Summer Scheme



Belfast
City Council

For further details, guidance notes and to apply online please visit our website www.belfastcity-grants.com or contact the Central Grants Unit Belfast City Council at cgugrants@belfastcity.gov.uk