



Check you are eligible to apply

What sort of organisations can we fund?	
<p>We can award grants to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Registered charities and CIOs ✓ Community/voluntary groups that have a constitution ✓ Social enterprises (CICs, companies limited by guarantee) that are registered with the appropriate body. <p><i>Please check programme details for exceptions.</i></p>	<p>We normally can't award grants to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Schools, or colleges (including those registered as charities) ✗ Parish or Town Councils ✗ Companies limited by shares ✗ Sports clubs with an annual income above £5,000 unless they have registered as a charity, CIO, Company (limited by guarantee) or CASC.

What governance and financial practices need to be in place?	
<p>Governance, all groups must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Have charitable aims ✓ Have a min. of 4 trustees listed with the Charity Commission, or a management committee of 4 people for community groups, ✓ Have a min. of 3 unrelated directors listed on Companies House if you are a company ✓ Have a dissolution clause (charities/groups) or an asset-lock clause (social enterprises) in the governing document 	<p>Finance, all groups must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Have a bank account in the same name of the group (and matching the group name on your governing document) ✓ Have two unrelated people authorising payments ✓ Be registered with the appropriate body if your income is above £5,000 per year (eg Charity Commission, Companies House, CASC) <p><i>The supporting documents submitted with an application must show evidence of good governance practices and sound financial management.</i></p>
<p>Policies, all relevant policies should be in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Safeguarding children / vulnerable adults, including procedures for DBS checks ✓ Equality, diversity and inclusion ✓ Public Liability Insurance ✓ Employer's Liability Insurance ✓ Relevant planning permissions 	<p>Social enterprises, extra information</p> <p>All social enterprises, including CICs must demonstrate a reasonable percentage of their income has been earned through trading (usually 50% or more will be considered a reasonable percentage). Social enterprises will be asked to provide a breakdown of their income streams, quantifying the income from grants and the income from trade, to verify this. Social enterprises must have been registered with Companies House for a minimum of 12 months before applying.</p>



What can't we fund?

<p>We cannot fund groups that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Have outstanding monitoring forms✗ Are subject to investigations by the police, Charity Commission or others✗ Are connected to a donor unless assessment shows no conflicts of interest✗ Have restricted membership other than that necessary for wellbeing, associated with the objects of the group	<p>We do not normally fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ national or regional charities (unless a local branch independently managed)✗ organisations whose free reserves include more than 12 months of running costs,✗ medical research and equipment,✗ organisations that do not have their own bank account (except in exceptional circumstances)✗ annual or one-off events
<p>We cannot fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ unspecified contributions to general fund-raising appeals or large projects,✗ for profit or commercial elements of charitable organisations,✗ public bodies to carry out their statutory obligations,✗ direct replacement of statutory or public funding,✗ party political activity and campaigning,✗ contingency funding,✗ building or buying premises or land rights,✗ projects that solely support animal welfare,✗ purchase of vehicles (running costs will be considered),	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ feasibility studies or initial community consultations,✗ fundraising activities,✗ deficit or retrospective funding,✗ sponsored events, multiple trophies or prizes✗ onward awarding of grants except in exceptional circumstances✗ CIC start-ups✗ profit making or business ventures, including start-up costs✗ activities that are primarily about proselytization or supporting worship activities (faith organisations may apply for funding towards a project/activity that is open to the whole community and has wider social benefits)

For more information, read our [full General Grant Criteria](#).