

Monthly Funding Information November 2020

This document includes information about current grants and funding opportunities primarily for Voluntary & Community Sector Groups and Organisations, Charities and Social Enterprises.

Where the Grant title includes an asterisk (*), Local Authorities and other partner organisations may also be eligible to apply for the funding.

This document can also be accessed via the Leicestershire Communities [website](#).

You can also find information about Covid-19 specific funding opportunities [here](#).

Please use the links in the table below to go directly to the relevant section:

Funding for projects which support Adults (including older people, veterans and disabilities)	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
ISLA Foundation - Tipping Point Grants	12 th Nov 2020
Leicester City Council / ASDA – Apprenticeship Levy	Open

Funding for projects which support Young People (including young people with disabilities)	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Enterprise Development Programme - Youth Strand	12 th Nov 2020

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
Co-op – Food fund	13 th Nov 2020
British Cycling – Places to Ride *	16 th Nov 2020
Blaby District Council – Community Grants	25 th Nov 2020
Wesleyan Foundation – Small Grants	4 th Dec 2020
Melton Borough Council - Community Grants	16 th Dec 2020
Mercia Park Community Fund	8 th Feb 2021
Leicestershire County Council – SHIRE Environment Grant	26 th Feb 2021
North West Leicestershire District Council – Grant Schemes	Open
Leicestershire and Rutland Playing Fields Association – Starter Grants	Open
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	Open
Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity - Grants	Open
Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation	Open
Severn Trent – Community Fund *	Open

Funding for projects which support Adults

[ISLA Foundation - Tipping Point Grants](#)

A programme has been launched for projects offering creative solutions to homelessness, particularly on multi-agency, multi-sector approaches. This includes tackling the root causes, tackling re-insertion into society or developing a response to the challenges around homelessness which have arisen as a result of COVID-19.

Community groups and small (minimum annual income of £75,000) to medium sized organisations (minimum annual income of £250,000) working to address the issues of homelessness can apply.

The Foundation encourages collaborative/joint bids from organisations.

The maximum grant available is £40,000.

Closing date for applications – 12th November 2020

[Leicester City Council / ASDA – Apprenticeship Levy](#)

Leicester City Council is working in partnership with ASDA who are looking to support businesses in Leicester and Leicestershire, by transferring £100,000 of their apprenticeship levy to create new apprenticeship opportunities.

ASDA particularly welcome applications from charities, voluntary sector organisations, or businesses looking to support disadvantaged individuals into employment.

The business or organisation must be based in Leicester or Leicestershire.

You can apply to fund the learning for existing staff or new apprentices.

No application deadline is advertised

Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

[Enterprise Development Programme - Youth Strand](#)

The Enterprise Development Programme is about joining the enterprise movement whatever stage in the enterprise journey your organisation may be. For those looking to apply they will only be seeking details of enterprise ideas or motivations and context of how it will benefit your organisation and beneficiaries/community. To be eligible for the youth strand of the programme, you must be a charity, voluntary sector organisation, or social enterprise.

The following criteria also apply:

- Your mission is to work with young people aged 10-19, or 10-25 in certain circumstances. This must be explicitly stated in your governing documents and/or mission statement. This does not

include community organisations who work with young people as part of their work with the wider community;

- You can demonstrate intent on behalf of your trustees and/or executive to pursue diversifying income through trading;
- You can commit to playing an active part in contributing to the learning and research aspects of the Programme.
- You are based in England with the majority of your beneficiaries also in England; and
- You can commit to playing an active part in contributing to the learning and research aspects of the Programme.

Closing date for expressions of interest - 12th November 2020

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Co-op – Food fund

The funding is for sustainable food poverty programmes which address any of the following issues:

- Redistributing surplus food to the people who need it most in local communities.
- Providing easy access to nutritious food and balanced meals for customers with a limited budget.
- Educating and upskilling customers on low cost meal solutions, limiting food waste and shopping smartly.
- Supporting future generations by prioritising the wellbeing of children and young people struggling with food insecurity.
- Food programmes for vulnerable communities, delivered in those communities.

The types of programmes that can be supported include

- Foodbanks.
- Programmes that tackle food waste.
- Programmes that encourage healthy eating.
- Holiday hunger schemes.

The grant amount that organisations can apply for depends on the local area where the applicant organisation operates but most grants will be in the £2,000 to £10,000 range. Larger grants may be made available for organisations that are covering a larger geographic area or are leading on a coordinated partnership response.

Closing date for applications 13th November 2020

British Cycling – Places to Ride *

This scheme was due to close in January 2021 but is now closing earlier than planned due to significant interest.

The programme aims to:

- Encourage more people from a range of different backgrounds regardless of gender, age, ability or ethnicity to engage with cycling in all its forms.
- Invest in opportunities that address barriers to engaging with cycling.

- Recognise the wider health and wellbeing benefits of cycling
- Ensure a lasting legacy of active environments that provide high quality and affordable opportunities to engage with cycling

Both small grants (£1,000 - £50,000) and larger grants (up to £500,00) are available to support a range of projects, such as:

- New cycling facilities and improvements to existing cycling facilities
- Learn to ride areas.
- Combined and co-located schemes with various cycling facility types available.
- Cycling and associated training equipment
- Other items that can support innovative solutions to getting more people riding bikes, e.g. using technology.

The NEW closing date for applications is now 16th November 2020

Blaby District Council – Community Grants

Grant for voluntary and community sector organisations in Blaby to develop and strengthen community facilities and activities. The following grants are available this year:

- Large Capital Grants - up to £4,000
- Small Capital Grants - up to £500
- Revenue Grants - up to £500
- Everyone Active - up to £500
- Youth Grants - up to £500

The remaining application deadlines are:

Wednesday 25th November 2020

Wednesday 24th February 2021

Wesleyan Foundation – Small Grants

Voluntary and community sector organisations can apply for up to £2,000 for projects in the following priority work areas:

- Education – projects that address positive social mobility, disadvantage and raising aspirations. Initiatives that develop individuals' skills and employability are also of high importance.
- Health – projects that address mental and physical wellbeing and create opportunities for inclusion.
- Social – projects that develop conscious inclusion and bring the community together.
- Other priorities – Projects that can demonstrate an ongoing sustainability, both from a financial and an environment perspective. In addition, projects which build in an element to help reduce an organisation's carbon footprint.

Closing date for applications 4th December 2020

Melton Borough Council - Community Grants

Open to not-for-profit community groups either based in or which provide services to the residents of Melton Borough.

Projects should be in line with the Council's Corporate People Priorities with applications supporting the following outcomes being of particular interest:

- Good physical and Mental Health (low levels of obesity, substance misuse, teenage pregnancy; reduced intergenerational dependence on state support; less involvement in criminal activity)
- Financial Independence
- Effective parent/child relationships (ready for parenthood; good parenting skills; aspirations for own children, able to deal with challenges in family & other relationships)
- Digitally and socially independent and responsible (maintaining social relationships)
- Sound aspirations (career planning; ability to get a home; getting on the property ladder)

Closing date for applications 16th December 2020

Mercia Park Community Fund

The Mercia Park Community Fund is focussed on helping to improve the quality of life for local communities within proximity of the Mercia Park Development at Junction 11 M42. An additional aim is to improve the natural environment within the proximity of the development.

Priority will be given to applications from organisations closest to the Mercia Park Development at Junction 11 M42, who can clearly demonstrate that they deliver activities for beneficiaries who live within close proximity of the development.

Community Groups can apply for grants of between £2,000 and £5,000 for a 12-month project. In exceptional circumstances, larger grant amounts of up to £10,000 may be considered. Potential applicants are recommended to call the grants team to discuss your project before completing an application for a higher amount.

Applications deadline - 8th February 2021

Leicestershire County Council – SHIRE Environment Grant

Grants of up to £3,000 are available to fund new and innovative projects that will meet one or more of the grant scheme outcomes:

- To reduce the amount of household waste produced in Leicestershire
- To reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions within communities
- To improve biodiversity and support the creation, protection, enhancement and management of sustainable green spaces
- To raise awareness and understanding on the above outcomes as well as providing necessary training and skills to manage and support projects.

The Council is keen to support projects that can maintain or build on some of the positive environmental benefits that have arisen from the current Covid 19 situation, such as reduced carbon emissions; increased biodiversity; improved air quality; greater appreciation of nature and green spaces.

Application deadline - 26th February 2021

North West Leicestershire District Council – Grant Schemes

The District Council has a range of grants for community-based organisations, including Parish Councils, working in its geographic area.

- Coalville Special Expenses Community Chest Grant – Grants of up to £250 to support and encourage a range of community activities, initiatives and events that meet the needs of residents in these wards: Coalville, Bardon, Snibston, Thringstone and Greenhill.
- Green Grants - Grants of up to £500 to support small scale environmentally based projects including; equipment for litter picking; projects for cycling/walking; wildflower meadows; community orchards; hedge planting and recycling
- Small Grants - Grants of up to £500 are available for new projects to try something different or for one off pieces of expenditure for projects, equipment and other items.

No application deadlines advertised

Leicestershire and Rutland Playing Fields Association – Starter Grants

These are small grants of up to £500. Applicants must be a properly constituted sports club or association that resides in Leicestershire or Rutland and be current members of the PFA.

Grants can be used for anything that encourages the provision, improvement, retention and use of outdoor recreational space. This might include buying equipment or kit, coaching course costs or starting a new sport or team at your club. It also welcomes new ways of encouraging a different group of people to take part in sport.

No application closing date advertised

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

Grants are available to organisations doing legally charitable work in the UK that focuses on the Foundation's funding priorities of:

- Improving the natural world - ensuring that the natural world is restored and protected, and that people benefit from that recovery.
- Securing a fairer future - contributing to a just and anti-racist society, where those most likely to have their rights denied have those rights protected, as well as the opportunity to speak and be heard
- Strengthening the bonds in communities in the UK - strengthening the bonds in communities, helping local people to build vibrant, confident places where they can fulfil their creative, human, and economic potential

The Foundation will continue to award unrestricted core and project grants and has announced that under the new strategy it intends to provide larger and longer-term grants, as well as strategic support. The Minimum grant is £30,000.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis – no closing date is currently advertised

Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity - Grants

The Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity awards grants to individuals and organisations in Market Harborough, Great Bowden and Little Bowden. The Charity's remit is broad and includes priorities for funding such as health, education, sport and heritage.

Applications can be made for the following:

- Community Projects
- Relief in Need - for individuals/households in need
- Education – for individuals looking to get support with costs associated with college, university, apprenticeships or vocational courses

No grant amounts or closing dates are advertised.

Severn Trent – Community Fund *

Not-for-profit organisations can apply for funding to support:

- People: Projects that help people to lead a healthier life and gain new skills
- Places: Projects that help to create better places to live in and use
- Environment: Projects that will help look after our natural environment, give people greater access to that environment or help look after water

The fund will also consider projects that have a connection to water (although not essential)! This might mean creating sustainable drainage, installing grey water recycling or creating water efficient green spaces.

There are three sizes of grant that can be applied for:

- £2,000 to £10,000
- £10,001 to £75,000
- £75,001 to £250,000

To apply for more than £10,000 you must be a registered charity; a business registered with Companies House; a local authority; or parish council.

This is a rolling grant programme with no deadlines for applications

Support available for Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise Sector organisations in Leicestershire

Voluntary Action LeicesterShire

Leicestershire County Council has a contract with [Voluntary Action LeicesterShire](#) (VAL) to provide support to voluntary and community sector organisations in Leicestershire, including help with identifying and securing funding. If you are a VCS organisation who is seeking to apply for funding, or bid for contracts, please contact VAL's Sector Support Team for assistance, advice and guidance. VAL can provide assistance with searching for funding opportunities, checking the relevance of the fund to your funding aspirations, and a read and review of your bid. You can also [sign up for further e-bulletins from VAL](#), including news, events, funding opportunities, job vacancies and updates from the Government and Charity Commission.

You can contact VAL or visit the website, using the details below:

Website: www.valonline.org.uk/contact

Tel: 0116 2575050

Email: helpline@valonline.org.uk

Voluntary Action LeicesterShire - Virtual VCSE Funding Fair 26th November

This year the county VCSE Funding Fair is a virtual event and all Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations based in the county are invited to come along and speak to local and national funders who are actively investing in community groups in your area.

The Funding Fair will give you the opportunity to:

- Float your ideas past potential funders
- Learn about current funding programmes
- Find out how VAL can help you to succeed in your future bids

You have the choice of booking onto either the morning or afternoon session, please do not book onto both:

Morning Session: 10am – 12:30pm

Afternoon Session: 1:30pm – 4pm.

For further information and to book please go to: <https://valonline.org.uk/event/2020/11/26/virtual-vcse-funding-fair/>

Support for Social Enterprises in Leicestershire

Co-operative and Social Enterprise Development Agency (CASE) is a social enterprise and co-operative which provides advice, guidance and support to existing and emerging co-operatives, social enterprises and community enterprises in Leicester and Leicestershire. CASE supports co-operatives and social enterprises to develop and grow, through the promotion of co-operative ways of working.

Leicestershire County Council has a contract with CASE to provide support to people currently running (or thinking of setting up) social enterprises in Leicestershire.

You can find out more about the support offered by CASE via the contact details below:

Website: <http://case.coop/>

Tel: 0116 222 5010

Email: enquiries@case.coop

Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation

The Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation is a charity which helps local individuals and companies to give money, in a tax efficient way, directly to local needs. It does this by helping set up new local family and company charitable funds and then supports those donors to give grants to local charitable groups of their choice through the [Making Local Life Better Fund](#) (previously the Donor Matching Scheme). This scheme is currently closed whilst it delivers the [Coronavirus Emergency Support Fund](#).

The Community Foundation also administers local and national grant schemes on behalf of those organisations. These vary throughout the year, please check the [website](#) for the funds currently available.

Commissioning Opportunities

VCSE organisations are encouraged to explore opportunities to receive income through delivering contracts for services commissioned by the public sector.

You can register to receive details of commissioning opportunities through the following websites:

- Source Leicestershire: <http://www.sourceleicestershire.co.uk/>
- Due North: <https://procontract.due-north.com/Login>
- Contract Finder: <https://www.contractfinderpro.com/>

Easy Fundraising

This is a leading fundraising platform that gives organisations access to an unlimited fundraising source, that helps you to raise FREE cashback donations through online shopping. Register your group/organisation as a good cause with [easyfundraising](#) to receive free cashback donations when anyone connected to that organisation shops online with 4,200 retailers including Argos, Amazon, Just eat and Booking.com. It doesn't cost the shopper a penny more so it's an easy way for your community to support your organisation just by shopping online as they usually would.

Leicestershire Communities Website

The Leicestershire Communities website contains a range of useful information to help local people to actively participate in their communities, including information for people involved in community groups, charities and social enterprises. This section of the [website](#) provides a range of support, information and resources related to Grants and Funding, including Monthly Funding Bulletins, information from a range of funders, along with details of support provided to voluntary and community sector groups, charities and social enterprises, by other relevant organisations.