

Monthly Funding Information February 2021

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
Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust	28 th Feb 2021
Help The Homeless Grants	15 th March 2021
Barchester's Charitable Foundation	Open

Funding for projects which support Young People (including young people with disabilities)	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
The Y - Funding for Heritage Projects Involving Young People	26 th Feb 2021
Money Saving Expert (MSE) Charity - Raising the Next Generation	26 th Feb 2021
BBC Children in Need - Grants Programme	12 th April 2021
BlueSpark - Foundation grants	Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes	
Grant Fund	Closest Deadline
LLR Community Foundation - Making Local Life Better Fund	10 th Feb 2021
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council - Parish Community Initiative Fund and Hinckley Community Initiative Fund.	12 th Feb 2021
Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation	20 th Feb 2021
Leicestershire County Council – SHIRE Environment Grant	26 th Feb 2021
National Churches Trust - Cornerstone, Gateway & Foundation Grants	1 st March 2021
Mick George Community Fund	3 rd March 2021
Coalfields Regeneration Trust - Recovery and Resilience Fund	12 th March 2021
East Midlands Airport Community Fund	22 nd March 2021
NFU Mutual - Community Giving Fund	31 st March 2021
Morris Fund - Church Conservation Grants	31 st March 2021

Foyle Foundation - Small Grants Scheme	Open
Charity Link – Small Grants Scheme	Open
Severn Trent Trust Fund - Big Difference Scheme	Open
Biffa Award	Open
SUEZ Community Trust *	Open

Funding for projects which support Adults

Grant:	Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust
Website:	https://austin-hope-pilkington.org.uk/
Summary:	In 2021, the focus is on funding projects that support the homeless and refugees and asylums seekers. There are four rounds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rounds 1 and 2 - Projects that help combat homelessness. Priority will be given to applications that help BAME communities • Rounds 3 and 4 - Projects that support refugees and asylum seekers
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must be registered charities • Round 1 is for charities with income and operating expenditure between £100,000 to £1 million. • Round 2 is for charities with income and operating expenditure of over £1million
Min/Max Funding Available:	£5,000 max
Deadline for Applications:	28 th February 2021 (Round 1), 30 th April (Round 2) 31 st July (Round 3), 30 th September (Round 4)

Grant:	Help The Homeless Grants
Website:	https://www.help-the-homeless.org.uk/applying-for-funding
Summary:	Funding for capital projects that assist individuals in their return to mainstream society, rather than simply offering shelter or other forms of sustenance.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Must be registered charity turnover under £1 million
Min/Max Funding Available:	Max £5,000
Deadline for Applications:	15 th March 2021 (15 th June, 15 th September, 15 th December)

Grant:	Barchester's Charitable Foundation
Website:	https://www.bhcfoundation.org.uk/
Summary:	Applications that combat loneliness and enable people to be active and engaged in their community. It can fund individuals and groups.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Its focus is for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people 65+ • Adults (18+) with a physical or learning disability • Adults (18+) with mental health problems
Min/Max Funding Available:	£100 to £5,000
Deadline for Applications:	None advertised

Funding for projects which support Children and Young People

Grant:	The Y - Funding for Heritage Projects Involving Young People
Website:	https://www.leicesterymca.co.uk/youth-community/our-work/y-heritage/
Summary:	For organisations who are able to help deliver local heritage projects, whilst hosting meaningful work opportunities for vulnerable young people currently engaged with The Y.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people will need to be involved in the planning and managing of projects • Projects must conclude by the end of Winter 2021
Min/Max Funding Available:	£30,000 max
Deadline for Applications:	26 th February 2021

Grant:	Money Saving Expert (MSE) Charity - Raising the Next Generation
Website:	https://www.msecharity.com/
Summary:	There are two funding rounds per year, February and September. The February 2021 round is targeting and supporting the younger generation (under 25) who in the current difficult economic climate need support to develop and learn personal financial life skills.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications most likely to be successful are those that ask for funding for a specific activity cost rather than a general contribution to running costs or a much larger project • Applicants should have an annual income of less than £500,000 • apply early in the month as the round will be limited to the first 40 applications that are accepted or the deadline, whichever is soonest.
Min/Max Funding Available:	£7,500 max
Deadline for Applications:	26 th February 2021

Grant:	BBC Children in Need - Grants Programme
Website:	https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/grants/apply/
Summary:	Registered Charities and not – for –profit organisations which supports children aged 18 and under who are disadvantaged.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<p>Young people experiencing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illness, distress, abuse or neglect. • Any kind of disability. • Behavioural or psychological difficulties. • Living in poverty or situations of deprivation
Min/Max Funding Available:	Small Grants up to £10,000 per year (up to 3 years) Main Grants £10,001 to £40,000 per year (up to 3 years)
Deadline for Applications:	12 th April 2021

Grant:	BlueSpark - Foundation grants
Website:	http://bluesparkfoundation.org.uk/
Summary:	Open to schools, colleges and community groups for a range of projects including drama, music, sport, art and design, debating, public speaking, academic education and vocational training. Particular focus on supporting projects which will help enhance the self-confidence, team working skills and future employability of children and young people.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Grant requests must be crucial to the project rather than marginally incremental to its funding.
Min/Max Funding Available:	£5,000 max
Deadline for Applications:	Open

Funding for projects which support broader community outcomes

Grant:	LLR Community Foundation - Making Local Life Better Fund
Website:	https://www.llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-funds/making-local-life-better-fund-currently-open/
Summary:	<p>The grant will fund a wide range of needs, but projects should aim to support local people and local communities.</p> <p>There are two categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Category One - for one off/specific projects or items, such as new equipment or a new pilot/trial project. 2. Category Two - for core operating costs
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community groups with a constitution, registered charities and social enterprises (not-for profit companies limited by guarantee) are eligible for funding • Local branches of national organisations are eligible as long as they have their own management committee, governing documents and bank account
Min/Max Funding Available:	Between £500 and £3,000
Deadline for Applications:	Round 1: 10 th February 2021, followed by 3 further deadlines throughout the year: 10 th May 2021; 11 th August 2021 and 8 th November 2021

Grant:	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council - Parish Community Initiative Fund and Hinckley Community Initiative Fund.
Website:	https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/200335/funding_for_community_projects/509/parish_and_community_initiative_scheme
Summary:	Grants are available for community groups including Parish and Town Councils, which can be used for a wide variety of projects including: play areas, community building improvements, heritage trails, and sports facilities. In 2021 the council is giving high priority to any schemes that help to improve the environment.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects must be within the borough of Hinckley and Bosworth • Maximum of 50 per cent of total project costs will be considered for funding • All works must be completed within the financial year • Projects must demonstrate that they meet the council's corporate aims and that they are of community benefit
Min/Max Funding Available:	£12,000
Deadline for Applications:	12 th February 2021

Grant:	Betty Messenger Charitable Foundation
Website:	https://www.community360.org.uk/the-betty-messenger-charitable-foundations-grant-programme-for-small-charities/
Summary:	The Foundation is interested in funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of those suffering from disease • Caring in the community for disabled people, and other hard to reach groups • End of life • Education • Interfaith project with a focus engendering tolerance and breaking down prejudice • Medical projects
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding is prioritised for small registered charities which are temporarily struggling • Organisations must have been established for at least 1 year
Min/Max Funding Available:	£100 to £1,000
Deadline for Applications:	20 th February (20 th of each month)

Grant:	Leicestershire County Council - SHIRE Environment Grant
Website:	https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/grants/environment-grant.html
Summary:	<p>Grants are available to fund new and innovative projects that will meet one or more of the grant scheme outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	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.
Min/Max Funding Available:	Up to £3,000
Deadline for Applications:	26 th February 2021

Grant:	National Churches Trust - Cornerstone, Gateway & Foundation Grants
Website:	https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants
Summary:	<p>There are three grants available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornerstone grants - urgent structural repair projects or installation of kitchens and toilets • Gateway grants - to support churches preparing for a major project • Foundation grants - towards urgent maintenance works, small repairs, investigative works and surveys
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available to any Christian place of worship in the UK that is open for regular worship. • Building must be more than 30 years old
Min/Max Funding Available:	<p>Cornerstone grants – between £10,000 and £50,000 Gateway grants – between £3,000 and £10,000 Foundation grants - between £500 and £5,000</p>
Deadline for Applications:	1 st March 2021

Grant:	Mick George Community Fund *
Website:	https://www.mickgeorge.co.uk/explore/community/mick-george-community-fund
Summary:	Grants are available for capital improvement works to public amenity projects, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village halls • Public playgrounds • Sports fields and facilities • Nature reserves • Cycle paths • Country parks
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total project cost needs to be under £100,000 • Projects must be within the area of benefit
Min/Max Funding Available:	£10,000 to £50,000
Deadline for Applications:	3 rd March 2021

Grant:	Coalfields Regeneration Trust - Recovery and Resilience Fund
Website:	https://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/funding-and-programmes/england/
Summary:	Priority will be given to organisations that are delivering support services or have significantly adapted their services in order to respond to the current issues/challenges in their community and support vulnerable people. Projects should address one or more of the following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment – support to create pathways into employment • Skills – support for training • Health and wellbeing – supporting issues like debt, food poverty, mental health and social isolation
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For projects which run for between 2 and 12 months • Eligible Coalfield Communities in Leicestershire are the wards of: • Ashby Woulds, Castle rock, Greenhill and Measham South
Min/Max Funding Available:	£10,000 max
Deadline for Applications:	12 th March 2021 (submission of eligibility survey) 26 th March 2021 (application deadline)

Grant:	East Midlands Airport Community Fund
Website:	https://www.eastmidlandsairport.com/community/supporting-the-local-community/charitable-giving/
Summary:	<p>Project must meet at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide help to community groups which are supporting vulnerable people during the COVID-19 outbreak • To bring the community closer together through facilities for sport, recreation and other leisure time activities • Supporting young people to prepare for the world of work and make work an inspiring choice • Offer environmental improvement and/or heritage conservation • Improve awareness of environmental issues through environmental education • Encourage and/or protect wildlife.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Projects should benefit those areas most affected by the East Midlands Airports operations. Please see Area of Benefit map
Min/Max Funding Available:	£2,000 max
Deadline for Applications:	22 nd March 2021

Grant:	NFU Mutual - Community Giving Fund
Website:	https://www.nfumutual.co.uk/about-us/responsible-business/nfu-mutual-community-giving-fund/
Summary:	<p>To support community initiatives and charitable events, as well as to help boost staff fundraising initiatives. There are four areas of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting the community; reducing social isolation, providing opportunities, and encouraging resilience • Providing care and support to vulnerable members of our community • Relieving poverty; improving the health and wellbeing of our communities • Advancing education and experiences for young people
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Ideally the funding is to be used to purchase something specific, which can demonstrate the difference the donation has made. For example, purchasing an item of equipment or furniture that will help people over a long period of time.
Min/Max Funding Available:	£1,000 max
Deadline for Applications:	31 st March / 20 th June / 30 th September / 30 th November

Grant:	Morris Fund - Church Conservation Grants
Website:	https://www.sal.org.uk/grant/morris-fund-conservation-grants/
Summary:	For churches, chapels and other places of worship for the conservation of decorative features and monuments, but not for structural repairs.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	The decorative feature, monument, etc must date from no later than 1896.
Min/Max Funding Available:	£500 to £5,000
Deadline for Applications:	31 st March 2021

Grant:	Foyle Foundation - Small Grants Scheme
Website:	http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/small-grants-scheme/
Summary:	Grants are to cover core costs or essential equipment, to enable ongoing service provision, homeworking, or delivery of online digital services. The 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, either directly or through online support if possible.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For charities that have an annual turnover of less than £150,000 • The grant must make a significant difference to the applicant's current work.
Min/Max Funding Available:	Between £1,000 and £10,000
Deadline for Applications:	Open


Grant:	Charity Link – Small Grants Scheme
Website:	https://charity-link.org/trust-administration/small-grants-scheme/
Summary:	Organisations can apply for either the costs of a specific project, or towards operational costs.
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Eligible organisations should be supporting people in financial need, hardship or distress in Leicester, Leicestershire or Rutland, and/or older people in Leicester city.
Min/Max Funding Available:	£500
Deadline for Applications:	Open


Grant:	Severn Trent Trust Fund - Big Difference Scheme
Website:	https://www.sttf.org.uk/big-difference-scheme/
Summary:	Severn Trent customers who are in receipt of a low income and struggling to pay their water charges could receive a reduction in their water bill of up to 90%. <u>Please note, whilst this grant fund is not specifically for VCSE organisations, such organisations are encouraged to share this information with their service users.</u>
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Open to all Severn Trent Water customers who are in receipt of a low income.
Min/Max Funding Available:	Variable % reduction in water bill
Deadline for Applications:	Open

Grant:	Biffa Award
Website:	https://www.biffa-award.org/
Summary:	There are three themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebuilding Biodiversity – includes; habitat enhancements, purchase of plants, seeds or trees • Community Buildings – includes; kitchens, toilets, roofs and floors • Recreation – includes; play areas, landscaping, nature trails
Key Eligibility Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each theme has its own specific criteria • Projects must be within a set distance from a Biffa operation. • Please use the on-line postcode checker which is available under each of the themes • Applicants are required to register with Entrust
Min/Max Funding Available:	£10,000 to £75,000
Deadline for Applications:	Open

Grant:	SUEZ Community Trust *
Website:	https://www.suezcommunitiestrust.org.uk/
Summary:	Projects which improve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public amenities – leisure and recreation • Biodiversity – habitat restoration or creation • Historic Buildings, Structures or Sites - repair and restore
Key Eligibility Criteria:	Projects must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost less than £250,000 • Be located within one of its active funding zones. Please use the postcode checker • Be eligible under the rules of the Landfill Communities Fund • Be completed within 12 months of the award
Min/Max Funding Available:	£20,000 max for projects under £40,000 £50,000 max for projects under £250,000
Deadline for Applications:	Open


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


Voluntary Action LeicesterShire	
<p>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.</p> <p><u>Contact Details:</u> Website: www.valonline.org.uk/contact Tel: 0116 2575050 Email: helpline@valonline.org.uk</p>	

CASE – Support for Social Enterprises in Leicestershire	
<p>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.</p> <p>Leicestershire County Council has a contract with CASE to provide support to people currently running (or thinking of setting up) social enterprises in Leicestershire.</p> <p><u>Contact Details:</u> Website: http://case.coop/ Tel: 0116 222 5010 Email: enquiries@case.coop</p>	

Leicestershire & Rutland Community Foundation	
<p>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). It is also still managing the Coronavirus Emergency Support Fund.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>Contact Details:</u> Website: https://www.llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk/ Tel: 0116 262 4916 Email: grants@llrcommunityfoundation.org.uk</p>	

Commissioning Opportunities			
<p>VCSE organisations are encouraged to explore opportunities to receive income through delivering contracts for services commissioned by the public sector.</p> <p>You can register to receive details of commissioning opportunities through the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source Leicestershire: http://www.sourceleicestershire.co.uk/ • Due North: https://procontract.due-north.com/Login • Contract Finder: https://www.gov.uk/contracts-finder 			

Easy Fundraising	
<p>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.</p> <p>Website: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/leicestershirerutlandsport</p>	

Leicestershire Communities Website	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Website: www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/grants</p>	