

## Funding and Grants Bulletin – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016

### **Countryside Stewardship grants - Defra**

The new [hedgerows and boundaries capital grant](#) opened for applications on 1 February and closes on 30 April 2016. It offers up to £5,000 for farmers who want to restore boundary features, such as hedges and stone walls, to protect their local wildlife or landscape.

The Forestry Commission's woodland creation grant is also opening this month (16 February to 31 March 2016 for initial applications) and offers farmers and other land managers up to £6,800 per hectare to plant, weed, and protect young trees.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/countryside-stewardship-grants-soon-to-open-for-applications>

### **New Burdens Community Governance Review Fund 2015 to 2016 – Department for Communities & Local Government**

The New Burdens Community Governance Review Fund has been set up to provide support for those local authorities required to undertake a Community Governance Review.

A Community Governance Review is the process principal councils are required to conduct in order to consider whether a new town or parish should be set up. The fund is available until March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-burdens-community-governance-review-fund-2015-to-2016>

### **Shared Ground Fund – Paul Hamlyn Foundation**

This programme aims to support organisations working with young people and/or work that seeks to influence relevant policy or practice in immigration. Applicants must contribute to one of the following aims of the Shared Ground Fund:

- Staying safe – ensuring that young migrants in greatest need can get help and support
- Living well together – supporting work which helps communities experiencing high levels of migration become stronger and more connected

Each year, the Shared Ground Fund expects to make around 10 grants to help explore and test both new approaches and ways of addressing new issues (awards will be for a maximum of £60,000, usually for up to two years) and a further 10 longer, larger grants to help develop and embed more established activities (awards will be for between £100,000 and £400,000 for up to four years). The Fund will only support work which has potential to have a wider impact on the policy and practice of others, or on the wider systems

relevant to migration and integration.

<http://www.phf.org.uk/funds/shared-ground-fund/>

### **Emergency Flood Relief Fund – Sport England**

Sport England's Emergency Flood Relief Fund will initially invest up to £400,000 of National Lottery funding into sports facilities that have been damaged as a result of the floods and storms. This dedicated fund will help safeguard community sport and get sports facilities back up and running as quickly as possible.

Sport England state that early indicators suggest the biggest impact of the bad weather has been on sports such as hockey, rugby and football because of flooded and waterlogged pitches, and water sports where many clubs are on riverbanks or in coastal areas.

Clubs and community-based sports organisations needing funding to clean up and get up and running quickly can request up to £5,000 of emergency funding which could be awarded very quickly.

The new £400,000 National Lottery fund has been created specifically to help with the damage of the exceptional weather caused by the recent unprecedented rainfall, and is in addition to Sport England's other grant programmes which will continue to operate as normal.

The fund will remain open until 29 February 2016 (this date will be kept under review) to ensure that those who are currently unable to assess the damage will not lose out.

<http://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/flood-relief-fund/>

### **Farming Recovery Fund**

The Farming Recovery Fund provides money to help farmers in Cumbria, Northumberland, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Durham whose agricultural land has been affected by the impact of the flooding which took place in December 2015.

The minimum grant available is £500. The maximum grant available is £20,000.

Applications can be accepted from Friday 18 December 2015 to Friday 1 April 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-the-farming-recovery-fund-frf>

### **Designation Development Fund – Arts Council**

The 2016-18 round of Designation Development Fund is investing £1.4 million to support projects that ensure the long-term sustainability of Designated museum collections, and which maximise their public value and the sharing of best practice across the sector. This is intended to enable greater audience enjoyment with collections which play a vital role in England's cultural life. The successful organisations will use this money to improve their collections

for the benefit of their audiences, improving enjoyment, understanding and engagement.

The Designation Scheme identifies the pre-eminent collections of national and international importance held in England's non-national museums, libraries and archives, based on their quality and significance. These inspiring collections represent a vital part of the national cultural and artistic heritage.

In this round, the Fund will focus on opportunities around research and understanding of designated collections. The deadline for applications is 10 March 2016.

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/what-we-do/supporting-museums/designation-scheme/designation-development-fund/>

### **Architectural Heritage Fund**

The AHF is dedicated to the preservation and renewal of buildings of architectural or historic significance which have failed to find a viable re-use on the open market. The AHF can provide grants, subject to eligibility, to help with assessing the viability of a project, or to fund development costs. Project Viability Grants of up to 50% (£3000 maximum) are to fund short studies to look at potential uses for a building and at its current condition.

The Project Development Grant scheme also offers grants of up to 50% (£25,000 maximum) and is intended to assist an organisation to cover some of the costs of developing and co-ordinating a project and taking it towards the start of work on site.

Applications for Viability Grants can be submitted at any time. The 2016 deadlines for Development Grants are 10 February, 11 May, 17 August and 26 October.

<http://www.ahfund.org.uk/grants.php>

### **Invest and Enable programmes – Lloyds Bank Foundation**

These programmes are designed to help charities to support people experiencing multiple disadvantage to make positive and lasting changes at critical points in their lives.

'Invest' provides longer term core or delivery funding for charities which meet the programme aim and are delivering clear outcomes as a result of their work. This includes 'core' organisational costs (including running costs and salaries) and costs associated with the direct delivery work.

'Enable' provides shorter term grants to strengthen charities which meet the programme aim, helping them to deliver their mission more effectively. The deadline for initial applications is 4 March 2016.

<http://www.lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk/our-programmes/>

### **Help the Homeless grants**

Help The Homeless makes grants to charitable organisations with the aim of helping homeless people return to the community and enabling them to

resume a normal life. Grants are available to small and medium-sized charitable organisations to fund the capital costs of projects with grants of up to £5,000. The quarterly deadlines for grant applications each year are: 15 March, 15 June, 15 September and 15 December.

<http://www.help-the-homeless.org.uk/>

### **Coastal Communities Fund – Big Lottery Fund**

The UK Government announced on 8 July 2015 that the Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) will be extended to 2020/21. This was confirmed in the Autumn Statement on 25 November 2015. At least £90m of new funding will be available from 2017/18, following the end of the current programme. Details of future funding arrangements will be announced in the new year. The Big Lottery Fund is engaged to deliver the current CCF programme to March 2017. No details are available as yet on how the new funding will be delivered. See the website below for more details.

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/uk-wide/coastal-communities>

### **European Structural and Investment Funds – Department for Communities and Local Government**

A variety of funds under the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) are currently available in different parts of the country. ESIF includes money from the European Social Fund (ESF), European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). Deadlines for applications vary. Please see the website below for more information.

<https://www.gov.uk/european-structural-investment-funds>

### **Big Potential – Big Lottery Fund**

Big Potential, a BIG Lottery Fund grant fund, will deliver approximately £10m of grant funding over 3 years to eligible VCSE organisations (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations) with the aim of improving the sustainability, capacity and scale of VCSE organisations in order that they may deliver greater social impact.

The programme aims to raise awareness of the social investment market and support VCSEs who want to prepare themselves for social investment.

Two application routes are available:

- Breakthrough - specialist one to one support for VCSE organisations from Big Potential programme partners followed by a potential application for grants between £20,000 and £75,000 for more in-depth investment readiness work.
- Advanced - for VCSEs that are clear about how social investment could work for them and need help to close possible deals with investors or need help securing a contract. Grants of between £50,000 and £150,000 are available.

Big Potential's website can be accessed [here](#).

### **Grants for the Arts Libraries Fund – Arts Council**

The aim of this fund is to inspire innovative partnerships between libraries and arts organisations, and encourage library users and those living locally to take part in artistic and cultural activities.

It is hoped that this second phase of funding, which will be rolled out between April 2015 and March 2018, will once again inspire ambitious, innovative partnerships between libraries and arts organisations, and encourage library users and those living locally to take part in artistic and cultural activities.

Public libraries can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £100,000 covering activities lasting up to three years. The fund opened to applications on 1 April 2015 and will run until 31 March 2018.

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/apply-funding/apply-for-funding/grants-arts-libraries-fund/>

### **The Arts Impact Fund – Arts Council**

This fund aims to invest for artistic, social and financial return. The Arts Impact Fund will offer repayable finance to arts organisations working in England that can show how they are sustainable; have great artistic ambitions; and have a positive impact on society.

The Fund, created and funded by Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Nesta, supported by Arts Council England and with additional funding from Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, will offer repayable finance to arts organisations working in England that can show how they are sustainable; have great artistic ambitions; and have a positive impact on society. It will provide repayable loan finance between £150,000 up to £600,000, and funding needs can vary. For example, an applicant may want to buy or refurbish a building or purchase equipment or need to pay salaries or buy in additional services to help the organisation generate more income, perhaps for a tour or exhibition.

There will be at least five funding rounds from April 2015 to April 2017.

<https://artsimpactfund.org/>

### **Growth Programme: Grants for the Rural Economy – Defra**

The European Growth Programme provides funding to help projects which create jobs and boost the economy in England. These grants are funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) manages the grants, working with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and local partners.

From March 2015, the RPA is publishing ‘calls for applications’ under the Growth Programme. The calls for application invite applications for grants in specific LEP areas. Calls for applications are currently open in a limited number of LEP areas, as part of an initial phase, before the programme opens fully. These calls will only include some of the grants listed below, depending on local priorities.

The website states that calls for applications will open across the country

“from June.” The grants that are available will reflect the priorities of each local area and may include:

- Business development
- Business start-up
- Renewable energy
- Small scale tourism infrastructure
- Tourism co-operation
- Food processing

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/growth-programme-grants-for-the-rural-economy>

### **Community Buildings Grants – Locality**

Any Town or Parish Council, Neighbourhood Forum or qualifying community group can apply for Pre-Feasibility grants (£1000 to £10,000) and Project Support grants (£5000 to £40,000) to help move a community building or community housing project to the point at which a Community Right to Build Order, or (in the case of community led housing projects only) a traditional planning permission application, can be submitted. These are revenue grants which means that they do not cover the capital costs of land acquisition or actually constructing a building.

[http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/community-buildings/?\\_a=funding](http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/community-buildings/?_a=funding)

### **Neighbourhood Planning Grants – Locality**

Funded as part of the Department for Communities and Local Government’s Neighbourhood Planning and Community Right to Build support programme, grants are available to help Parish Councils and other groups to prepare Neighbourhood Plans. As part of the £22 million programme, grants can be used to pay for events to engage the local community, print leaflets and to pay for specialist planning expertise. The support programme runs to 2018.

All groups writing a neighbourhood plan or neighbourhood development order will be eligible to apply for up to £8,000 in grant. Groups facing more complex issues can apply for specific packages of technical support where needed, and may also be eligible for further £6,000 in grant.

A rolling programme of applications is underway and is expected to be operated throughout the year.

[http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/neighbourhood-planning/?\\_a=funding](http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/neighbourhood-planning/?_a=funding)

### **Grants for War Memorials – War Memorials Trust**

War Memorials Trust administers a number of grants schemes which between them cover the whole of the UK. Currently programme funders include the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, Historic England, Historic Scotland and War Memorials Trust. Grants are currently available up to 75% of eligible costs with a normal maximum grant of £30,000.

War Memorials Trust seeks to help all war memorial custodians, whatever the nature and size of their war memorial by facilitating repair and conservation projects.

Annual deadlines are 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December.  
<http://www.warmemorials.org/grants/>

### **Rural Community Energy Fund**

The Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) supports rural communities in England to develop renewable energy projects which provide economic and social benefits to the community. The fund will provide up to approximately £150,000 of funding for feasibility and pre-planning development work to help projects become investment ready. RCEF provides support in two stages:

- Stage 1 provides a grant of up to approximately £20,000 to pay for an initial investigation into the feasibility of a renewable energy project.
- Stage 2 provides an unsecured loan of up to approximately £130,000 to support planning applications and develop a robust business case to attract further investment.

The fund is being delivered on behalf of the government by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP). Applications will be reviewed on a monthly basis and there is no set deadline for bids

<http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/rural-community-energy-fund>

### **Urban Community Energy Fund**

The Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF) is the urban counterpart to the RCEF and was launched on 13 November 2014. UCEF is a £10m fund to kick-start renewable energy generation projects in urban communities across England. Community groups will be able to access grants and loans to support renewable energy developments.

Grants of up to £20,000 are available for the more speculative, early stages of a project's development, such as public consultation and preliminary viability studies.

UCEF will also provide loans of up to £130,000 to develop planning applications and a robust business case to attract further investment. This is intended to help projects become 'investment ready', that is, at the right stage to secure a bank loan or another form of investment.

The deadlines for applications are the last Friday of every other month – January, March, May, July, September and November.

<https://www.gov.uk/urban-community-energy-fund>

### **Reaching Communities England – Big Lottery Fund**

Reaching Communities funding is for projects that help people and communities most in need. Grants are available from £10,000, upwards and funding can last for up to 5 years. If you think you need more than £500,000 you must call Big Lottery before applying to discuss why you believe a larger project is appropriate. There is no upper limit for total project costs. Reaching Communities can fund salaries, running costs, a contribution towards core costs and equipment. Reaching Communities can also fund up to £100,000 for land, buildings or refurbishment capital costs.

All projects must address one or more of the following outcomes:

- People have better chances in life, with better access to training and development to improve their life skills,
- Stronger communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems,
- Improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy,
- Healthier and more active people and communities

There is a two stage application process. After submitting a Reaching Communities Stage One application form, applicants will be told within 6 weeks whether the project is one that might be considered for funding. If successful, the applicant will be sent a Stage Two application form. Applicants will usually have four months to complete this.

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/reaching-communities-england>

### **Reaching Communities Buildings – Big Lottery Fund**

The buildings strand of Reaching Communities provides funding for land and buildings projects costing more than £100,000. It can also provide revenue funding to help to get the building running and deliver project activities (for revenue funding or funding for a land and buildings project of less than £100,000, see Reaching Communities England).

Funding is available for building grants up to 2015 and there are currently no deadlines for applications. However, the programme is regularly reviewed and applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as they are ready. To ensure that this funding makes the biggest difference to those most in need, it is targeted at buildings or sites based in the most deprived 'Lower Super Output Areas' in England.

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/reaching-communities-buildings-england>

### **Premier League and The FA Facilities Fund – Football Foundation**

The Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund provides grants for building or refurbishing grassroots facilities, such as changing pavilions and playing surfaces for community benefit, with money provided by the Premier League, The FA and the Government (via Sport England) and delivered by the Foundation. The Fund is available to football clubs, schools, councils and local sports associations and gives grants for projects that:

- Improve facilities for football and other sport in local communities.
- Sustain or increase participation amongst children and adults, regardless of background age, or ability.
- Help children and adults to develop their physical, mental, social and moral capacities through regular participation in sport.
- Grants are available for between £10,000 and £500,000.

<http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/premier-league-the-fa-facilities-fund/>

### **On-Farm Anaerobic Digestion Fund - WRAP**



The On-Farm Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Fund has been developed to help farmers in England get financial support to build small-scale AD plants on their farms

The fund is being delivered on behalf of the government by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP). WRAP understand that the main barriers to developing AD on farms are: access to finance; availability of reference sites for technologies and case studies; demonstration of the benefits of AD; the potential high cost of technology.

To address these barriers and encourage the uptake of small-scale on-farm AD in the UK WRAP has developed a programme to help farms access finance, provide case studies and demonstration information and provide support for farmers who want to use AD on their farm. The fund will be available to farms in England, that have access to slurries or manures; and who wish to build AD plants producing up to 250kW of power.

The scheme is split into two parts:

- A business plant grant up to £10,000 to investigate the environmental and economic potential of building an AD plant on the farm.
- A capital loan up to £400,000 (or a maximum of 50% of the project cost). This is available for AD plants producing up to 250kW of power.

There is a rolling programme for applications.

<http://www.wrap.org.uk/node/16778>

### **Heritage Project Grants – Heritage Lottery Fund**

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) funds projects which focus on heritage. HLF offer a range of different grant programmes with grants from £3,000 to over £5million. In assessing applications, HLF take account of the broad range of outcomes for heritage, people and communities that projects will achieve.

HLF programmes include:

- Start Up Grants – grants of between £3,000-£10,000 to help create a new organisation to look after heritage or engage people with it. This grant can also support existing groups taking on new responsibilities for heritage.
- Grants for Places of Worship – historic places of worship are often at the heart of communities. Grants from £10,000–£250,000 can fund urgent structural repairs and help to make them better places for everyone to visit.
- Parks for People – for projects related to historic parks and cemeteries in the UK. You can apply for a grant from £100,000 to £5million. Applications go through a two round process and must be submitted by either 28 February for a decision in June or by 31 August for a decision in December.
- Transition Funding – available to organisations in the UK who want to achieve significant strategic change (through acquiring new skills or knowledge, or new models of governance, leadership, business and income) in order to become more resilient and sustain improved management of heritage for the long term. To apply you must be a

previous recipient of an HLF grant. You can apply for a grant of more than £10,000 and up to £100,000.

- Heritage Enterprise – supports enterprising community organisations across the UK to rescue neglected historic buildings and sites and unlock their economic potential. You can apply for a grant from £100,000 to £5million.
- Sharing Heritage – for any type of project related to national, regional or local heritage in the UK. Applications can be made for a grant from £3,000 to £10,000. The fund is available to not-for-profit organisations or partnerships led by not-for-profit organisations wanting to explore, share and celebrate their community's heritage. This is a rolling programme and applications can be submitted at any time.
- Our Heritage – for any type of project related to national, regional or local heritage in the UK. Applications can be made for a grant of more than £10,000 and up to £100,000. HLF fund applications from not-for-profit organisations, private owners of heritage (including individuals and for-profit organisations) and partnerships. This is a rolling programme and applications can be made at any time.
- Heritage Grants – HLF's open programme for any type of project related to the national, regional, or local heritage in the UK. You can apply for a grant of over £100,000. Heritage Grants applications go through a two-round process. This is so that you can apply at an early stage of planning your project and get an idea of whether you have a good chance of getting a grant before you submit your proposals in greater detail.
- Young Roots – for projects that engage young people with heritage in the UK. Applications can be made for a grant of more than £10,000 and up to £50,000. Under this programme, HLF fund partnerships of heritage and youth organisations to help young people shape and deliver their own projects in safe environments. This is a rolling programme and applications can be made at any time.

For information on all HLF programmes visit the website.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>

### **National Planning Policy: consultation on proposed changes – Department for Communities & Local Government consultation**

The government states that this consultation is seeking views on some specific changes to National Planning Policy in the following areas:

- “broadening the definition of affordable housing, to expand the range of low cost housing opportunities for those aspiring to own their new home
- increasing residential density around commuter hubs, to make more efficient use of land in suitable locations
- supporting sustainable new settlements, development on brownfield land and small sites, and delivery of housing allocated in plans
- supporting delivery of starter homes”

This consultation closes on 22 February 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-planning-policy->

[consultation-on-proposed-changes](#)

**National flood resilience review: call for evidence – Defra consultation**

The government is seeking published evidence that can be used in the national flood resilience review, announced in December 2015. This call for evidence focuses on the need to carry out an assessment of the damage that extreme rainfall could cause across England.

They are looking for information about evidence that is already published. This is not a call for views. The government is interested in evidence that is available now and can be submitted by the deadline.

This consultation closes on 4 March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-flood-resilience-review-call-for-evidence>

**New Homes Bonus: sharpening the incentive: technical consultation – Department for Communities & Local Government consultation**

This consultation seeks views on options for changes to the New Homes Bonus to better reflect authorities' delivery of new housing. It also seeks views on reducing the number of years in which current and future payments are made. This consultation closes on 10 March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-homes-bonus-sharpening-the-incentive-technical-consultation>

**Closed recruitment practices in the public sector – Department for Business, Innovation & Skills consultation**

The government wants to open up public sector recruitment, to ensure that the best people can be hired for the job. This call for evidence is to gather information on the use of internal-only recruitment in the public sector, including whether it is ever ineffectively or inappropriately used. Views are also being sought on the role for government in encouraging more open recruitment. This consultation closes on 15 April 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/closed-recruitment-practices-in-the-public-sector>

**Public sector apprenticeship targets – Department for Business, Innovation & Skills consultation**

The government is inviting comments on the proposed list of public bodies to be set targets related to the number of apprentices working for them.

The Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills will be able to set targets because of a change to the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. This change is set out in the Enterprise Bill. The bodies in scope and the target itself will be set out in regulations.

Public bodies will have a duty to publish information annually on progress towards meeting the target and send this information to the Secretary of State.

This consultation closes on 4 March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/public-sector-apprenticeship-targets>

**National Broadband Scheme: Market Engagement – Department for Culture, Media & Sport consultation**

Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) is launching a focused market engagement exercise and is seeking views from Local Authorities / Devolved Administrations and operators of broadband networks regarding a proposed new procurement approach that would form part of a new state aid decision.

To allocate public funding to projects, State aid approval is required through a decision granted by the European Commission. The previous Decision expired on 30 June 2015 and BDUK has been in discussions with the European Commission about a new decision in order to commit further public funding to projects. As part of these discussions, a new approach has been developed that includes a number of measures to support competition at tender stage, as well as promote open access networks intended to encourage long term competition on the state sponsored network.

The aim of this document is to obtain feedback about particular aspects of the proposed approach. This consultation closes on 24 February 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-broadband-scheme-market-engagement>