

Covid 19 response: Grant opportunities for Community Action

The voluntary sector, community and charities are playing a significant role and having an amazing impact on community resilience in response to Covid-19.


In recognition of the contribution being made and the potential financial pressures associated with that work, funding streams both existing and newly created have been adapting to meet the need. The situation is fluid with new grants and government support coming on stream as well as locally based fundraising appeals to meet immediate and pressing need. [Gloucestershire Rural Community Council](#) have information about support in Gloucestershire.

The Government has issued [guidance](#) to help those running charities during the COVID19 outbreak.

The list below gives information and links to grant providers as at 14 April. Please note that, due to the changing situation this is a guide only and groups/organisations should check their eligibility before making any application.

Provider	Context	Link to information
National context – funding through treasury for Charities announced 8th April	<p>The Chancellor announced a £750 million pot for frontline charities across the UK – including hospices and those supporting domestic abuse victims</p> <p>As part of a UK-wide package of support, £360 million will be directly allocated by government departments to charities providing key services and supporting vulnerable people during the crisis.</p> <p>As well as this, £370 million for small and medium-sized charities, including through a grant to the National Lottery Community Fund for those in England, will support those organisations at the heart of local communities which are making a big difference during the outbreak, including those delivering food, essential medicines and providing financial advice.</p> <p>Government will also match donations to the National Emergencies Trust as part of the</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-sets-out-extra-750-million-coronavirus-funding-for-frontline-charities</p>

	BBC's Big Night In fundraiser later this month – pledging a minimum of £20 million.	
Gloucestershire Community Foundation (Gloucestershire) Name of Fund: Coronavirus Emergency Response Fund	The Gloucestershire Coronavirus Emergency Response Fund provides grants of up to £5,000 to charitable organisations and voluntary and community groups with charitable aims that are based and working in Gloucestershire. The initial focus of the fund is on providing emergency grants to coordinated volunteer programmes, and those picking up extra demand such as foodbanks, counselling services, advice organisations and befriending services, who will play a key role in helping the most vulnerable people in the community who have been impacted as a result of the virus.	https://www.gloucestershirecf.org.uk/news/gloucestershire-coronavirus-emergency-response-fund-news
The National Emergencies Trust Coronavirus Appeal (UK)	NET has launched an appeal for donations. This funding will be channelled to Community Foundations. This links to the Gloucestershire Community Foundation	https://nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk/coronavirus/
Gloucestershire Funders	A forum to allow grant funders to better coordinate the support they provide in the County, there is a proposal that applicants to the Gloucestershire Community Foundation will be asked if they are willing for their details to be shared with other funders, so that eligible projects will be considered by other partners as well	http://www.glosvcscalliance.org.uk/gloucestershire-funders/
Charities Aid Foundation (UK) Name of Fund: Coronavirus Emergency Fund	Smaller charities, not for profit organisations, social enterprises and unregistered community groups can apply for grants of up to £10,000 to help them to continue to deliver much needed support to within their communities. The funding is available to help with core costs, staffing, volunteer costs, supplies and equipment, communications or other critical charitable areas. CAF will aim for grants to be paid to selected organisations within 14 days of application.	https://www.cafonline.org/charities/grantmaking/caf-coronavirus-emergency-fund
Sport England (England)	This new fund aims to help community sport and physical activity organisations who are experiencing short term financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the	https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-

<p>Name of Fund: Community Emergency Fund</p>	<p>ongoing coronavirus crisis. Awards will be between £300 and £10,000. In exceptional circumstances Sport England will consider awards of more than £10,000.</p>	<p>help/our-funds/community-emergency-fund</p>
<p>Scottish and Southern Energy Networks</p>	<p>SSEN have re-purposed their community grants scheme to respond to the Coronavirus. This covers a large part of the Cotswold area. The application deadline is 30th April. The grants are available to town and parish councils - eligible parishes have been sent this information directly by Cotswold District Council. The grey area on this map is covered by SSEN and gives an idea of where the boundary is. Coverage checker: https://www.ssen.co.uk/WholsMyNetworkOperator/</p> 	<p>https://www.ssen.co.uk/RCF/England/</p>
<p>Western Power Distribution Name of fund: In This Together - Community</p>	<p>Local authorities, parish councils, charities and community groups can apply for extra financial support from WPD 'In This Together - Community Matters Fund'. This £500,000 fund intends to support communities affected by the coronavirus outbreak within WPD's operating region, by helping local organisations to deliver vital</p>	<p>https://www.westernpower.co.uk/customers-and-community/in-this-together-community-</p>

Matters Fund	support and services directly people in vulnerable situations. WPD covers the part of Cotswold not covered by SSEN (map above). Funding applications for local authorities, parish/town councils and charities are up to a maximum of £10,000. Community groups can apply for up to £1,000.	matters-fund
John Lewis Partnership (UK) Name of Fund: Community Support Fund	The Community Support Fund is making £1million available to communities across the UK. Teams in each shop will work together with their communities to choose the best way to use the fund. Help could include setting up additional local delivery services to support the self-isolating, the vulnerable, the elderly and those looking after them; delivering boxes of staples to local care homes and community groups, and donating products to create care packages for customers to share with vulnerable neighbours.	https://waitrose.pressrelease.com/pressrelease/details/78/NEWS_13/12169
Tesco Name of Fund: Bags of Help	Tesco is responding to the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis by setting up a new short-term fund to support local communities: “Due to the need to respond quickly to the emergency we have created a streamlined application process and payment process to make it easier to get funds distributed quickly. If your application is successful the fund will provide a single payment award of £500 to organisations who are supporting vulnerable groups. The programme is set up to support organisational need in this time of crisis rather than fund specific projects.” Eligible organisations Typically, the fund will prioritise organisations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - whose need for services has been disrupted – for example a food bank whose stocks are running low and need an immediate donation to enable the food bank to restock. - require to put in place new services – for example charities setting up a new home service for the elderly who usually attend a monthly lunch club or a charity needing to set up a telephone service to support beneficiaries. - Increased demand – a holiday hunger club needs more resources due to schools closing, or a children’s centre needs an additional temporary staff member. Applications will be welcomed from a wide range of organisations including:	https://tescobagsofhelp.org.uk/grant-schemes/tesco-cv-fund/

	voluntary/community organisations, registered charities, schools, health bodies, Parish/Town councils, social enterprises, Community Interest Companies, community councils, local authorities and social housing organisations. Other not-for-profit organisations might also be eligible.	
Arts Council England Name of fund: Emergency Response Fund	Grants of up to £35,000 for creative organisations directly affected by the Covid-19 coronavirus emergency. Organisations must have been funded by public money over the last three years – for example, from the Arts Council, other Lottery funders, a university or local government. Applications are via the online portal only. Round one portal opens Thursday 9th April portal closes Thursday 16th April Round two portal opens Thursday 16th April portal closes Thursday 30th April Organisation’s focus must be on one of these areas: • combined arts • dance • libraries • literature • museums • music • theatre • visual arts.	https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/financial-support-organisations-outside-nationalportfolio#section-3
Barnwood Trust Name of Fund: Keeping Strong	In response to COVID-19, Barnwood Trust are changing the way they do things. They want to be able to support people and their families, community spaces and voluntary organisations across Gloucestershire to feel connected and to keep strong during this difficult time. That’s why they have launched ‘Keeping Strong’ which shows a coordinated approach to support available.	https://www.barnwoodtrust.org/keepingstrong/
The Prince’s Countryside Fund Name of fund: Rural Response Emergency Grants Programme	The Prince’s Countryside Fund is inviting applications for emergency funding from farming and rural community support groups, who are providing assistance to counter the effects of isolation during the Coronavirus pandemic. With thanks to Players of People’s Postcode Lottery, groups can apply for grant funding of up to £2,500 if they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● are providing emergency relief to vulnerable or isolated individuals or; ● are providing support to farmers and farm businesses affected by the Coronavirus pandemic or; 	This one is now out of date – remove?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are helping rural or farming communities to cope with the Coronavirus pandemic £100,000 total is available in this first round of funding. The Fund will assist projects that support farm businesses or other rural businesses and rural communities. This may include, but is not limited to, volunteer and fuel costs for grocery and prescription delivery from rural community shops, pubs, and hubs; costs associated with emergency support by farm and agricultural support groups; or rural foodbanks and food delivery services. <p><i>Applications closed on Wednesday 15 April at 12:00 but still worth checking their website</i></p>	
NCVO	<p>NCVO champions the voluntary sector and volunteering. It has a diverse community of over 14,000 member organisations – a third of the voluntary sector workforce in England. It provides expert support and advice keeps organisations up to date with the news that affects them.</p> <p>NCVO has a dedicated Coronavirus section that provides guidance on a wide range of issues – including on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting staff, volunteers and beneficiaries of support. • Contingency planning and financial implications. • Involving volunteers • Links to further information and resources. 	https://www.ncvo.org.uk/practical-support/information/coronavirus
Gloucestershire County Council Community Resilience Fund	<p>Gloucestershire County Council has delegated the management of £50,000 to each district, with specific criteria, to support community responses to the pressures created by Covid 19. CDC is looking to use this strategically, rather than replicate the funding support available as illustrated by the items above, or indeed preempt the support recently announced by the Treasury. A simple application process has been developed, and the first round of funding is being initially allocated on a focused basis to the identified preeminent providers who will receive immediate funding for the critical scaled response they are providing.</p> <p>Phase 1 therefore meets an immediate need of Cotswold Friends, who are providing support and coordination of support across the north of the district, and The Churn</p>	

	<p>Project, supporting vulnerable communities within Cirencester.</p> <p>Members are requested to direct local groups to their parish or town councils for support in the first instance, and to direct parish or town councils or constituted groups to the various sources of funding identified above.</p>	
--	---	--