

Wesleyan Community Grants Fact Sheet 2025

Wesleyan Foundation was established in 2017 as a charity grant giving scheme for financial services mutual Wesleyan Assurance Society, which is a provider of advice and life, pensions, protection and investment products.

Since 1841 we've put our communities at the heart of all we do, supporting Birmingham factory workers and their families during the Industrial Revolution – helping to cover their most pressing needs in times of sickness and to aid funeral expenses.

Now through the Wesleyan Foundation, we aim to support those who are in need in our communities to achieve high quality lives through funding community projects and charities.

Grant Aims

Our Community Grants programme supports grassroots charities across the UK to deliver vital community services. This grant supports our goals of:

- **Climate Action** – To fund groups who work to enhance our environments and combats the effects of climate change.
- **Quality Education** – To fund groups who remove barriers and enable access to quality education.
- **Reducing Inequalities** – To fund groups who drive equality for disadvantaged groups including the BAME, Religious and LGBTQ+ communities.
- **Gender Equality** – To fund groups who drive equality for women, men and the non-binary or transgender community.
- **Good Health and Wellbeing** – To fund groups who support good health and wellbeing for communities across the UK.

These five goals are aligned with the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals. Further information can be found at: <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/sustainable-development-goals>

Possible Community Grants Activity

Applications' activity could include one of the following:

- Projects which support Mental Health
- Projects which support Disabilities including Learning Disabilities and Autism
- Bereavement support
- Projects which are helping with the Cost of Living – cooking workshops, community kitchens, skills or object shares
- PSE (Personal Social Education)
- Domestic Violence Support (including women's refuges)
- Isolation / Befriending / Listening Services
- Projects which support Vulnerable and Elderly
- Projects which support Dementia / Quality of Life
- Social prescribing – alleviating the pressure from the NHS
- Employment – reskilling people, actively preparing people for a new job / new career, interview prep etc
- Education projects for any age
- Projects which are challenging discrimination / supporting BAME/Gender/LGBTQ groups

- Climate Action / Environmental education projects.
- Activities to remove carbon from the atmosphere such as tree planting, heathland restoration or supporting algae farms;
- Remediating polluted areas via litter picking / clean-ups.
- Improvement of public community space to stimulate people getting more frequent access to outside space and wildlife.

Areas of need highlighted by our Lived Experience Advisory Panel:

- Specialist housing advice and support for those with Learning Disabilities
- Specialist housing advice and support for those who've experienced domestic abuse
- Out of school activities for young people and children.
- Employment support for those with Learning Disabilities
- Employment support for those with Domestic Abuse
- Projects which provide education on and reduce - gang / knife crime
- Warm spaces for the community to access
- Employment support for older people, re-training opportunities
- Mental health support / free community activities for older people

Available Funding:

Grants are available between £2,000 - £10,000 and must be spent within a year.

Areas of Delivery:

Grants are available across the United Kingdom – England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

We will Support:

- Groups that have been running for at least two years.
- Salary, equipment or volunteer costs that are clearly budgeted and only used for the project – evidence will be required.

Grants can be made for a wide range of purposes including consumables, project or activity costs. For example:

- Pilot projects
- The purchase of equipment and resources
- Extension and development of existing projects

Please note:

- No more than 10% of the project costs can be assigned to operational/core costs.
- Your application value must be no more than 20% of the organisation's annual income.
- Your organisation's income level must be less than £500,000, as shown in your most recent annual accounts.

Eligibility

You can apply to this fund if you are one of the following:

- Registered charities
- Constituted Community groups

- Companies Limited by Guarantee with charitable aims
- Community Interest Companies
- Co-operatives - registered Community Benefit Societies and registered Industrial and Provident Societies
- Social Enterprises **Funding to Community Interest Companies and other non-charities may include conditions to restrict funding to charitable objectives only.*

Please note, we are unable to fund the following:

- Individuals or sole traders
- Arts and media focused projects
- Sports clubs and societies (unless the project benefits disabled people)
- Contact sports such as boxing
- Capital Builds
- Direct replacement of statutory obligations and public funding
- Promotion of religious or political activities
- Groups with significant financial free reserves
- Organisations or charities which are solely to promote any particular religion
- Organisations who have indicated poor management of any previous grants or who present poor financial health
- Payment of deficit funding or repayment of loans
- Animal welfare, unless the project benefits people (e.g. disabled riding schemes)
- Statutory work in educational institutions
- Pure sponsorship purposes or funding purely for costs of fundraising events

Additional Eligibility and Supporting Information Requirements:

To be eligible to apply you must be able to provide proof of:

- Your organisation / company has a management committee / board of trustees / board of directors with at least three unrelated people as members, a list of those directors will be required showing who has bank authorisation.
- A written constitution / articles / set of rules.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records showing your organisation's balance of funds, income and reserves.
- A bank account in the name of the organisation with at least two unrelated signatories
- A bank statement from the last three months.
- Copies of your safeguarding policy (if you will be working with children or vulnerable adults)
- An Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy.
- Quotes for capital items over £300.
- To comply with Wesleyan's anti-money laundering and financial crime policies, we conduct due diligence checks on all charities and trustees who are recipients of grants. To perform this check, we require the names, dates of birth and trustees of all trusts associated with the charity. This information will be requested once the decision has been made to award the grant, pending this due diligence check.

Application timetable –

Our Community Grants Programme has three panels in 2025, we will be accepting applications for different regions throughout 2025. You can check which region your charity sits in on our table on the last page of this factsheet. Organisations will only be able to put in one application for our Community Grants programme in 2024:

Community Grants Application Panel Timescales

Panel 1 - West Midlands, East Midlands, Nationwide (projects delivering in multiple UK regions) Applications open - 1st February – 7th March

Panel 2: Wales, South West, South East, London
Applications open: 10th March to 21st April 2025

Panel 3 - North West, North East, Scotland, Northern Ireland applications open 1st September – 4th October

Apply

To apply for our grant please complete our online application form which can be found on: [Wesleyan Foundation](#)

Wesleyan Foundation Grants are administered in partnership with Heart of England Community Foundation full terms & conditions of our grants can be found here:

<https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/terms-and-conditions/>

Decision Making

Applications are reviewed by our Community and Citizenship Manager, Senior Management and Wesleyan Foundation Panel. Unfortunately, we won't be able to fund all applications received due to application requests totalling over the available funds. If you are unsuccessful in your application the decision is final. Feedback will be provided as to why you have been unsuccessful.

Wesleyan Assurance Society is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Incorporated in England and Wales by Private Act of Parliament (No. ZC145). Registered

Office: Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AR. Telephone: 0345 351 2352. Calls may be recorded to help us provide, monitor and improve our services to you.

Postcode Region Check:

Check which region your application would fit into by checking your post code prefix in the accompanying table:

Postcode prefix	UK region
AB	Scotland
AL	East of England
B	West Midlands
BA	South West
BB	North West
BD	North West
BH	South West
BL	North West
BN	South East
BR	Greater London
BS	South West
BT	Northern Ireland
CA	North West
CB	East of England
CF	Wales
CH	North West
CM	East of England
CO	East of England
CR	Greater London
CT	South East
CV	West Midlands
CW	North West
DA	Greater London
DD	Scotland
DE	East Midlands
DG	Scotland
DH	North East
DL	North East

DN	East Midlands	LE	East Midlands	SO	South East
DT	South West	LL	Wales	SP	South West
DY	West Midlands	LN	East Midlands	SR	North East
E	Greater London	LS	North East	SS	East of England
EC	Greater London	LU	East of England	ST	West Midlands
EH	Scotland	M	North West	SW	Greater London
EN	Greater London	ME	South East	SY	Wales
EX	South West	MK	South East	TA	South West
FK	Scotland	ML	Scotland	TD	Scotland
FY	North West	N	Greater London	TF	West Midlands
G	Scotland	NE	North East	TN	South East
GL	South West	NG	East Midlands	TQ	South West
GU	South East	NN	West Midlands	TR	South West
GY	Channel Islands	NP	Wales	TS	North East
HA	Greater London	NR	East of England	TW	Greater London
HD	North West	NW	Greater London	UB	Greater London
HG	North East	OL	North West	W	Greater London
HP	East of England	OX	South East	WA	North West
HR	West Midlands	PA	Scotland	WC	Greater London
HS	Scotland	PE	East England	WD	Greater London
HU	North East	PH	Scotland	WF	North East
HX	North West	PL	South West	WN	North West
IG	Greater London	PO	South East	WR	West Midlands
IM	Isle of Man	PR	North West	WS	West Midlands
IP	East of England	RG	South East	WV	West Midlands
IV	Scotland	RH	South East	YO	North East
JE	Channel Islands	RM	Greater London	ZE	Scotland
KA	Scotland	S	East Midlands		
KT	Greater London	SA	Wales		
KW	Scotland	SE	Greater London		
KY	Scotland	SG	East of England		
L	North West	SK	North West		
LA	North West	SL	South East		
LD	Wales	SM	Greater London		
		SN	South West		