

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Your local county voluntary council



7. Finding and getting money

7.4.5 Non-devolved UK Government grant funding

Background

In addition to those grants made directly by the Welsh Government, there are grants applicable to Wales that are made by the UK Government.

These grants are usually administered by government departments with responsibility for non devolved matters such as the Home Office, Ministry of Justice or Ministry of Defence.

Whilst there is every indication that these funding programmes will continue, they may either be withdrawn or amended as necessary to reflect changing government priorities. Also, many of the programmes are fund initiatives over three year periods.

Therefore groups are encouraged to contact the relevant government department at the earliest possible opportunity regarding any future application for funding.

The grant programmes considered being of most interest to voluntary and community groups (other smaller more specialist grant programmes may exist from time to time) are as follows:

Faith Communities Capacity Building Fund

This fund is part of the government's strategy *Improving Opportunity and Strengthening Society*. It supports the government's aim to help faith communities promote understanding and dialogue, helps faith-based groups to develop their capacity for such work, and supports better government engagement with faith groups in developing and delivering policies.

This fund also supports the government's aim to help different groups promote a more tolerant society in which all groups can resolve differences within a framework of mutual respects and fairness.

Organisations can apply for either a small or large grant but only one application may be made per organisation.

Small grants – capacity building

Groups can apply for a small grant to strengthen their organisational capabilities, play a fuller part in civil society and community cohesion, and engage more effectively with public authorities.

Large grants – capacity building

There are three themes under the capacity building priority for large grants:

- Leadership and management – groups can apply for funding to strengthen their ability and capacity to contribute to wider society.
- Mentoring smaller faith groups – faith groups and umbrella or representative groups can apply for funding to enable them to successfully mentor at least five smaller faith groups to engage more effectively with wider society.
- Relationships with local, regional or national government – groups can apply for funding to improve their understanding and relationships with local, regional or national government so that they are better equipped to work with the public sector.

Small and large grants – Inter faith activity

Groups who can contribute to greater community cohesion are eligible to apply for either small or large grants. All applications for inter faith activity must involve more than one faith community – either by delivering services and activities through a partnership approach or by involving participants from more than one faith community.

Although this is not an exhaustive list, the fund cannot be drawn upon to support:

- Building work or refurbishments costs.
- Standard running costs and overheads, occurred in the organisation's normal routine.
- Applications that ask for capital expenditure above a percentage of the total cost requested – 20 per cent for small grants and 10 per cent for large grants.
- Work carried out for profit, unless income is clearly displayed within the budget and designed to offset the cost of the specific project in question.

Applicants should refer to the general guidance notes for more detailed explanations and examples of the types of projects which may be funded under the above categories.

Contact:

Faith Communities and Capacity Building Fund, The Michael Young Centre, Purbeck Road,
Cambridge, CB2 2PF

Tel: 01223 400 341

Fax: 01223 400 328

fundingadmin@cdf.org.uk

Independent sexual violence advisors fund

This grant programme funds the cost of independent sexual violence advisors (ISVAs), whose role is to address the safety of victims of sexual abuse. ISVAs will work in partnership with criminal and civil justice agencies, health services, the voluntary sector and victim and witness services in providing support both to those clients who access the criminal justice process and for those whose safety can be best secured by other means.

Some of the key criteria for applications are:

- A crucial element of the ISVA role is working in partnership with other agencies. Evidence should be provided that key partners are supportive of the proposal and intend to work in partnership.
- Priority will be given to organisations able to provide expertise in the delivery of services for victims of sexual violence.
- Funding can be used either for ISVAs new to the host organisation or for ISVAs already working in the host organisation in this or a similar capacity.

Contact:

Sexual Crime Reduction Team,
Home Office, 4th Floor, Peel Building,
2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

Tel: 020 7035 1854

musaddika.mohmed2@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

SARCs Fund: provision for sexual assault referral centres

Sexual assault referral centres (SARCs) are one-stop locations where victims of sexual assault can receive medical care and counselling, and have the opportunity to assist the police investigation into alleged offences.

Applications from partnerships led by voluntary organisations are eligible, so long as the police and health partners are also included.

Priority for funding will be given to those areas where there is a clear need for a SARC because of the high rate or number of serious sexual offences in the area.

Contact:

Sexual Crime Reduction Team, Home Office, 4th Floor, Peel Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

Tel: 020 7035 1854

musaddika.mohmed2@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Victims fund: Provision for victims of sexual offending

The victims fund supports the development of community based services for victims of sexual offending. The Government has placed £1.25m for the 2007-8 financial year into the victims fund to continue developing the capacity and stability of existing voluntary and community sector support services for victims of sexual violence and abuse.

The grant scheme is open to all existing voluntary and community sector organisations with experience and expertise in working with victims of sexual violence and abuse. Priority will be given to:

- Maintaining or extending existing initiatives and services rather than setting up new projects.
- Organisations that have previously been awarded a grant from the victims fund and have performed satisfactorily.
- Organisations that evidence a high level of experience and excellence in the provision of services for victims of the particular crime type.
- Organisations that evidence a high level of need for their service.

Other issues taken into consideration include:

- Geographical coverage.
- Whether the service will cater for specific client groups (e.g. BME clients, clients with learning difficulties, etc).
- Financial sustainability, including alternative funding streams.
- Evidence of good partnership working.

Eligible expenditure includes:

- Running and capital costs.
- Indirect core costs such as management for the organisation overheads up to a maximum of 20 per cent of the total budget.
- Costs for initiatives to help secure financial stability up to a maximum 10% of the total budget.

Contact:

Specialist Services Development Team, Victims Fund, Office for Criminal Justice Reform, Victims of Crime Unit,
Home Office, 1st Floor, Fry Building,
2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF
Tel: 020 7053 8413

victimsfund@homeoffice.gov.uk

Veterans challenge fund

The Veterans challenge fund (VCF) supports the Strategy for Veterans, developed by the Ministry of Defence in consultation with other government departments and ex-service organisations representing veterans.

The three key pillars of the strategy are:

- Excellent preparation for the transition to civilian life following service.
- Support in terms of the provision of advice and help from the Government and voluntary sector where needed.
- Recognition of their contribution to society.

Applications for financial support must fall under at least one of these three headings, or be concerned with researching veterans' issues or improving communication of veterans' issues to service deliverers or veterans themselves.

Decisions on whether to support a bid for financial assistance from the VCF will be based on the following factors:

- Clear evidence that the bid reflects the veterans related policy priorities set out in the strategy.
- Clear evidence that the bid, wholly or partly, addresses a specific 'identifiable' gap in existing activity, equipment, facilities or knowledge.
- Value for money.
- Clearly defined outcomes.

Contact:

Veterans Policy Unit – Veterans challenge fund, Ministry of Defence Main Building, Floor 7, Zone H, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Tel: 020 7218 9787 or 9225

www.veteransagency@mod.uk

Listed Places of Worship grant scheme

In March 2001, the Chancellor announced that he was to introduce an interim grant scheme that would return in grant aid the difference between 5 per cent and the actual amount spent on VAT on eligible repairs and maintenance to listed places of worship.

Subsequently in 2006 the Chancellor announced that the scheme would continue until 31 March 2011. The Government's long-term objective is to secure a permanent reduced rate VAT for these repairs.

The original grant aid (the difference between 5% and the actual amount of VAT paid) remains the case for all works completed between 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2004. For all works carried on after 1 April 2004, the full amount of VAT can be reclaimed.

For invoices relating to works starting prior to and finishing after 1 April 2004, applicants must declare the percentage being claimed at the higher rate (i.e. since 1 April 2004) on either the invoice, or in the relevant section of the current application form.

The grant scheme applies to all listed places of worship of all religions throughout the UK. The buildings should, however, be used principally as places of worship and must be used for worship at least 6 times a year.

Eligible works are those that involve repairs or maintenance to the fabric of the building (including works to certain fixtures and fittings and professional fees) carried out by a registered VAT contractor. Claims can only be made in arrears, but all valid applications made during the life of the scheme will be honoured.

Applications must be for a minimum of £1,000. However, as there is no time limit on making a claim during the lifetime of the scheme, any elements which separately come to less than £1,000 can be combined with other subsequent claims where these would come to a minimum of £1,000.

To avoid the possibility of duplicate payments being made, information on all applications will be shared with other grant making bodies, devolved administration heritage agencies such as CADW and relevant Lottery distributors.

Contact:

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, PO Box 609,
Newport, NP10 8QD

Tel: 0845 601 5945

nptcallcentreuk@cslplc.com

www.lpwscheme.org.uk

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) grant in aid funding programme

HMRC aims to administer tax and customs systems fairly and efficiently and make it possible for individuals and organisations to understand and comply with their obligations.

HMRC has invested £2m each year over a three year period to build its funding relationship with voluntary and community organisations and thereby assist them in their delivery of public services, particularly socially inclusive services to those who are hard to reach or who do not engage directly with them.

The funds are available in the form of grants in aid to help with costs of activity contributing to HMRC key aims through the following outcomes and priorities:

Strategic outcomes:

- Deliver customer support for, and key messages about, HMRC products.
- Building the capacity of the wider voluntary sector to deliver more long term ambitious work programmes.
- Deliver customer support for and key messages to hard to reach groups.

Priorities include:

- a focus on customers' whole HMRC needs
- support for new HMRC customers
- a focus on developing community based capacity growth
- delivery of projects that have a multiplier effect
- a focus on targeting key customer groups

Key customer groups include:

- BMEs
- migrant workers
- pre pensioners and pensioners
- low income and one parent families
- disabled people
- other vulnerable groups – e.g. low literacy and numeracy, rural or socially deprived background

In addition, key criteria for organisations wishing to access funding include:

- Constitutionally independent.
- Independent of the state where there is a majority of non-statutory bodies , appointees or representatives on its 'board of trustees' and a majority of non-statutory members.
- Self-governing.
- Non-profit distributing.
- It must benefit from a meaningful degree of philanthropy.

As grant in aid, the funds are a contribution towards costs that organisations legitimately incur on activities that are within their normal operations. These organisations must operate at arms length from HMRC, and this grant aid funding helps defray their costs on the types of activities outlined in the guidance programme. As such, funding may be used for overhead costs associated with those activities.

Funding is not available for costs that are specifically funded by grants or contributions from other sources; no grant in aid is available towards the cost of activity that is fully and directly funded from elsewhere.

Contact:

Hazel Kilpatrick, HMRC, Room BP7201, Norham House, Benton Park View, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE98 1ZZ

Tel: 0191 244 7416

hazel.kilpatrick@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

www.hmrc.gov.uk/vcs/funding-streams.htm

National offender management service grants (NOMS)

NOMS has established a grant scheme to support projects by voluntary and community organisations working with offenders and their families. Funding is available for projects which support NOMS aims and objectives, including the rehabilitation of offenders.

There is no fixed amount that can be applied for, although most awards are between £15k and £60k a year. Funding is available for up to three years. Renewal of a grant after three years would only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Funding is available for projects which:

- protect the public
- reduce re-offending
- ensure the proper punishment of offenders
- ensure offenders' awareness of the effects of crime on victims and the public
- rehabilitate offenders

The rehabilitation of offenders includes work in areas covered by the seven pathways set out in the National and Regional Action Plans for Reducing Re-Offending:

- accommodation
- education, training and employment
- mental and physical health
- drugs and alcohol
- finance, benefit and debt
- children and families of offenders
- attitudes, thinking and behaviour

Recent mapping of services carried out by NOMS has determined that there are fewer services in the Children and Families of Offenders pathway. Across all pathways there is a shortage of services and support for women, black, Asian, and minority ethnic offenders.

Funding is available for 50 per cent of the full costs of projects – this includes direct costs and associated overheads. Funding can include capital purchases – typically one-off purchases of essential equipment.

Applicants are expected to obtain 50 per cent match funding from other sources. However the profile of the grant can be tapered over three years – e.g. 75 per cent of costs in year one, 50 per cent in year two and 25 per cent in year three.

NOMS consider the following to be key criteria for successful applicants:

- Applicant must be a voluntary or community group.
- 'Pilot' or other innovative and or strategic work must include monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination of results within the project.

Contact:

Elaine Castle, Voluntary Sector and Assisted Prisons Unit, Home Office, Area A, 1st Floor, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

Tel: 020 7035 0211

elaine.castle@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Development awareness fund (DAF)

The Department for International Development (DFID) principally supports activity outside the UK. However, as part of the process of building awareness and understanding of development issues within the UK, the *Development awareness fund* has been established to help civil society organisations whose work aligns with DFID's strategy paper, *Building Support for Development*.

DFID contributions range from £10,000 - £100,000 towards the total project costs. There are quite stringent DAF criteria and guidelines. In essence the following holds true:

- Any UK-based organisation is eligible so long as it shares a commitment to raising awareness and understanding of development issues.
- Particular development issues include the knowledge and understanding of the major challenges and prospects for development, especially poverty reduction.
- Understanding of global interdependence and in particular the failure to reduce global poverty.
- Understanding and support for international efforts to reduce poverty and promote development.
- Understanding of the role that individuals can make.

Contact:

Information Civil Society Department, Department for International Development
Stephen Cassidy

Tel: 01355 843 684

Liz Gallacher

Tel: 01355 843 335

Fax: 01355 843 539

Development awareness fund: mini grant scheme

In addition there is a mini grant scheme aimed at organisations or networks with an interest in development education work in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales who want to undertake 1-3 year projects which seek to raise awareness and understanding of international development issues; our global interdependence; of the need for international development; and of the progress that has been made and that is possible.

DFID's contribution to a project will be a minimum grant of £1,000 and a maximum grant of £10,000 per year.

Contact:

Dominic Miles, Cyfanfyd, Temple of Peace, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3AP

Tel: 02920 668999

info@cyfanfyd.org.uk

The Governance and transparency fund (GTF)

This fund was developed to assist the auspices of both the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Millennium Declaration, especially with improving governance, security, public services and economic opportunities in developing countries.

Through this £100m, five year fund, citizens in developing countries can hold their governments to account, through strengthening the wide range of groups that can empower and support them.

This is a demand-led competitive fund with larger scale applications only. These may range from between £750,000 - £5m based on a portfolio of activities rather than individual projects.

Guidelines and criteria insist that:

- Projects in the portfolio must be based in developing countries.
- Only one application per consortium.
- Open to a wide range of not for profit organisations, including those from outside the UK.
- Successful applications must grant at least 85 per cent of GTF money to local partners in developing countries.
- Proposals must address governance and transparency issues by working through a variety of local partnerships and networks.

Suggested activities may include:

- making better use of existing activities
- advocating for change

- reforming existing structures
- developing new structures
- developing new innovative approaches

The GTF is still being developed and awaiting the appointment of a managing agent who will be wholly responsible for administering the fund and monitoring monies granted.

Contact:

gtf@dfid.gov.uk

Disclaimer

The information provided in this sheet is intended for guidance only. It is not a substitute for professional advice and we cannot accept any responsibility for loss occasioned as a result of any person acting or refraining from acting upon it.

For further information contact

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