

Wales Council for Voluntary Action

Supporting charities, volunteers and communities

7. Finding and getting money

7.4.11 Funding for community buildings



Introduction

Fundraising for the building or refurbishment of a community building is a big challenge. It can take anything between two and five years, or even longer, from the initial plans through to getting the funding and starting construction. You may need to invest a great deal of time, energy and some funds in the project before you know whether you can raise the cash needed. Therefore, you need to be sure that there is a clear need for the building and that the community has access to it.

Finding funding for your community building, village hall or community centre can seem a very complex task with such a vast number of statutory and non-statutory grant giving bodies working at a European, national, regional and local level.

With this in mind, this information sheet includes the most obvious funders who at best give priority to community buildings or at least give consideration to community buildings' needs. This information sheet should be used as a general guide only. You should always try to contact the appropriate trust for more detailed information before applying.

Remember there may also be local sources of funding available, which are not mentioned in this information sheet.

Once you have a specific need or project in mind we suggest you visit your local county voluntary council which will hold detailed information on grants, including any local funds.

Awards for All Wales

This BIG Lottery Fund programme aims to fund projects which involve people in their local community, bringing them together to take part in and enjoy a wide range of heritage, charitable, health, educational, environmental and other community activities. Grants of between £500 and £5,000 are available.

BIG will fund projects that can be completed in 12 months to meet one or more of the following aims:

- Support community activity.
- Extend access and participation.
- Increase skills and creativity.
- Improve the quality of life.

A range of organisations can apply. They must be:

- A not-for-profit group with a governing document such as a constitution, a bank or building society account and a set of accounts.
- A community or town council.
- School.
- Health body.

No closing date has yet been set for this programme.

Contact:

Newtown Office

Big Lottery Fund, 2nd Floor, Ladywell House

Newtown, Powys SY16 1JB.

Tel: 01686 611 700

Fax: 01686 621 534

enquiries.wales@biglotteryfund.org.uk

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Cardiff Office

6th Floor

1 Kingsway

Cardiff

CF10 3JN

Tel: 029 2067 8200

Fax: 029 2066 7275

CADW

Grants for Historic Buildings

Cadw is an executive agency of the Welsh Assembly Government. It is responsible for protecting, conserving and promoting an appreciation of Wales' built heritage.

Historic Buildings Grant is given to assist the repair and restoration of buildings or structures of outstanding historic or architectural interest.

Conservation Area Grant is given for external works to buildings in conservation areas where the works proposed are judged to significantly preserve or enhance the conservation Area in which the building or structure in question is situated. Only work to the historic fabric of a building is eligible for grant support. Applications for routine maintenance or for rewiring/security measures for example, will not be considered.

Civic Initiatives (Heritage) Grants -

Grants are given for projects, which will preserve, enhance or improve the physical environment in Welsh towns, and increase social awareness of the built heritage in Wales. The scheme is aimed at civic societies and other voluntary groups. This is a wide-ranging scheme aimed at projects that contribute to awareness of built heritage and promote its appreciation e.g., exhibitions, publication of educational material and physical work to assist in the presentation, interpretation and appreciation of historic structures (e.g. adding plaques).

Rural Regeneration Grant Scheme

Cadw can offer a grant towards repairing a building in the countryside in order to make it suitable for a previous use or convert it for a new use.

The building must be

- listed
- 'at risk'
- in the countryside or a village of 500 inhabitants or less.

The grant is available to trusts, charities, public bodies, individuals, or businesses (but there are conditions if the building is sold within ten years).

This scheme is for buildings of any type, including agricultural, industrial, religious, domestic, and commercial.

Contact: Cadw

Plas Carew, Units 5&7, Cefn Coed, Nantgarw, Cardiff, CF15 7QQ

Tel: 01443 336 000

Fax: 01443 336001

cadw@wales.gsi.gov.uk

www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Esmée Fairbairn is one of the largest independent grant making foundations in the UK. The Foundation makes grants to organisations that aim to improve the quality of life for people and communities in the UK, both now and in the future. Grants are made through two routes:

- Main Fund
- Strands

The Foundation invites applications from registered charities or groups with charitable purposes. There are no deadlines for applying.

Contact:

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation,
11 Park Place, London SW1A 1LP
Tel: 020 7297 4700
Fax: 020 7297 4701
info@esmeefairbairn.org.uk
www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk

Charles Hayward Foundation

The foundation runs a number of grant making programmes, which include one for medical research, a community grants programme and a programme for the elderly.

Funding is also available for capital cost of buildings, extension, adaptations, equipment, and furnishings.

Grants vary in size from £1,000 to £20,000. Occasionally, trustees may make larger grants to fund projects of an exceptional nature, which show outstanding potential.

All applications will receive a reply, but there may be some delay as the

trustees meet only four times a year to consider applications.

Contact: David Brown,
The Charles Hayward Foundation,
Hayward House, 45 Harrington Gardens
London SW7 4JU
Tel: 020 7370 7063/7067
www.charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk

The LankellyChase Foundation

Grants of between £1,000 and £40,000 are available to projects. The Foundation funds projects in the following broad areas: arts, breaking the cycle of abuse and deprivation, developing communities, heritage, mental health and offenders and society. In addition, there is a limited programme of support for organisations working with refugees and asylum seekers. Priority is given to smaller charities, many of whom have only a local or regional remit. Support for large national charities is limited.

Specific programmes relating to community buildings include:

Heritage

Rural parish churches – Grade 1 Listed Buildings located in a village with a population of less than 1,000 people. Capital grants to a maximum of £3,000.

Almshouses – priority will be given to applications in rural areas that are of architectural merit and historical interest, providing accommodation to older people who are in housing or financial need. Capital grants to a maximum of £5,000.

Historic buildings – applications from organisations managing buildings of architectural merit and historic interest

that are used by and accessible to the community. Buildings in rural areas will be given priority. Capital grants to a maximum of £10,000.

Developing communities

Applications are invited from organisations that assist the process of building a more inclusive society provide a range of activities that are:

- Community controlled and managed.
- Responsive to the needs of all sections of their community.
- Working in partnership with other voluntary and statutory agencies to tackle the needs of their community in a holistic way.
- Seeking to develop sustainable funding strategies to enable them to participate in the long-term development of their community providing opportunities for all to fulfil their potential.
- Seeking to create new employment opportunities that generate real wealth within communities.

Capital grants of up to £50,000 are available to help acquire an asset, adapt existing assets (building) and purchase equipment.

Applicants seeking capital grants must demonstrate the organisation's ability to generate long-term income from the acquisition of the asset or equipment.

Contact: The LankellyChase Foundation,

2 The Court, High Street, Harwell, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 0ED

Tel: 01235 820044

Fax: 01235 820044

www.lankellychase.org.uk

Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales

The Lloyds TSB Foundations is one of the largest independent funders of the voluntary sector in Wales. It aims to reach grassroots organisations throughout the Principality.

Approximately £2 million was distributed to charities across Wales in 2007, and the average grant made by the Foundations was £14,500. The Foundation supports local and regional charities with an income up to £1 million.

The Foundation's mission is to support and work in partnership with recognised charities that help disadvantaged people to play a fuller role in the community.

Contact:

Mid & South Wales – covering:

Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Neath & Port Talbot, Newport, Pembrokeshire, Powys, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Swansea, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan

Mike Lewis

Grants Manager, Mid & South Wales
Pentagon House, 52-54 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1UN

Tel: 07802 540793

Fax: 0870 411 1224

mid&southwales@lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

North Wales - covering: Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey, Wrexham.

Cerys Thomas, Grants Manager,
North Wales

Pentagon House, 52-54 Southwark

Street, London, SE1 1UN

Tel: 0750 0787749

Fax: 0870 411 1224

northwales@lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation has helped a wide range of organisations with grants of varying sizes. Previous rounds of funding have helped projects in the following categories: Arts, Community, Education, Welfare, Medical, Social, Religion, Youth and Environment. This foundation makes grants for amounts anywhere between £3,000 and £1 million. Awards are regularly made in almost all fields except overseas aid and animal welfare. Probably more than 85% of the money, and an even higher proportion for the largest grants, are for capital or endowment projects.

Contact: The Garfield Weston Foundation, Weston Centre, 10 Grosvenor Street, London, W1K 4QY
Tel: 020 7399 6565
Fax: 020 7399 6588
www.garfieldweston.org

J Paul Getty Jr Charitable Trust

The trust aims to fund projects to alleviate poverty and misery in general, and unpopular cases in particular, within the UK. The emphasis is on self-help and enabling people to reach their potential. The trustees favour small community and local projects, which make good use of volunteers. There are four main beneficial areas:

- Social welfare
- Therapeutic use of the arts

- Conservation (including buildings)
- Environment

Grants are usually in the £5,000 to £15,000 range, for both capital and revenue. Some small grants of up to £2,000 are also made in between the quarterly trustee meetings. Priority is likely to be given to projects in the less prosperous parts of the country, particularly outside London and the South East, and to those which cover more than one beneficial area.

Contact: J Paul Getty Jr. Charitable Trust, 1 Park Square West, London NW1 4LJ
Tel: 020 7486 1859
www.jpgettytrust.org.uk

The Heritage Lottery Fund

This fund covers the whole of the UK. Those eligible to apply are public, charitable or non-profit distributing bodies established in the UK with preservation or conservation of the heritage as one of their purposes.

Money will be available to secure, conserve and improve assets of existing national, regional and local heritage importance. The following areas of heritage are covered: ancient monuments, historic buildings and their contents; landscapes of scenic, scientific or historic importance; special library collections, manuscripts, archives and other records, museums and galleries collections; and industrial, transport and maritime history.

Parks for People (£250,000 to £5 million)

This three-year joint initiative between Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund helps with the restoration

and regeneration of public parks and gardens, including squares, walks and promenades.

Repair Grants for Places of Worship (£10,000 to £100,000 in Wales)

This programme is designed to help conserve and sustain heritage at risk, through urgent repairs to places of worship.

Townscape Heritage Initiative (£250,000 to £2 million)

Grants that help communities to regenerate historic parts of their towns and cities. The programme is designed to address problems in areas of particular social and economic need through the United Kingdom. It encourages partnerships to carry out repairs and other works to a number of historic properties within those areas, and improve the quality of life for all those who live, work or visit there.

Contact: Heritage Lottery Fund (Wales)
Suite 5A, Hodge House, Guildhall Place, St Mary's Street, Cardiff, CF10 1DY
Tel: 029 2034 3413
www.hlf.org.uk

The Laing Family Foundations

There is an evangelical Christian background to the group, but collectively the grants lists cover most fields of welfare and health as well as the promotion of Christianity, at home and overseas. Support for medical research, of the scientific sort is limited, and there is no general support for the arts. Over 1,000 grants a year are made, though many of them are small, very large grants can also be made. Most of the grants are for national organisations, big or small, with only

limited support for local organisations or local branches of the larger networks.

An application for a grant towards a specific capital project should be in the form of short letter giving details of the project, its total cost, the amount raised and some indication of how it is financed.

Contact: The Laing Family Foundations,
33 Bunns Lane, Mill Hill, London, NW7 2DX
Tel: 020 8238 8890
Fax: 020 8238 8897

Landfill Community Fund

Under recent legislation, a landfill tax has been imposed on site owners, part of which should be used to the benefit of the surrounding environment and communities within a specified radius of the site. If you have a site and think you have a suitable project, you have to register as an *environmental body*.

ENTRUST will assess your project and if it meets the relevant criteria, they will issue your project with documentation allowing you to claim the required amount from the landfill operator near you. Application forms and guidance notes are available from ENTRUST. There are examples of community buildings receiving funding for building and activity projects.

Contact: ENTRUST,
6th Floor, Acre House, 2 Town Square, Sale, Cheshire M33 7WZ
Tel: 0161 972 0044
www.entrust.org.uk

Manifold Trust

The Trust supports the preservation of culturally important activities and buildings. Areas covered include: churches; arts and education; the environment and social causes. Most grants are between £500 and £5,000 but larger grants are also given. All applicants must be registered charitable status. General enquiries and applications for grants should be made in writing only.

Contact:

The Manifold Trust, Shottesbrooke House, Maidenhead SL6 3SW
Fax: 01628 820159

Onyx Environmental Trust (The Veolia Environmental Trust)

The scheme aims to promote sustainable waste management practices and benefit local communities in the vicinity of a landfill site. Projects must fall into one of the following four categories (also outlined as 'objects' in the Landfill Tax Regulations 1996 and 1999):

- Remediation and restoration of contaminated land.
- Prevention and removal of pollution, for example, on Brownfield land.
- Provision, improvements and maintenance of parks and public amenities.
- Repair, restoration and maintenance of churches or buildings of historical or architectural interest. Churches must be open to the public for religious worship and other buildings must also fulfil public access requirements. Examples of projects include improvements to church

interiors, restoration of a village hall or renovation of a listed building.

There is no minimum or maximum level of funding and the Trust may fund small local projects or larger long-term projects. The exact level of funding will depend on the individual projects.

Applications may be submitted at any time as the Trust Board and Regional Panels meet regularly.

Contact: The Onyx Environmental Trust, Ruthdene, Station Road, Four Ashes, Wolverhampton WV10 7DG
Tel: 01902 794677
Fax: 01902 794646
info@onyxenvtrust.org
www.onyxenvtrust.org

People and Places (Big Lottery Fund)

People and Places aims to bring people together to make their communities stronger and to improve their rural and urban environments. £66 million will be available through the programme between 2005-2009, which will support people working together to make their communities better places to live. It will support local and regional projects and projects that work throughout Wales. People and Places can fund projects that revitalise communities, improve community relations and enhance local environments and community amenities. This programme will be open to the community, voluntary and public sector. Money will be available for capital and revenue projects and can be used for the development of communities or communities of interest.

Contact: For funding information or general enquiries please call the BIG

advice line on **01686 611 700** or email enquiries.wales@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Sports Council for Wales

The Sports Council for Wales is the national organisation responsible for developing and promoting sport and recreation. The Sports Council for Wales operates a number of funding schemes that aim to increase participation and improve performance in Welsh sport.

Facility development

The lottery funded capital scheme is used to improve the facility base at both a local and national level. Supporting and underpinning development work, capital funding is used strategically to support the development of sport and physical activity primarily in areas of greatest need. The fundamental principles underpinning the distribution of money for capital projects at a local level have been to ensure:

- Lasting and maximum sport and community development benefit.
- Value for money.
- Benefits for the areas and projects identified as having the greatest recreational, sporting and financial need.

Projects of £12,500 or more involving capital building and construction, playing areas, purchase of land or rights in land, and/or the purchase of capital equipment.

Contact: your nearest Sports Council for Wales regional office for further information

Tel: 0845 045 0904

scw@scw.co.uk

www.sports-council-wales.co.uk

The Tudor Trust

The trust meets a range of both capital and revenue needs, notably including related building costs, for voluntary and community groups. Grants can be of all sizes, but most are for amounts between £20,000 and £50,000, very often to be paid over a period of two or three years.

Contact: The Trustees, The Tudor Trust, 7 Ladbroke Grove, London, W11 3BD
Tel: 020 7727 8522

www.tudortrust.org.uk

Viridor Credits Environmental Company

Viridor Credits aims to provide environmental and social benefits for local communities across the United Kingdom.

Project priorities

- promote community participation and partnership approaches
- support environmentally friendly projects

NB. Special consideration will be given to projects which have spin-offs in more than one category

Eligible projects

- the reclamation of land
- the reduction or prevention of pollution to land
- the provision, maintenance or improvement of public amenities and parks
- the maintenance, repair or restoration of a building, which is of historic or architectural interest

The grants are for capital and certain revenue expenditure of the project. Applicants will normally be expected to secure 10% funding from a contributing third party, payable to Viridor Waste Management to release their landfill tax credits.

Contact: Viridor Credits Environmental Company, Suite D, Victoria House, Victoria Street, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3FA
Tel: 01823 327 221
Fax: 01823 251 334
www.viridor-credits.co.uk

The Wolfson Foundation

Grants are for buildings and equipment, but not for revenue or project costs, in three major areas:

- medical research and health care
- science, technology and education
- arts and humanities

Grants can be very large and few are for amounts of less than £5,000.

The trustees make grants for:

- Capital projects, towards the cost of a new building or extension, or for renovating existing ones.
- Equipment for specific purposes and/or furnishings and fittings.

Contact: The Executive Secretary, 8 Queen Anne Street, London W1G 9LD
Tel: 020 7323 5730
Fax: 020 7323 3241

The Pilgrim Trust

The trustees' current priorities are:

Preservation

Trustees currently aim to allocate about 60% of annual grants to this area of interest.

Trustees have a special interest in:

- The preservation of historic buildings and architectural features, particularly projects giving a new use to buildings that are of outstanding architectural or historic interest. However, Trustees will only consider the repairs to historic fabric, not the installation of new facilities.
- Conservation of works of art, books, manuscripts, photographs and documents and museum objects.
- Promotion of knowledge through academic research and its dissemination.

Places of worship

(Grants for this area of interest come from the allocation for preservation and scholarship).

- The Trust makes annual block grants for the repair of the fabric of historic churches of any denomination to the Historic Churches Preservation Trust for churches in England and Wales. Applications should therefore be addressed directly to the appropriate body.
- The Trust makes grants for the conservation of historic contents (organs, bells, glass and monuments etc.) and important structures and monuments in church yards for places of worship of all denominations.

Social welfare

The Trust currently aims to allocated about 40% of annual grants to this area of interest.

- Projects that assist and support people involved in alcohol or drug misuse.
- Projects in prisons.
- Projects that seek to inform and develop policy and practice in the priority areas outlined above.

Contact: The Pilgrim Trust,
Cowley House,9 Little College Street,
London, SW1P 3SH
Tel: 020 7222 4723
Fax: 020 7976 0461
georgina.nayler@thepilgrimtrust.org.uk
www.pilgrimtrust.org.uk

Allchurches Trust Limited

Allchurches Trust aims to promote the Christian religion, to contribute to the funds of any charitable institutions or associations and to carry out any charitable purpose.

Grants will be considered in response to appeals in support of Churches, Church establishments, religious charities, charities preserving UK heritage, theological colleges and schools promoting Christian religion.

Over the last 15 years the Allchurches Trust has distributed more than £44 million to dioceses, parishes and other charitable organisations.

Contact: Allchurches Trust, Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ
Tel: 01452 528533
Fax: 01452 423557
atl@eigmail.com
www.allchurches.co.uk

The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation

The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation's objects are such general charitable purposes as the Trustees in their discretion may from time to time determine. The Foundation currently distributes over £2 million each year. The average grant awarded by the Foundation is £5,000.

Types of grants

The Foundation currently makes over 300 grants a year of which the majority are small grants (averaging £5,000). A small number of larger grants (i.e. over £10,000) are awarded each year.

Projects within the UK

The Trustees will consider applications from anywhere in the UK, especially those concerned with areas of deprivation. It is not necessary to be a registered charity in order to apply however applications will only be considered from not-for-profit organisations.

The Foundation has three broad priorities:

- Health Care & Disability.
- Community Support.
- Education and the Arts.

Education and the arts

Under this priority, the trustees will consider applications in respect of:

- Heritage: community projects (excluding large capital appeals) which restore and bring back into use heritage properties and resources, particularly in areas of need and poverty.

The Foundation offers grants under two separate programmes:

- Small Grant Programme (capital and revenue grants) under £10,000
- Large Grant Programme for between £10,000 and £30,000 for capital projects only (i.e. equipment, building or capital works)

Contact: The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, 6th Floor,
65 Leadenhall Street,
London, EC3A 2AD
Tel: 020 7264 4990
www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk

The Gerald Micklem Charitable Trust

This is a general charitable trust. The trustees have no restrictions on them as to the kinds of project or the areas they can support, and are generally prepared to consider any field. They do not make grants to, or sponsorship arrangements with, individuals or to organisations that are not UK registered charities.

There is no typical grant size, though the trustees make a large number at £2,000 - £3,000. Grants can be recurring or one-off, and for revenue or capital purposes.

Contact: Mrs S.J. Shone, Bolinge Hill Farm, Buriton, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31 4NN
ghmicklem.charitabletrust@btinternet.com
www.peter.shone.btinternet.co.uk

The Community Facilities and Activities Programme (CFAP)

This grant scheme is operated by the Welsh Assembly Government to help community and voluntary organisations provide facilities or carry out activities

which will promote the regeneration of communities.

The programme is only open to voluntary and community groups. Your organisation must be self-governing, primarily non-business, not profit distributing, and be for public benefit. If you require funding for a building, you must be its legal owners or be able to demonstrate security of tenancy in the long term.

The programme is predominantly a capital build programme. It is intended as a fund for organisations to draw upon to fill remaining gaps in finances after other sources of support have been explored - see the list of principal sources of funds for community and voluntary organisations.

Grants are made under Section 126 of the Housing Grants, Construction & Regeneration Act 1996.

Applications to provide match funding for European grants are considered in the same way as others and are assessed competitively to ensure that the available funds can help the most deserving projects.

Please note that owing to existing commitments, there will be limited revenue funding available for 2007/08.

What types of projects can be funded?

CFAP can help you provide facilities or carry out activities which will promote the regeneration of communities by tackling the following priorities:

- Creating or refurbishing facilities available to the community as a whole, or adapting them to ensure equal access to disabled people as

required under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

- Acting to improve the built or natural environment for local people.
- Improving the well-being of the community by encouraging active and healthy life styles.
- Providing facilities or activities which reduce poverty, inequality, discrimination and social disadvantage.
- Encouraging training that targets vulnerable or excluded people.
- Stimulating community businesses and social enterprises.
- Assisting the promotion of job opportunities and increased incomes.
- Involving people of all ages and abilities in the community and addressing the needs of socially excluded groups.
- Strengthening the cultural and linguistic identity of the community.

How much money is available?

Grants may be awarded for a single capital project or to support costs for up to three years. The largest grants are normally £100,000 in any one financial year (1 April to 31 March) or £300,000 in total. Most applications are much smaller than this.

The budget for your project should be accurate and realistic, as grants cannot normally be increased after approval.

Applications to provide match funding for European grants or lottery grants are considered in the same way as others. If you are seeking match funding, therefore, you should still demonstrate that all other appropriate sources have been pursued. You must attach to your application evidence of the support to be given by the principal funding body,

or full details if you are awaiting the outcome. You should be as realistic as possible when indicating the timescale of the project.

Are commercial activities eligible for support?

Public funding for organisations carrying out commercial activities, even those with charitable status, is governed by the European Commission's 'state aid' rules. These rules allow grant funding from public sources only if the total received over a rolling three-year period will be below a particular level (currently €100,000, around £65,000). However, projects may be eligible under one of a number of block exemptions, which include grant aid specifically targeted at training or employment creation. Further advice can be obtained from Lisa Clarridge of the Social Justice Policy Unit, on 01685 729307.

Contacts:

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your application with staff of the Regeneration Unit, please contact Anthony Pugh - Community Facilities and Activities Programme Manager
Tel: 01685 729310.

cfaphelp@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Alternatively contact the following regional representatives:

Mike O'Shea: Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Bridgend, Ceredigion, Swansea, Conwy.

Tel: 01685 729316

Judith Davies: Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Torfaen, Wrexham, Carmarthenshire, Flintshire, Denbighshire

Tel: 01685 729315

Richard Fowler: Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, Anglesey,

Gwynedd
Tel: 01685 729317
Roger Plater: Powys, all-Wales projects.

Funding for appraisals and feasibility studies

Architectural Heritage Fund

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) is a registered charity founded in 1976 to promote the conservation of historic buildings in the UK. It does this by providing advice, information and financial assistance in the form of grants and low interest working capital loans for projects undertaken by building preservation trusts (BPTs) and other charities throughout the UK.

Options appraisal grants

The AHF offers grants of up to 75% of the cost of an initial options appraisal of a project likely to qualify for an AHF loan. The maximum grant is normally £5,000, but in exceptional circumstances this can be raised to £7,500. In rare cases the AHF may offer grants for options appraisals that examine the feasibility of only one option, but the grant offered will be a maximum of £3,000.

An options appraisal eligible for an AHF grant will look at the key conservation issues affecting the building, examine all options and consider in outline the

viability of the most beneficial option. It should also explore all possible sources of funding for the project.

The charity must bring together the findings in conservation and financial terms, implementation strategy and the further work that needs to be carried out to develop the preferred option.

Refundable project development grants

Once the feasibility of a project has been established, the AHF can offer a refundable grant, usually of up to £15,000, for specific professional work (like measured drawings, specifications, costings and conservation or business plans) to help charities develop the project to meet the application requirements of the AHF and other funders. The grant is refundable and is converted into the first instalment of an AHF loan, becoming repayable when the loan is repaid. If an AHF loan is not required, the AHF would still expect the grant to be repaid.

Contact: The Architectural Heritage Fund, Alhambra House, 27-31 Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H OAU
Tel: 020 7925 0199 www.ahfund.org.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

Wales Council for Voluntary Action

Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF10 5FH
Registered Charity 218093

Tel: 0800 2888 329

help@wcva.org.uk

Fax: 029 2043 1701

www.wcva.org.uk

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Tel: 0800 2888 329
www.wcva.org.uk