

The National Lottery Community Fund

Meet the Funder
Community Works
24.04.2025



Agenda



- Intro to The National Lottery Community Fund
- Who can apply & what we can fund
- Overview of our current funding offer
 - Reaching Communities
 - Awards for All
- Questions and reflections

About the National Lottery Community Fund

- We're the largest single source of funding for community activities in the UK
- National Lottery players contribute around £30 million to good causes every week
- The National Lottery Community Fund distributes over £700m a year to communities across the UK.
- Our latest strategy, It Starts With Community, launched in 2023 and will run to 2030. As part of this strategy, we committed to fund across **four missions** and invest most in areas of poverty disadvantage and discrimination.

Coming Together

Enabling Children &
Young People to
Thrive

Environmentally
Sustainable

Live Healthier
Lives

Other developments

Community Power Fund invest in projects that aim to build community empowerment in the neighbourhoods with the lowest levels of community agency and control.

You Decide communities will directly decide which good causes our funding should support

Solidarity Fund providing long-term core funding to organisations tackling the root causes of poverty, discrimination, and disadvantage in our communities.

National Youth Work Leadership Partnership to support a thriving, skilled and sustainable youth sector. More details will follow later in the year on these children and young peoples' partnerships.

Partnering with organisations that share our mission to support the communities in England most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and least able to engage in environmental action. We will work in partnership to support our efforts to become a regenerative funder.

For further information go to: [Community power at the heart of our funding in England | The National Lottery Community Fund](#)

Who can apply?



Our current open programmes are National Lottery Awards for All and Reaching Communities

You can apply if your organisation is a:

- registered charity
- constituted voluntary or community group/organisation
- not-for-profit company or Community Interest Company
- statutory body such as a local authority, council or school.

We can't accept applications from:

- Individuals or sole traders
- Organisations that don't have at least two trustees who aren't married / in a civil partnership / long-term relationship, living at the same address, or related by blood.

If not listed, please check our website to see if your organisation is eligible - www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk



What you can spend the money on

We can fund:

- your organisation's running costs
- equipment & materials
- one-off events
- staff costs
- training costs
- transport
- utilities
- volunteer expenses
- land, building or refurbishment projects
- Organisational development costs (Reaching Communities).



Reaching Communities (over £20,001)

Our vision for funding in England
The National Lottery Community
Fund

Reaching Communities

Overview:

- Two-stage application process
- We can fund single organisations or collaborations/partnerships between multiple organisations
- Grants over £20,001, running for up to 5 years
- Applications are online with other formats available
- Requests should be proportionate to organisation's income.



Reaching Communities – Priorities Overview



Our priorities are to fund projects that:

1. **Equity:** Support places, people or communities experiencing poverty, disadvantage or discrimination
2. Support people and communities to shape the decisions that affect their lives, and
3. Align strongly with at least one of our missions.

Priority 1: Equity



We want to support communities that need it most, particularly people who find it hardest to access support. To do this we will prioritise:

- Places with higher levels of poverty, disadvantage or discrimination
- Communities that are least set up to help and support people
- Projects or organisations supporting people or communities experiencing poverty, disadvantage or discrimination.
- Projects that work to address barriers to participation

Priority 2:

Support people and communities to shape the decisions that affect their lives

We will prioritise projects that involve your community. By involving your community, we mean things like:

- Meaningfully involving the community in designing, developing and delivering your project
- Communities having real control over things that are important to them
- Your organisation being run and led by people with personal experience of the issues you help deal with.

Priority 3: Our Missions

We will also prioritise projects that fit best with at least one of our missions

Supporting
Communities to
Come together

by bringing people together from different communities. Through places, spaces or activities that work for everyone.

Enabling Children
& Young People to
Thrive

by developing positive social and emotional skills.

Enabling healthier
lives

by addressing health inequalities. And helping prevent poor health.

Environmentally
Sustainable
Communities

By engaging with climate issues and having a positive environmental impact. And improving access to quality natural spaces.

Understanding our missions framework

The National Lottery Community Fund

Mission	Who for?	Demanding outcomes
Communities come together	For everyone, focused first on those experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination – and the intersection of these.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Communities have inclusive places and activities (physical and virtual) that bring people free of background inequities 1.2 People are empowered and make a positive difference in their communities 1.3 People feel a sense of safety, belonging and trust in other people in their local area 1.4 People have positive relationships and connections
Communities improve the quality of life for people	For everyone, including young people, and those who are facing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination – and the intersection of these.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 People and children free of hardship and their families have the essential support they need to have a good quality life 2.2 Children and young people have positive social and emotional skills development 2.3 Children and young people have essential skills in their community for success in education 2.4 Communities support young people to fulfil their potential and drive social advancement
Communities are healthier	For everyone, focused first on those experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination – and the intersection of these.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Communities have inclusive places and activities (physical and virtual) that support health and wellbeing 3.2 People are empowered and make a positive difference in services that support health and wellbeing in their communities 3.3 People's physical and mental health and wellbeing is supported by their communities 3.4 Communities contribute to national health inequalities
Communities are environmentally sustainable	For everyone, focused first on those at risk of negative environmental impacts, and those least engaged in environmental action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Community organisations have a positive impact on the environment (in relation to nature, pollution and/or climate) 4.2 People are empowered and make a positive difference in the environmental impact of their communities 4.3 Communities prepare for and adapt to changes in climate 4.4 People have access to quality natural spaces in their communities, enabling connection to nature

for the 'Supporting children and young

Reaching Communities: Application Questions



There are four questions, each with a word limit of 750 words

1. What would you like to do?
2. Who will benefit from your project?
3. How does your project support people and communities to shape the decisions that affect their lives?
4. Why are you the right organisation to do this work?

National Lottery Awards for All (£300 - £20,000)

National Lottery Awards for All England
The National Lottery Community Fund

National Lottery Awards for All



Overview:

- One-stage application process - apply at any time
- Grants from £300 up to £20,000 for up to two years
- Can only hold one grant at a time and for a maximum of £20,000 within a 12-month period
- Prioritises groups with lower incomes
- Simple online application
- Please note, Awards for All is one of our busiest programmes and we are currently experiencing very high levels of demand.

National Lottery Awards for All



We can fund projects that'll do at least one of these things:

- bring people together to build strong relationships in and across communities
- improve the places and spaces that matter to communities
- help more people to reach their potential, by supporting them at the earliest possible stage
- support people, communities and organisations facing more demands and challenges because of the cost-of-living crisis

National Lottery Awards for All



We will ask for your response to three questions:

- What would you like to do? (50 - 300 words)
- How does your project meet our funding priorities? (50-150 words)
- How does your project involve your community? (50-200 words)

England Portfolio – Partnership Opportunities



- We will be adopting a new Partnership Approach in England over the course of our It Starts With Community strategy, 2023 - 2030.
- You can find out more about these opportunities by visiting the England Funding website page - www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk
- You can also sign up to our newsletter <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/about/newsletter>

Thank you

[https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/
programmes/our-vision-for-funding-in-england](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/our-vision-for-funding-in-england)

Advice Line: 0345 4 10 20 30, or
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