

External Funding Alert

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○ The external funding alert from South Ayrshire Council provides details on new funding opportunities available and approaching deadlines of various programmes. More detail on these opportunities can be obtained by clicking on the links provided or by contacting the External Funding Team. If you wish to be added to our mailing list, email: externalfunding2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk. You can also conduct your own external funding search at: www.open4community.info/southayrshire/Default.aspx

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south
AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

News

2015 STARTER FOR 6 (SCOTLAND) PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

This scheme, launched on 6 November 2014, is an enterprise training programme that supports up-and-coming creative entrepreneurs across Scotland, aiming to turn their creative ideas into successful businesses.

Originated by Nesta, the Starter for 6 programme has been produced and delivered by the Cultural Enterprise Office since 2009. The programme is specifically aimed at helping the development of seed and start-up arts and creative sector businesses in Scotland, delivering practical support and training to enable the planning and development of a viable business plan to the point where the business is ready to start up. The programme includes workshops, training and mentoring, and a chance to pitch for up to £10,000 grant support to develop the business.

The 2015 Main Programme will run in Glasgow/Edinburgh and Dundee, and is open to applicants from all over Scotland. The programme provides successful applicants with:

- Four enterprise training sessions to provide participants with the business skills to turn their idea into reality.
- Peer mentoring/coaching.

- The opportunity to network and share ideas with like-minded entrepreneurs in training sessions and events.
- The opportunity to become part of the growing Starter for 6 Network, made up of previous programme participants.
- The opportunity to pitch for up to £10,000 of grant funding at the end of the training programme to take their business forward.
- A place to test their business model and idea with peers, trainers and mentors.
- Tailored business and creative industry advice.
- Aftercare support for those businesses receiving investment.
- Applications are welcomed from creative entrepreneurs across Scotland, looking to turn their creative ideas into successful businesses that operate within the country.
- Participants must:
 - be over the age of 16 years old;
 - be either pre-start or have been trading for less than one year;

- have at least the beginning of a business idea(s) that can be worked on;
- hold full intellectual property rights of their idea;
- be available to attend all of the proposed training dates and be prepared to train in either of the locations (the final location will not be decided until after the application deadline);
- not infringe copyright or other intellectual property rights of third parties; and
- ideally, have a strong record in their chosen field.

Internationals can still apply to the programme, but must have been resident in Scotland for tax purposes for a minimum of 12 months. Student applicants must be in their final year of study. Applicants in receipt of other public/private funds for their business are still eligible to apply.

Funding is to support eligible applicants to take their innovative business ideas further; therefore, they are not looking for a finished product or service at this stage.

For the purposes of the programme, innovation is defined as the exploitation of new ideas. This could be a new product, service or route to the customer. The programme is weighted towards business ideas that come from across the creative industry sectors that are genuinely pushing the boundaries in terms of creativity, innovation, design, new markets and product developments. Ideally, Starter for 6 participants should have a new idea, product, service or experience that does not already exist, or at least an innovative spin on anything that already exists.

Panelists will award funds to those who comprehensively illustrate how such support will enhance their business output in order to achieve their desired milestones. Funds are awarded on strength and innovation of idea and business concept.

The final deadline for receipt of applications is 12pm Monday 12 January 2015 (12pm).

Link: <http://www.culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk/programmes/starter-for-6/>

SHARED CARE SCOTLAND

Does your organisation work with disabled children and young people, and with their families? The Better Breaks funding programme for 2015 is now open for applications. Grants of up to £50,000 over 12 months are available. Additionally, a limited number of 2-year awards are available.

The application forms and guidance notes can be found online at:

Link: <http://www.sharedcarescotland.org.uk/short-breaks-fund/Better+Breaks.html>

About the Better Breaks programme

Better Breaks is part of the Short Breaks Fund. It is funded by Scottish Government and administered by Shared Care Scotland. The aim of Better Breaks is to develop responsive and creative short break opportunities for disabled children and young people and their families, especially children and young people with additional multiple support needs.

What is a short break?

A short break might be:

- an adventure holiday for a group of young disabled people while their carers have time to themselves at home
- a holiday play scheme for disabled children
- a weekly social evening for young disabled adults to see a film or have a meal
- family holidays in a group with others who have similar experiences
- a young person going out with a befriender every week
- young people taking part in regular sporting activities

There are more examples on our YouTube site. See for yourself by watching some short clips from services that have been funded previously. youtube.com/user/1SharedCareScotland

Who can apply to Better Breaks?

Third sector (voluntary) organisations with charitable aims, working in Scotland can apply for a grant. Local authorities and health authorities may not lead an application but could be partners in an application led by a third sector organisation. We are particularly keen to encourage partnership applications that aim to integrate disabled children with mainstream community or youth services.

Timescale?

The deadline for applications is **Friday 28 November at 12 noon.**

Applications will be assessed by February 2015 and applicants notified at the beginning of March 2015. Grants will then be released in March or April 2015.

Programme Updates

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

This scheme has a pot of £65,000 available to constituted local community organisations across South Ayrshire working for the benefit of their local area and residents. The fund can be used to help develop the necessary skills and access expertise to develop successful funding bids and more effectively deliver improvements in their areas. For more information, call Marion Young on 01292 612626 or email: marion.young@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Deadline for applications: Monday 26 January 2015

Link: <http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/cpp/community-devfund.aspx>

BIG LOTTERY

AWARDS FOR ALL

Previously it was possible to have received more than one grant within a 12 month period (for example, £5,000 and then reapplying for the remaining £5,000).

Please note this has changed, so no matter what amount a group receives, there cannot be another application until the 12 months are up. If your group has different projects within one year, the best course of action is to combine these onto one application.

Finally if your group has returned their grant to us and reapply within three years of 'receiving' the initial grant, it will still come under BIG Lottery's 'three year' priority. Details can be found on page 5 of their guidance notes.

Link: <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/awardsforallscotland>

SCOTTISH LAND FUND

BIG have asked us to remind groups and organisations that this programme will not close this year as originally intended, the deadline has been extended for another year until 30 November 2015.

BIG LOTTERY PLANS FOR 2015 TO 2020

The Big Lottery Fund started work to develop their new strategic framework earlier this year. This framework will set out the sort of organisation they aspire to be, and how they will operate in the five year period from 2015 to 2020. You can see what issues were raised, along with their initial responses, on the 'Your Voice our Vision' website via the link below.

At the same time as considering the results of this process, they have now started to plan how they will develop and deliver their funding programmes in Scotland from next year. The latest version of Investing in Communities was launched in 2010, and so they want to make sure that their work in Scotland is up to date and relevant to the needs of communities and individuals in Scotland today and in the future.

Link: <http://yourvoiceourvision.org.uk/>

FUNDING MYTHS

This month's top myth is:

'Big Lottery Fund runs a programme called the iPad Fund'.

There is no specific fund for iPads, although they can be included in funding requests, most notably through Awards for All.

There, however, does of course have to be a need for them which should be clearly stated in your application otherwise they might not be funded.

Link: <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/scotland>

THE SECTORS BURNING QUESTIONS FOR BIG

BIG's Scotland Advice Team receive an average of 700 enquiries every month. They are there to give advice and support to organisations before they apply for funding. Below are three of the most common questions asked:

1. Where can I get an end of grant report from?

These are now specific to each organisation so there isn't a 'generic' one available. To receive your end of grant report, please contact your Funding Officer on 0141 242 1400 (press option 1).

2. Can we include supporting documents along with our application form?

As we receive a high amount of applications, unfortunately we are unable to consider supporting documents. Everything should be included within the application form.

3. There's been changes to your funding this year. What funding of up to £10,000 is currently available?

BIG have three grants that can fund up to £10,000 (you might have heard them being called 'small grants') which are:

- i. Awards for All (£500 to £10,000) – for community or sports projects;
- ii. Communities and Families Fund (£250 to £10,000) – for improving pre-birth to eight years of age’s quality of life; and
- iii. Investing in Ideas (£500 to £10,000) – to test out a new idea or a new way of working.

If you have any other questions about our funding, you can go to Ask BIG via the link below, where they give answers to other commonly asked questions. Alternatively, if you can’t find your answer at Ask BIG, you can email them at enquiries.scotland@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Link: <http://ask.biglotteryfund.org.uk/help/scotland/>

Resources/Information/Publications

Resources

BT - COMMUNITY WEB KIT

This scheme is open to small charitable voluntary and community groups in the UK that provide a clear benefit to the local community. A simple to build website may be constructed from simple on-screen instructions on the Internet.

As part of the BT Community Web Kit applicants will receive the following:

- Free website hosting.
- Free website addresses.
- The choice of 8 templates with 5 or 15 colour themes depending on the template selected.
- One free format template.
- Enough space for unlimited pages and up to 500 pictures.
- Templates and colour options for all content.
- An easy-to-use Page Editor or an HTML Editor for technically minded applicants.
- Free technical support.
- Welsh language options.

To qualify, organisations must be based in the United Kingdom and provide a clear benefit to the local community. They should be registered charities, non-profit-making groups or volunteer-led organisations. Users are advised to contact the sponsor for details of any specific criteria that may apply.

Applications may be made at any time.

Link: <http://www.btck.co.uk/Default.aspx>

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES – NATIONAL SUPPORT PACKAGE

The Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) is now into the second stage of their Supporting Communities programme which is an expanded package of support for community organisations across Scotland. The support package will run until March 2015 and aims to increase the capacity of community groups and organisations to effect change and contribute to the regeneration of their communities.

If you would like to find out more about the support package being offered by SCDC, or if you are aware of groups that may benefit, please contact Alex MacDonald on 0141 248 1924 or email alex@scdc.org.uk.

Link: <http://www.scdc.org.uk/what/supporting-communities/> for more details

WAYS TO PAY

The Payments Council has confirmed that banks have delivered on the promise to extend the ways charities can authorise their payments if they are reliant on more than one signatory.

Nominated signatories will be able to authorise payments using either online banking or, in some cases phone banking facilities, with a range of Payments Council members.

Cheques will still be continued to be used and banks have committed to carrying on using and accepting cheques for as long as needed.

Further details can be obtained from your bank, or the Payment Council website.

Link: <http://www.paymentscouncil.org.uk/>

WEB RESOURCES

1. Sources of Guidance and Advice

Cranfield Trust

Link: <http://www.cranfieldtrust.org>

Pilotlight

Link: <http://pilotlight.org.uk>

2. Networking/Advocacy Support

Social Enterprise Scotland

Link: <http://www.socialenterprisescotland.org.uk/>

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/socialenterprisescotland>

Link: <https://mobile.twitter.com/signup>

SENSCOT

Link: <http://www.senscot.net>

Link: <http://www.facebook.com/ThematicSENS>

Link: <https://twitter.com/senscot>

Link: <http://www.senscot.net/networks1st/notices.php>

Social Firms Scotland

Link: <http://www.socialfirms.org.uk/home/home.asp>

SENSL

Link: <http://www.sensl.org.uk/>

Community Recycling Network

Link: <http://www.crn.org.uk/>

Linkedin

Link: <https://uk.linkedin.com>

3. Capacity Building

FirstPort

Link: <http://www.firstport.org.uk/>

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/FirstportScotland>

Link: <https://mobile.twitter.com/Firstport>

Link: <http://www.youtube.com/user/Firstport1>

CEIS

Link: <http://ceis.org.uk/>

Development Trust Association

Link: <http://www.dtascot.org.uk/>

Link: <http://www.dtascot.org.uk/content/learning/events/e-bulletin>

Just Enterprise

Link: <http://justenterprise.org/>

UNLtd

Link: <http://unltd.org.uk/path/>

4. Training

Social Enterprise Academy

Link: <http://www.theacademy-ssea.org/>

Link: <https://mobile.twitter.com/signup>

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/SocEntAcademy?sk=wall>

5. Tendering Opportunities

Supplier Development Programme

Link: <http://www.sdpScotland.co.uk>

Public Contracts Scotland

Link: <http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/>

6. Industry Trends

The Guardian

Link: <http://www.theguardian.com/social-enterprise-network>

Link: <https://twitter.com/GuardianSocEnt>

Glasgow Social Enterprise Network

Link: <http://www.gsen.org.uk/>

Third Force News

Link: <http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/>

JUSTGIVING

Online fundraising platform JustGiving is expanding its services to enable any business to fundraise online for charity. This will enable businesses to showcase their employees' achievements, and match their donations with company funds if they choose.

The new tools offer:

- branded company fundraising pages to showcase all a business' employee fundraising activity in one place
- running totals of all donations raised by employees
- the facility for employees to form teams to compete against each other and link their JustGiving individual fundraising pages to their company page
- leader boards featuring the most successful fundraising staff to encourage competition and reward success
- the option for companies to match-fund the sums raised by their employees and to display this total publicly on their company profile
- measurement and reporting of fundraising data

Perhaps you know of a local company that would like to raise funds for your group in this way.

Further details are available via the web link below.

Link: <http://www.justgiving.com/companies>

PEER-TO-PEER MENTORING SCHEME / INSPIRING STUDY VISIT SCHEME

The Plunkett Foundation have secured funds from the Prince's Countryside Fund to deliver a Peer-to-Peer mentoring scheme and an Inspiring Study Visit scheme for Scotland.

This programme gives groups the opportunity to learn from another established shop group. A substantial amount of time is spent discussing the details of community enterprise. In addition a Plunkett mentor or adviser assists the visit and a tour of the shop is generally given and travel expenses are paid.

To find out more contact the Frontline Team on 01993 810730 or email Hannah.barrett@plunkett.co.uk

REDUCE TECHNOLOGY COSTS

Through this programme, eligible UK-based charities are able to request donated technology products from partners such as Microsoft, Symantec and Cisco.

The products include operating system software and server software, security software and hardware products such as switches, routers, wireless equipment and firewalls.

Although there is an administration fee for charities the CTX programme still gives savings of 92-96% on typical retail prices. For further information visit

[Link http://www.ctxchange.org](http://www.ctxchange.org)

RESOURCE EFFICIENT SCOTLAND

This scheme is a Scottish Government funded programme delivered by Zero Waste Scotland. It works to engage Scottish business, the public sector including local authorities and housing associations and third sector organisations on the benefits of using resources more efficiently and to help them implement resource efficiency actions within their organisation.

There are three main elements to the programme:

1. Advice and support service:

(Call 0808 808 2268) this service provides free advice, support, training and access to funding to help organisations implement resource efficiency measures.

2. Sector Programmes:

These programmes provide a strategic sector focused approach with activities tailored around specific resource-use 'hotspots'

3. Innovation:

This area of work involves the development of new resource efficient products and technologies, business models, working practices and de-centralised renewable energy infrastructure – providing solutions for the sector support and advice services.

Support for local authorities is provided through one of the sector programmes.

For more information contact Warren McIntyre, Programme Area Manager - Public Sector Resource Efficient Scotland, 01786 433930 or email warren.mcintyre@resourceefficientscotland.com

[Link: http://www.resourceefficientscotland.com/](http://www.resourceefficientscotland.com/)

Publications

BIG DIRECTORY OF SOCIAL INVESTMENT

Social investment is a term used to describe many different forms of finance - like loans, bonds and equity - all of which involve some kind of financial return to the investor, as well as helping to achieve social impact.

The Big Lottery Fund achieves its mission of bringing improvements to communities and people most in need primarily through making grants. But they recognise that there are circumstances when social investment can be the right path to growth and sustainability for third sector organisations.

This directory aims to provide a single source of information that third sectors organisations in Scotland can use to find out what sorts of social investment finance are available to support their social enterprise activities and aspirations.

[Link: http://www.youthlinkscotland.org/webs/245/documents/Big_Directory_FinalJul14.pdf](http://www.youthlinkscotland.org/webs/245/documents/Big_Directory_FinalJul14.pdf)

EVENT ORGANISERS' GUIDE

The Can-Do guide is an interactive guide to organising community events. Published by the Cabinet Office the guide aims to dispel a raft of inaccurate myths leading, it is hoped, to a surge in community events over the coming year.

[Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/can-do-guide-for-organisers-of-voluntary-events](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/can-do-guide-for-organisers-of-voluntary-events)

New Funding Opportunities

Arts, Culture & Heritage

CREATIVE SCOTLAND – OPEN PROJECT

This scheme supports the arts, screen and creative industries, with projects that help people explore, realise and develop their creative potential. It opened on 31 October and will support:

- Projects that develop skills or artistic practice;
- Projects that create something new and of high quality;
- Projects which present work to audiences or try to develop and reach new audiences; and
- Projects which encourage more people to get involved in artistic and creative activity.

The funding is open to both individuals and organisations, including registered charities and non-profit organisations.

Grants can range between £1,000 and £100,000 however the assessment time can differ depending on the level of funding requested ie:

- Applications for grant up to £15,000 decisions will take up to 8 working weeks; and
- Applications for grant over £15,000 decisions will take up to 12 working weeks.

Please note that organisations intending to apply for grants ranging between £100,000 and £150,000 must seek prior approval from Creative Scotland before submission. If approval is given, decisions will take up to 12 working weeks.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Link: <http://www.creativescotland.com/funding/>

Children/Youth/Young People

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED – SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

This scheme will support projects that combat disadvantage and improve children and young people's lives; in particular, grants are available for projects that help children and young people experiencing illness, distress, abuse or neglect; any kind of disability; behavioural or psychological difficulties; and/or living in situations of deprivation.

Applications for funding, up to £10,000, are accepted from charities, voluntary organisations, schools; churches; and community interest groups etc.

School related projects supported in the past include:

- A Special School received £6,000 to provide lunchtime horse riding sessions for children with disabilities; and
- A Youth & Community Development Project in Airdrie, received £6,333 to help deliver 2 afterschool clubs a week to young people in an isolated village where children from low income families have little access to services.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 1 December 2014.

Link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4fjVTzz5QmQx5rx0S4NVg0Q/smallgrants>

CHILDREN TODAY CHARITABLE TRUST

This scheme, founded in 1994 to help disabled children and young people up to the age of 25 enjoy a better quality of life by providing specialised equipment.

The Charity provides specialised aids that are designed to improve and enhance the lives of children and young people with disabilities, helping them to become as independent as possible and to reach their potential.

Grants, with no minimum or maximum amount specified, are available for the purchase of the following items of specialised equipment:

- Electric wheelchairs – individually adapted to give maximum independence.
- Walking aids.
- Trikes.
- Educational toys – specially designed for children with disabilities.
- Communication aids.
- Adapted car seats.
- Lifting aids to enable movement.
- Posturepedic sleep equipment.

Applicants are required to contact the Trust to discuss their application in the first instance.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Link: <http://www.childrentoday.org.uk/>

Community Development

ALAN AND BABETTE SAINSBURY CHARITABLE FUND GRANT

This scheme provided and administered by The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trust and makes grants available to voluntary and community organisations in the UK. The scheme is intended to support projects with the following themes:

- Arts and education projects which help young people to achieve their potential, particularly within Southwark, from where proposals are particularly encouraged.
- Support for UK charities which defend civil liberties and human rights.
- Projects in the developing world, especially Africa, which maximise educational and employment opportunities for young people.
- Areas of scientific and medical research of particular interest to the trustees, especially multiple sclerosis and diabetes among young people.

Voluntary and community organisations in the UK can apply for costs associated with eligible projects. Although funding is not available for:

- Individuals.
- Educational fees.
- Expeditions.

Applications should be made in writing, must be no longer than two A4 sides and should include:

- An explanation of the organisation's aims and objectives and its most recent annual income and expenditure.
- Details of the project requiring funding – why it's needed, who will benefit and in what way.
- A breakdown of costs, any money raised so far, and how the balance will be raised.

Potential applicants should contact the trust, in the first instance, as the majority of unsolicited proposals are unsuccessful. Further information is available by contacting Mr Alan Bookbinder, Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts, The Peak, 5 Wilton Road, London, SW1V 1AP, telephone 0207 410 0330.

There are no published deadlines.

Link: <http://www.sfct.org.uk/the-alan-and-babette-sainsbury-charitable-fund/>

Education

EMI MUSIC SOUND FOUNDATION'S INSTRUMENT AND/OR EQUIPMENT AWARDS

The scheme makes grants, up to £2,000, available to schools, individual students and teachers wishing to buy musical instruments and equipment can apply for funding through the EMI Music Sound Foundation's Instrument and/or Equipment Awards.

The Foundations has made awards to over two thousand schools, individual students and teachers improve their access to music through the buy or upgrade of musical instruments and equipment. Schools need to use the funding for music education that is beyond statutory national curriculum music teaching.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 3 February 2015.

Link: <http://www.emimusicfoundation.com/index.php/site/awards/>

FOYLE FOUNDATION SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAMME

This scheme will support state funded secondary and primary schools as well as dedicated schools catering for those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) that do not have or want to improve their libraries can apply for funding.

The programme recognises that there is no statutory requirement for schools to have a library and that many school libraries are in a desperate situation through underfunding and underdevelopment. Priority will be given to funding library books.

The Foundation will also consider contributions towards library software, necessary IT equipment and specialist seating/desks. Preference will be given to schools which can clearly demonstrate that their library can be maintained and renewed in the future.

The average grant made under this programme is between £3,000 and £10,000.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Link: <http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/how-to-apply/state-schools.php>

SCOTTISH INSTITUTE FOR ENTERPRISE NEW VENTURES COMPETITION

This scheme is run by the Scottish Institute for Enterprise (SIE) and is open to students and recent graduates of Scottish universities. The purpose of the competition is to aid the development of a business concept that is ready to launch or an existing enterprise that has been in operation for no more than two years.

In 2014-15 SIE will award three prizes:

- 1st prize – £10,000 (sponsored by Bank of Scotland)
- 2nd prize – £5,000
- 3rd prize – £1,000

The competition is open to students and recent graduates of Scottish Universities, i.e. those that have graduated in the last two years. Students or graduates can come from either undergraduate or post-graduate courses.

The competition is aimed at real businesses not just theoretical concepts, so in order to be eligible to enter, entrants must demonstrate that they have taken or are taking active steps towards turning their idea or concept into reality. Each entrant must score at least three against the following Enterprise Development Indicators:

- Registered as self employed or incorporated a company (in the UK or elsewhere).
- Product or service developed. (A product refers to something which can be reproducibly manufactured and is then sold as a “completed good” and a service is something which is not tangible but can be replicated, adapted and transferred to a client in return for payment).
- Active marketing of developed product or service via web, brochures, face-to-face meetings, leaflets, advertisements or press releases.
- Intellectual property progression (for example, applying for patent or trademark protection. Note: this does not include web domains as these are usually only commercially useful for active marketing).
- Commercial partnerships or alliances (such as sales or distribution agreements, licensing deals, co-marketing agreements, alliances to jointly tender for contracts, etc.)
- £5,000 income (including revenue, investment, grant and loan) or £5,000 spends.
- Facility (have moved into own premises, a start-up incubator or leased some shared space with another firm).

Apart from overall winners from previous years, entrants who have entered the SIE New Ventures or New Ideas competitions before can still apply to this year’s competition.

The prizes are to be used to develop a business concept that is ready to launch or an existing enterprise that has been in operation for no more than two years.

The deadline for receipt of entries is 10pm on 29 January 2015.

Link: <http://www.sie.ac.uk/about-sie/sie-activities/new-ventures.aspx>

Social Enterprise

CO-OPERATIVE LOAN FUND

This scheme offers loans between £10,000 and £85,000 to assist the start-up and development of co-operative enterprises in the UK. It was established with £1 million as a successor to the Co-operative Action Loan Fund. It is managed by Co-operative & Community Finance, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) in the conduct of investment business.

The Fund aims to help communities develop co-operative, mutual or social enterprise solutions to face social or economic challenges. Loans are available for viable co-operative, mutual and social enterprises to assist with expansion or the set up of such an organisation.

Lending by the Fund will be at or near market terms. Special subordinated loans at or near base rate are available for credit unions. There is no set lending term, as far as possible loans will be tailored to the needs of the business and its capacity to make repayments. The maximum term is usually 10 years.

The Fund is willing to take secondary security behind other investors and is also able to make unsecured loans.

The Co-operative Group also assists the start-up and development of co-operatives through the Co-operative Enterprise Hub via the link below.

Match funding requirements have not been stipulated.

Organisations eligible to apply must be new or existing co-operatives. Loans will only be made to economically viable enterprises and applicants must also provide a business plan. The Fund does not allow personal guarantees on loans.

Loans are available to borrowers that require finance to:

- Set up as a new co-operative.
- Expand an existing co-operative.
- Assist employee buyouts or company successions.
- Purchase a property or business.
- Purchase capital equipment or create working capital.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Link: <http://www.co-operativeloanfund.co.uk>

Environment

CLIMATE CHALLENGE FUND AND JUNIOR CLIMATE CHALLENGE FUND

This scheme makes grants, up to £150,000, available for community groups to run one year projects that plan to start activities in April 2015. Junior Climate Challenge Fund grants are available in both 2014 and 2015 for projects led by young people aged 21 or under.

The deadline for receipt of draft applications is 1 December 2014, and 12 January 2015 for final applications for projects to go to the panel on 11 March 2015.

Link: <http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/climatechallengefundapplicationdeadlineshowtoapply>

CSV ACTION EARTH GRANTS 2014

This scheme is running two grant schemes to increase numbers of volunteers on locally based environmental projects. You can either join in with a volunteering project, or get a grant to run your own activities that will help protect and restore Scotland's natural habitats. This can mean creating ponds for frogs to spawn, removing 'alien' trees from forests, building environmentally-friendly wheelchair paths as well as improving green spaces and meadows to boost wildlife.

Grants up to £250 are available for projects providing or improving habitats for wildlife, enhancing local nature spots and getting communities volunteering together, and up to £500 exclusively for projects taking place on Local Nature Reserves (LNR).

Applications may be made at any time however grants will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

Link: <http://actionearth.csv.org.uk/>

THE NATURESAVE TRUST

This scheme provides funding to support environmental and conservationist projects. The Trust provides financial assistance to projects that deal with the root of a specific environmental and/or conservationist problem and those that encourage the greater commercial adoption of sustainable development. Start up finance is available to new organisations which seek to promote greater awareness of sustainable development or for existing companies and charities that are seeking funding for a specific project.

Examples of previously supported projects include:

1. A school which received funding towards the installation of a wind turbine at the school, providing energy and income to the school;
2. The trust has provided funding towards a school project to install solar panels on the roof; and

3. Trees for Health received funding from the Trust to set up green woodworking area to utilise local coppice wood.

Applications may be made at any time.

Link: <http://www.naturesave.co.uk/the-naturesave-trust/>

RHS COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND

This scheme is the second round of a £100,000 programme of community support by the RHS for Scottish projects (over three years).

The fund aims to support communities who wish to start or develop gardening projects within their local community. Projects should have a strong horticultural focus and encourage people to learn new skills in gardening, develop volunteering opportunities and involve a wide range of people.

Groups can apply for two levels of funding:

- Start-up Grants of up to £300; and
- Main Grants of up to £3,000.

If you need any further information or help with completing your application, please email the Scotland team at scotland@rhs.org.uk or call Liz Stewart, Scotland Development Manager on Tel: 07738 809441

The deadline for receipt of applications is 8 December 2014.

Link: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/communities/get-involved/bringing-the-rhs-to-you/scotland-community-fund-2014>

EQUALITY

EQUALITY FUND – 2015/2016

This scheme is now open to applications from voluntary organisations working with, or on behalf of, people who are disadvantaged due to their protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation.

Applications will be accepted from voluntary organisations that are registered as charities with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) or which are working towards incorporation. We are particularly keen to hear from third sector groups who are underrepresented.

Funding is available for projects that will make a real difference to the lives of people with the protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act 2010. Support is available for 12 months, from April 2015 to March 2016, for projects which contribute to achieving the Equality Fund outcomes. These sit under four broad themes:

1. Tackling inequalities and poverty, encouraging enterprise;

1. Tackling inequalities and poverty, encouraging enterprise;
2. Building strong, resilient, engaged, empowered communities;
3. Improving opportunities for employment, representation and participation in public and
4. democratic life; and
5. Tackling discrimination and hate crime.

Successful Applicants must be able to demonstrate how their proposed project will address one or more (and up to a maximum of three) of the following Equality Fund programme outcomes:

1. People with protected characteristics experience increased opportunities including a reduction in poverty and fewer barriers to full participation in society.
2. People in communities are able to take action for their collective good and are enabled to participate in democratic processes and work with the public sector to inform service design and delivery.
3. People with protected characteristics experience increased opportunities to access employment and current imbalances in representation in public life are addressed, resulting in both employment and public life being more representative of our communities.
4. Discrimination against people with protected characteristics is reduced and those covered by current hate crime legislation (ethnic minority people, people of faith, disabled people, and LGBT people) experience lower levels of hate crime.

There is no upper limit set to the level of funding that can be applied for, however, applicants should note that the Equality Unit Budget has remained static from 2014-15 to 2015-16 and it will not be possible to provide significant increases in funding without reducing the number of projects that the Scottish Government can support.

The Application Form and Guidance Notes, including full details of eligibility and how to apply for the grant, can be downloaded from the Voluntary Action Fund website via the link below.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 5pm on 5th December 2014.

Link: <http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/equality-fund/>

Families

ESMÉE FAIRBAIRN FOUNDATION AND SUTTON TRUST PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT FUND

This scheme invites not-for-profit organisations in the UK to apply to their new £1 million Parental Engagement Fund.

The Parental Engagement Fund is aimed at assisting children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are in the early years and early primary phases (ages 2-6 years). The Fund wishes to support the growth, increased effectiveness and measurement of the impact of parental engagement projects aimed at improving children's cognitive development.

The Fund will support interventions or approaches that aim to improve child cognitive development as evidenced by early years foundation stage profile, performance on standardised tests or teacher assessments. The primary beneficiaries of work supported by the fund will be children who are disadvantaged by social and economic factors such as lack of parental education, low family income, parents in receipt of means tested benefits or living in areas of high deprivation.

Not-for-profit organisations (including community groups, voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises) based and working in the UK can apply for grants of between £50,000 and £200,000 for each project over the two to three year funding period. The initial grant will be made for one year. Following a review process after the completion of the first year of delivery, a further grant for the following years may be agreed.

The organisation should have promising parental engagement approaches and the organisational potential to grow and improve their work in order to reach more children and families.

Projects should target one or more of the following areas:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Language
- Behavioural, social, and emotional
- Parenting and home learning environment
- Parental involvement in setting activities and/or strategic decision making
- Home School Partnership

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 5 December 2014 at 5pm.

Miscellaneous

JEPHCOTT CHARITABLE TRUST

This scheme, established by Sir Harry Jephcott in 1965, awards grants to registered charities and constituted organisations in the United Kingdom.

The trust prefers to award grants that help to get an organisation up and running, or make a significant step forward and overseas projects must have local involvement. The Trust awards grants under the following priorities:

- Population Control - The Trust is prepared to consider support for schemes, particularly educational ones, which help to control excessive growth in population.
- The National Environment - The Trust has supported a number of projects involved in conserving the natural environment.
- Education - Projects will be considered that benefit people of all ages and backgrounds. The projects may provide formal education, teach vocational skills to enhance the possibility of employment, enhance computer skills, health awareness, and distance learning.
- Health - A very wide range of healthcare projects are supported,

Grants of between £2,000 and £10,000 are available, and in exceptional cases, up to £20,000. Grants are available towards project costs. The Trust prefers to support capital rather than revenue costs and applicants may be required to provide the remainder of any costs from alternative sources.

Application forms are available to download from the Trust's website and should be returned by post to the Secretary of the Trust, along with the budget for the proposed project and most recent annual accounts.

If the application is dependent upon the employment of personnel, the funds will not be released until such an appointment is made. However once the donation has been approved, the Trust will require feedback within the first year and further reports annually, if relevant.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

[Link: http://www.jephcottcharitabletrust.org.uk/whatwedo.htm](http://www.jephcottcharitabletrust.org.uk/whatwedo.htm)

TRUSTHOUSE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

This scheme was formed out of a trust operated by the Council of Forte plc, which inherited investments in the Granada Group. The Foundation was registered with the Charity Commissioners in 1997. The Foundation currently distributes over £2 million each year.

Grants are available to charitable and not-for-profit organisations in the UK for projects that address issues of health and disability; community support; and arts education and heritage.

The foundation will make funding available for revenue or capital costs and offers the following levels of support:

- Fast Track: grants of £5,000 and under for capital and/or running costs for organisations with an annual income of less than £500,000.
- Small Grant: grants of between £5,001 and £9,999 for capital and/or running costs with an annual income of less than £500,000.
- Large Grant: grants of between £10,000 and £30,000 for capital costs for organisations with an income of less than £5 million.

Please note capital projects are only eligible where the total cost is £1 million or less; all grants are for one year only; and applicants should have secured at least 50% of the total cost of the project/funding required before making an application to the Foundation.

Furthermore applicants who are unsuccessful are required to wait a minimum of six months before re-applying.

However, under normal circumstances, Trusthouse is not currently funding projects which are for the following:

- The purchase of computers, other electronic equipment or software for delivery of the charity's work.
- PR or other awareness raising campaigns, including the publication of leaflets or events calendars, websites.

Projects should address rural issues and urban deprivation. Applicants must clearly show in their appeal how their project fits into one or both of these categories.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

[Link: http://www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk](http://www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk)

Women

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS FUND (VAWG) 2015-16

This scheme makes grants available for projects that contribute to preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls in Scotland.

The Scottish Government's Equality Unit is now inviting applications for the VAWG Fund 2015-16. The VAWG Fund aims to assist in the development of measures to tackle all forms of violence against women and girls. These measures may include projects which build capacity in local partnerships to strengthen responses to violence and abuse or which deliver frontline services.

Funding is available for 12 months, from April 2015 to March 2016, for projects which contribute to achieving the VAWG Fund outcomes. These sit under five broad themes:

1. Primary prevention
2. Early and effective interventions

3. Maximising the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people through access to relevant, effective and integrated services
4. Addressing additional risk factors due to multiple discrimination and other vulnerabilities
5. Participation by those affected by VAWG in service design and delivery

Successful applicants will demonstrate that by the end of the grant, their project will have contributed to delivering a minimum of one and a maximum of three of the following outcomes:

1. The harmful effects of violence and abuse against women and girls are minimised due to an increased focus on prevention.
2. The harmful effects of violence and abuse against women and girls are reduced due to the provision of early interventions.
3. The harmful effects of violence and abuse against women and girls are reduced due to services working together to maximise their effectiveness.
4. The harm to women and girls with protected characteristics and other vulnerabilities is reduced through increased inclusive service provision. Service design and delivery is improved as a result of the participation of those affected by VAWG.

There is no upper limit set to the amount organisations can apply for, however, applicants should note that the Equality Unit Budget has remained static from 2014-15 to 2015-16 and it will not be possible to provide significant increases in funding without reducing the number of projects that the Scottish Government can support.

The VAWG Fund is open to organisations who ascribe to the gender based analysis of violence against women. Applications will be accepted from voluntary organisations that are registered as charities with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

Partnerships which include third and public sector bodies can also apply, as can individual public bodies. However, as a focus of this funding is to ensure the provision of high quality front line services, applications from voluntary sector organisations who can demonstrate a record of delivery on violence against women and girls are likely to be prioritised.

The Application Form and Guidance Notes, including full details of eligibility and how to apply for the grant, can be downloaded from the Voluntary Action fund website via the link below.

The closing date for applications is 5pm on 5th December 2014.

Link: <http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/violence-against-women/vawfund/>

Awards

CREATIVE & CULTURAL SKILLS AWARDS

This awards scheme seeks to recognise those who have demonstrated a commitment to passing on skills and improving routes into work for young people in the UK.

Creative & Cultural Skills are licensed as a Sector Skills Council by the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, and governed by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills.

The organisation champions youth employment and fair access, and works across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, collectively representing the skills needs of UK industry. Nominations are invited for the following awards:

- The Design Skills Award.
- The Music Skills Award.
- The Craft Skills Award.
- The Jewellery Skills Award.
- The Cultural Heritage Skills Award.
- The Theatre Skills Award.
- The Training Provider of the Year Award.
- The Apprentice of the Year Award.
- The Intern of the Year Award.

The Creative and Cultural Skills Awards aim to recognise organisations and individuals working to support young talent to build careers in the creative sector, as well as exemplary apprentices and interns working in the sector.

For the six sector-specific awards, nominations can be for individuals who have shown an outstanding commitment to passing on and developing creative skills, and who make a difference to the lives of young people entering the creative industries. These could be:

- Mentors.
- Managers.
- Tutors.
- Facilitators.
- Course Leaders.

The Training Organisation of the Year award is open to nominations for businesses or education institutions which have demonstrated an innovative approach to developing creative talent.

The Apprentice of the Year Award and The Intern of the Year Award are open to nominations for young people from across the creative sectors who have demonstrated the ambition and talent to make a real difference in his or her workplace. Nominees must be a current apprentice or paid intern, or must have completed their apprenticeship or internship after 5th March 2014.

Please note that award winners will be recognised at a ceremony on 4 March 2015 in The Backstage Centre in Thurrock. However nominees will be provided with two tickets to attend the awards free of charge.

The deadline for nominations is 19 December 2014 (5pm).

Link: http://ccskills.org.uk/supporters/annual-industry-conference/awards-2015?utm_source=newsletter65&utm_medium=email&utm_content=awards&utm_campaign=newsletter

NATIONAL RECYCLING AWARDS

This scheme is widely recognised as a stamp of excellence in the recycling industry. The Awards are sponsored by REPIC and Wastepack, and supported by Construction News, Health Service Journal (HSJ), Local Government Chronicle (LGC), MRW and Retail Week.

There are numerous categories, including Best Recycled Product and Best Energy from Waste Initiative. Entry is open to all involved in recycling and waste management, from local authorities, to waste producers, waste management companies, manufacturers, energy producers, retailers, construction and corporate companies.

Full details of past winners are available at the National Recycling Awards website. Entry to some awards is restricted (see individual categories for details).

Further information and guidance is available to download from the awards website via the link below.

Please note that entry to some awards is restricted (see individual categories for details).

The deadline for receipt of entries to the 2015 round of awards is 6 February 2015.

Link: <http://www.nationalrecyclingawards.com/>

Trusts

ACT FOUNDATION (ACT)

This scheme, formed in 1994, provides grants to individuals and other charities, principally in the UK, with the aim of enhancing the quality of life for people in need, specifically the mentally and physically disabled.

Funding is available as follows:

- Grants of up to £2,500 are available to individuals.
- Grants to registered charities have no upper limit. Previous grants have been for between £100 and £4 million.

ACT would be concerned to be a sole funder of projects that require ongoing support. UK-based individuals and registered charities may apply. For overseas applications, only charitable organisations can apply. Please note that Charities must have been registered for at least three years.

Grants generally fall into the following areas:

- Building - funding modifications to homes, schools, hospices.
- Equipment - provision of specialised wheelchairs, other mobility aids and equipment including medical equipment to assist independent living.
- Financial assistance - towards the cost of short-term respite breaks at a registered respite centre.

Examples of grants that have been made to individuals are as follows:

- Stair lifts.
- Disabled bathroom conversions.
- Motorised wheelchairs.
- Books and equipment for use at specialist colleges.
- Respite breaks.
- Specialist and other furniture.
- Vehicle adaptations.

ACT may wish to visit to see the work funded by the grant, and successful applicants must keep a financial record of the spending of the grant and retain a copy of any appropriate invoices and receipts, and submit these to ACT if requested.

Please note that the support of ACT must be acknowledged in all publications concerning the project as well as in presentations (oral or written) and interviews.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Link: <http://www.theactfoundation.co.uk/index.php/apply-for-a-grant>

ALBERT HUNT TRUST

This scheme supports UK-based charitable organisations for projects that improve physical and mental welfare.

Funding is at the discretion of the Trustees; however previous grants have ranged from £1,000 to £65,000 although most grants are for between £1,000 and £3,000.

Please note that funding is available for costs associated with eligible projects but not available for:

- Overseas projects.
- Research.

Applications must be made in writing and should include the following:

- Aims and objectives of the charity.
- Nature of the appeal.
- Total target if for a specific project.
- Contributions received against target.
- Registered charity number.
- Any other relevant factors.

Further information and guidance is available by contacting the Albert Hunt Trust directly.

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Link: *None given*

Imminent Deadlines – November – December 2014

EQUITABLE CHARITABLE TRUST

This scheme provides grant funding for educational projects that benefit children and young people under the age of 25 who are disabled or from disadvantaged backgrounds in the UK and in developing countries.

DEADLINE: 24 November 2014

MAX GRANT: £30,000

Link: <http://www.equitablecharitabletrust.org.uk/Home/tabid/294/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

WRITERS' PROJECTS FUNDING FOR PLAYWRIGHTS IN SCOTLAND

This scheme makes funding available to professional playwrights in Scotland to help them develop their projects.

DEADLINE: 28 November 2014

MAX GRANT: £3,250

Link: <http://www.playwrightsstudio.co.uk/resources/writers-projects.aspx#.U6v-85RdXYg>

BELL'S NAUTICAL TRUST

This scheme provides grants for voluntary and community organisations to benefit maritime education in Scotland.

DEADLINE: 30 November 2014

MAX GRANT: None specified

Link: <http://www.bellsnauticaltrust.com/>

COMMUNITY BROADBAND SCOTLAND - START UP FUND

This scheme makes funding available to assist Scottish communities with the costs involved in establishing local community-led projects to access superfast broadband services.

DEADLINE: 30 November 2014

MAX GRANT: Dependent on programme

Link: <http://www.hie.co.uk/>

HISTORIC SCOTLAND MAINTENANCE PLAN GRANTS

This scheme provides assistance to owners or occupiers of historic buildings in Scotland for the creation of a maintenance plan.

DEADLINE: 30 November 2014

MAX GRANT: £6,000

Link: <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/grants/maintenance-plan-grants.htm>

WOLFSON FOUNDATION

This scheme aims to support excellence in the UK, generally through the funding of capital infrastructure in the fields of science and technology, arts and humanities, education, and health and disability

DEADLINE: 30 November 2014

MAX GRANT: None specified

Link: <http://www.wolfson.org.uk>

CASHBACK FOR COMMUNITIES SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

This scheme aims to support to local volunteer led groups or units, who may not previously have had access to external funding, to enhance their programmes for young people and get positive projects off the ground.

DEADLINE: 1 December 2014

MAX GRANT: £2,000

Link: <http://www.cashbacksmallgrants.org/help-applying/apply-for-a-grant/>

SCOTRAIL FOUNDATION

This scheme provides funding from ScotRail as part of their commitment to their social and corporate responsibilities and is managed by Foundation Scotland on ScotRail's behalf. It aims to support and develop a wide range of projects which bring communities together.

DEADLINE: 1 December 2014

MAX GRANT: £5,000

Link: <http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/scotrail.aspx>

FAITHS IN SCOTLAND COMMUNITY ACTION FUND (FISCAF)

This scheme works with local faith groups in Scotland to build hope and fight against poverty by providing grants and support in Scotland's most fragile urban and rural communities.

DEADLINE: 31 December 2014

MAX GRANT: £15,000

Link: <http://www.fiscaf.org>

GERALD MICKLEM CHARITABLE TRUST

This scheme holds a capital fund which is applied for such exclusively charitable purposes as the Trustees determine in their discretion.

DEADLINE: 31 December 2014

MAX GRANT: None specified

Link: <http://www.geraldmicklemct.org.uk/2.html>

IRONMONGERS' COMPANY

This scheme supports projects that provide opportunities for disadvantaged children and young people, under the age of 25, to fulfil their potential. Support is available to registered charities in the UK with projects which develop learning, motivation and skills.

DEADLINE: 31 December 2014

MAX GRANT: £10,000

Link: http://www.ironmongers.org/charity_organisations.htm

STAFFORD TRUST

This scheme makes grant support available to registered charities in the UK, with a preference towards charitable organisations operating in Scotland. The Trust has an Application for Funding form which must be completed.

DEADLINE: 31 December 2014

MAX GRANT: £5,000

Link: <http://www.staffordtrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>

ZERO WASTE SCOTLAND RETRIEVE FUNDING

This scheme aims to lead to an increase in the use of recycled material in Scottish manufactured products and hence stimulate further investment in reprocessing activity within Scottish manufacturing companies. Manufacturing companies in Scotland may apply to this fund.

DEADLINE: 31 December 2014

MAX GRANT: £30,000

Link: <http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk>

Forthcoming Deadlines – January – February 2015

THE COALFIELDS COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

This scheme will support activities delivered by community and voluntary organisations working in Scotland's coalfield communities. The overall aim of the programme is to complement the new delivery activities of CRT in Scotland, investments will: Encourage community led capacity, innovation and service; Create an environment in which people can participate and encourage local growth; Support the community outcomes identified within the Coalfield Community Futures and Challenge Programmes; and Increase partnership between players which can act as a catalyst for leveraging in other funds.

DEADLINE: 7 January 2015

MAX GRANT: £10,000

Link: <http://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/what-we-do/grant-programmes-and-community-support/coalfields-community-investment-programme-scotland/>

WOODLAND TRUST TREE PLANTING PACKS

This scheme makes planting packs available to community groups, schools and youth groups to help them to plant more trees, hedges and copses in their local shared spaces.

DEADLINE: 7 January 2015

MAX GRANT: Not applicable

Link: <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/in-your-community/>

VOLANT CHARITABLE TRUST

This scheme makes grants available for registered charities in the UK undertaking projects to help poverty and social deprivation, particularly children's and women's issues. Applications for funding requests of up to and including £10,000 per annum, for projects based in Scotland only, are dealt with by Foundation Scotland.

DEADLINE: 9 January 2015

MAX GRANT: None given

Link: <http://www.volanttrust.com/guides.html>

ELEPHANT TRUST

This scheme awards grants to artists, small organisations and galleries within the United Kingdom to make it possible for artists and those presenting their work to undertake and complete projects when frustrated by lack of funds.

DEADLINE: 12 January 2015

MAX GRANT: £5,000

Link: <http://www.elephanttrust.org.uk/docs/theguide.html>

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED - MAIN GRANTS PROGRAMME

This scheme distributes grants to not-for-profit organisations that are working with disadvantaged children and young people who are 18 years old and younger living in the UK.

DEADLINE: 15 January 2015

MAX GRANT: £100,000

Link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b008dk4b/features/cin-grants-main-index>

ERASMUS PLUS PROGRAMME – SPORT (2014-2020)

This scheme aims to support European partnerships on grassroots sport in order to tackle cross-border threats to the integrity of sport, promote and support good governance in sport and to promote voluntary activities in sport, together with social inclusion, equal opportunities and awareness of the importance of health-enhancing physical activity, through increased participation in, and equal access to sport for all

DEADLINE: 22 January 2015

MAX GRANT: €500,000

Link: general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org

ANCHOR FOUNDATION

This scheme is open to UK-registered Christian charities for projects that encourage social inclusion through ministries of healing and the arts.

DEADLINE: 31 January 2015

MAX GRANT: £10,000

Link: <http://theanchorfoundation.org.uk/information.html>

HISTORIC BUILDING REPAIR GRANTS SCHEME

This scheme is focussed on the repair and conservation of historic buildings in Scotland assessed as being of outstanding architectural or historic interest. Grants are awarded primarily for urgent repairs that need to be done within two years to prevent loss or damage to important historic fabric.

DEADLINE: 31 January 2015

MAX GRANT: £500,000

Link: <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/grants/building-repair-grants.htm>

MUSEUMS GALLERIES SCOTLAND PURCHASE FUND

This scheme provides assistance for museums in Scotland making small equipment purchases.

DEADLINE: 1 February 2015

MAX GRANT: £600

Link: <http://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/funding/purchase-fund/>

THE CAUSEWAY YOUTH EXCHANGE

This scheme will provide grants for youth groups in Ireland and the UK to participate in educational group exchanges between the two countries.

DEADLINE: 1 February 2015

MAX GRANT: Flexible

Link: <http://www.causewayyouth.org/index.html>

CEMEX COMMUNITY FUND

This scheme makes grants available to provide or improve community facilities in the vicinity of a CEMEX operation or ten miles within the vicinity of another landfill site in England, Scotland or Wales.

DEADLINE: 17 February 2015

MAX GRANT: £15,000

Link: <http://www.cemexcf.org.uk/>

WEIR CHARITABLE TRUST

This scheme awards grants to groups and individuals in Scotland for activities in the categories of Sport; Recreational Facilities; Animal Welfare; Health; and Culture.

DEADLINE: 27 February 2015

MAX GRANT: Flexible

Link: <http://www.weircharitabletrust.com/faq-page>

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND (HLF) - PARKS FOR PEOPLE

This scheme will provide financial assistance for restoration and regeneration projects focussing on public parks and cemeteries in the UK.

DEADLINE: 28 February 2015

MAX GRANT: £ 5,000,000

Link: <http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/parksforpeople.aspx>

INMAN CHARITY

This scheme makes grants available for registered charities in the UK carrying out medical, social welfare or general welfare activities.

DEADLINE: 28 February 2015

MAX GRANT: Flexible

Link: <http://www.inmancharity.org/>