



Grant Funding to Improve Energy Efficiency in County Durham Community Buildings

There are a number of funds that may be appropriate for helping community groups and organisations purchase and install energy efficiency measures for their community building.

This note lists those grant/ loan programmes that may be appropriate for community groups in County Durham.

Please note

- many of the funds listed below will require the energy efficiency works to be included as part of a bigger project that is seeking to refurbish, extend or develop a community building for the use and enjoyment of more members of the local community.
- programmes listed are based on online information provided by the funder at the time the document was produced. They may be subject to change at short notice.

This note has been produced by **Durham County Council's Funding & Programmes' Team**. Please direct any queries or comments to:

Tel. 03000 261894 / 03000 261899

Email: funding@durham.gov.uk

The funds currently available are detailed below as follows:

1. Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants - Capital (buildings) projects (£1,000 - £100,000).....	3
2. Banks Community Fund (up to £5,000).....	4
3. Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation (£1,000 - £20,000+)	5
4. Biffa Awards – Main Grant Scheme (£10,000 - £75,000)	6
5. Clothworkers’ Foundation Open Grants Programme (up to approx.. £25,000)	7
6. County Durham Foundation Community Grants Programme (up to £5,000).....	8
7. Foyle Foundation Main Grants (£10,000 - £75,000+).....	9
8. Garfield Weston Foundation (£1,000 - £30,000)	10
9. Naturesave Trust (£500 - £2,500) – CLOSED FOR REVIEW	11
10. Postcode Neighbourhood Trust (£500 - £20,000)	12
11. Rank Foundation Pebble Grants (£250 - £4,000)	13
12. Reaching Communities England (£10,000+ for up to 5 years).....	14
13. Rothley Trust (£100 - £1,000)	15
14. Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund (£15,000 ave.)	16
15. Sir James Knott Trust (average grants £5,000).....	17
16. Screwfix Foundation (up to £5,000)	18
17. The Theatre Trust’s Theatre Improvement Scheme (up to £20,000).....	19
18. Veolia Environmental Trust Community Grants (£10,000 to £75,000)	20
19. William Leech Charity (grants up to £1,000 & loans up to £10,000).....	21
20. Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund... ..	22
a. East Durham (grants up to £5,000).....	22
b. North Durham (grants up to £2,000 or £5,000 depending on the fund)	22
c. South Durham (grants up to £5,000).....	22
d. West Durham (£2,000 - £5,000)	23
21. 1989 Willan Charitable Trust (£750 - £10,000).....	24

1. Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants - Capital (buildings) projects (£1,000 - £100,000)

Arts Council National Lottery Project Grants is an open-access programme for arts, museums and libraries projects.

The programme can support a wide range of projects, including those seeking up to £100,000 grant to improve buildings for creative or cultural purposes. Such building projects can include replacing fittings such as external windows, external doors, roof ventilators, roof lights, curtain walls or installing services such as heating, hot water, ventilation and lighting. They can also increase the environmental performance of cultural buildings, for example through installing, or retrofitting sustainable technologies, environmental monitoring systems or upgrading existing building fabric to enhance thermal performance.

Who can apply

The capital element of the fund is aimed at art organisations, libraries and museums.

Application process

NB if you are applying for more than £30,000 for a project that includes any building work, you need to seek permission from the Arts Council before applying.

Applications can be submitted at any time.

For applications of £30,000 and under, decisions will be made within 8 weeks. For applications of over £30,000, it will take 12 weeks.

Further information

Can be found at - <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/projectgrants>

2. Banks Community Fund (up to £5,000)

The Banks Community Fund (LCF) supports local community and environmental projects around the geographic areas in which its projects are located. Funding is available for various projects, including building, improving and maintaining community buildings or amenities.

NB to be eligible for a grant, the building must be open to the community, with public access for a minimum of four evenings per week, two days per week or 104 days per year.

Who can apply?

Typically, the grants are available for:

- constituted voluntary-led organisations with charitable aims,
- registered charities
- charitable incorporated organisations (CIO)
- social enterprises
- community interest companies (CIC)
- companies limited by guarantee that have charitable aims

Applicants should consult the [Banks map](#) to ensure their project is located within an area where the Banks Group is currently operating.

When to apply

The deadlines for submitting completed applications are as follows:

- Friday 11th February 2022
- Friday 17th June 2022
- Friday 16th September 2022
- Friday 11th November 2022

Further information

Is available from - <https://www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/grants-for-groups/banks-community-fund/>

3. Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation (£1,000 - £20,000+)

Bernard Sunley offers funding towards capital projects such as new buildings, extensions, refurbishments and recreational spaces. This could include grants towards the building or refurbishment of scout huts, village halls, community centres, youth clubs, boxing clubs, outdoor activity centres, farm and outdoor learning centres, sports centres and pavilions, playing fields and playgrounds.

The preference is to support projects related to the fabric of a building, rather than non-durable items subject to wear and tear such as furniture or appliances.

They offer three levels of grants. These are

- **Large grants (£20,000 and above)**
- **Medium grants (up to £20,000)**
- **Small grants (£5,000 and under)**

Projects must have total costs of between £5,000 and £5M.

Please note that although applicants can indicate how much grant they would like to request, the actual amount awarded is decided by the Foundation. Most grants range from £1,000 to £5,000.

Examples of previously supported projects include:

- Norton Village Hall received a £5,000 grant for heating improvements
- Llangrove Village Hall received £5,000 towards the replacement of windows
- Goathland Community Hub & Sports Pavilion C.I.O was awarded £3,000 towards solar panels
- Sedbergh People's Hall received £5,000 towards a roof replacement
- 22nd Burton-on-Trent (St Mark's) Scout Group received £2,000 towards the re-wiring of the scout hut

Who can apply?

Charities or CIOs (Charitable Incorporated Organisations) registered in England and Wales.

Certain organisations with 'exempt' status which are places of worship, specialist schools, scout and guide groups, hospices, museums, galleries, heritage centres, housing associations and community benefit societies.

Application process

Apply online at the Bernard Sunley website. The process starts with a general eligibility check.

Small grants are agreed by Trustees on a monthly basis. Large and medium grants are considered and agreed upon at Trustees' meetings. The Foundation aims to make a decision on applications within six months.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.bernardsunley.org/index.html>

4. Biffa Awards – Main Grant Scheme (£10,000 - £75,000)

Biffa's Main Grant Scheme awards funding to projects under the themes of 1) Community Buildings, 2) Rebuilding Biodiversity, 3) Recreation and 4) Partnership.

The Community Buildings theme seeks to provide and improve community buildings such as village halls, community centres and church halls to increase the range of services that can be offered to the community and to improve community involvement. Priority is given to projects that enhance, maintain or introduce real community led social, economic or environmental improvements. To be eligible, the building must be open to the public for at least 104 days per year.

Please note that applications for the repair or maintenance of churches must be able to demonstrate wider community benefit.

Examples of eligible project costs that can be funded under the Community Buildings category include building refurbishment and internal fit-out costs, kitchen replacement (including white goods), internal furniture, window and door replacement, central heating systems and roof replacement.

An example of a previously supported project is Chapel FM Arts Centre in East Leeds which was awarded £30,923 to install ground source heating to create zero emissions and reduce the organisation's energy bills.

Please note Biffa Award is unable to fund energy saving or green technology based projects which have a derived income, e.g. solar panels.

Grants are available between £10,000 and £75,000 for eligible projects that have total costs of less than £200,000. Please note that applicants need to find a third party contributor(s) to provide 10% of the grant for which they are applying.

Who can apply?

This fund is aimed at not-for-profit organisations.

To be eligible, projects must be based within 5 miles of a significant Biffa operation or within 10 miles of an active Biffa Landfill site (e.g. East Durham and Durham City are eligible due to their proximity to the Houghton le Spring landfill site).

Application process

The fund follows a 2 stage application process:

1. An **Expression of Interest** can be submitted at any time.
2. If approved, the applicant is then invited to submit a **Full Application** which will be assessed at one of the Board meetings, which are held 4 times a year, i.e. in February, May, July and November.

NB it can take up to 6 months to hear if a project has been successful.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.biffa-award.org/home>

5. Clothworkers' Foundation Open Grants Programme (up to approx.. £25,000)

The Clothworkers' Foundation offers one-off capital grants to improve the lives of people and communities. This can include the purchase, construction, renovation and/or refurbishment of buildings that are used for work around at least one of the following themes: Alcohol & Substance Misuse; People with Disabilities; Disadvantaged Minority Communities; Disadvantaged Young People; Domestic & Sexual Abuse; Older People; Homelessness; Prisoners & Ex-offenders; and Visual Impairment. (At least 50% of service users benefiting from the capital project must be from one or more of those groups).

NB support is not available to arts or education projects unless they work exclusively with people from one of the aforementioned groups.

They fund both large and small projects. The size of grant awarded will depend on a number of factors including the size of your organisation and the cost and scale of your capital project.

An example of a previously supported project is:

The Victoria Centre, a meeting place for the multi-cultural and multi-faith community of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire was awarded a grant of £10,000 in 2011, towards the cost of replacing its 30 year-old boiler, which was declared unsafe and beyond repair.

Without heating they had been forced to cancel sessions for children and elderly residents, and it was proving impossible for the facility to remain open during winter months. The Centre now has an energy efficient heating system, which benefits staff and over 1000 local people each week.

Who can apply?

The Foundation can support UK charities that are registered with Charity Commission including CIO; Companies Limited by Guarantee without capital share (CIC); and charities exempt from HMRC Tax.

It will not fund religious institutions unless the project is open to all and does not involve the advancement of faith.

NB Village Halls or community centres/ hubs cannot be supported unless they are operating in an area of high deprivation (according to the current Indices of Deprivation)

Application process

Applications can be submitted online at any time.

Applicants need to pass an online eligibility quiz before submitting the online application form.

Decisions on smaller grants (less than £10,000) are normally made within eight weeks, and on larger grants (more than £10,000) within six months.

Further information

Can be found at - <https://www.clothworkersfoundation.org.uk/what-we-fund/#open>.

6. County Durham Foundation Community Grants Programme (up to £5,000)

The County Durham Community Foundation administers a variety of grants on behalf of a range of funders, including the Banks Funds and the Wind Farm Community Benefit Funds which are listed separately.

The general aim of the Community Grants Programme is to support projects and activities that will provide clear benefits for the local community.

It offers grants of between £1,001 and £5,000 to established charities, voluntary-led organisations and projects that have potential to make an incredible impact in their community.

In the light of COVID-19, the Fund guidelines have been changed to be more flexible to support communities and organisations facing the sizeable challenges ahead. The Fund's aim is to give opportunities for development and growth but prioritise work that sustains the health, wellbeing, and opportunities of local communities.

Who can apply?

Any suitably constituted not-for-profit group can apply for funding (applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply). This includes:

- Voluntary led organisations with charitable aims
- Registered charities and charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs)
- Social enterprises
- Community interest companies (CICs)

Applications can be submitted online at any time. They are generally assessed within 8 weeks.

Further information

Is available at - <http://www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant>.

7. Foyle Foundation Main Grants (£10,000 - £75,000+)

Aims to support charities with an Arts or Learning focus. The majority of Main Grants are expected to be in the range of £10,000 to £50,000 for revenue projects but building projects may request £75,000 or more.

Current funding priorities include projects/proposals that help reduce fixed or variable costs to promote efficiency savings, or which enable the generation of higher income, or additional revenue streams. They also welcome projects that promote environmental efficiency and reduce your carbon footprint or energy costs.

Please note that for capital projects, they do not fund feasibility studies and if RIBA stages apply, you must have reached at least RIBA Stage 3 before applying. If you wish to request £75,000 or more for a building project, you must submit an enquiry form prior to commencing a full application.

Who can apply

Arts or Learning charities, generally with an annual turnover exceeding £150,000 per annum can apply. NB applicants must be able to demonstrate ongoing financial viability over the next 12 months.

Application process

There are no set deadlines, so applications can be submitted at any time. Decisions are normally made within 4 months.

Please note that capital projects seeking £75,000 or more are only considered these twice a year.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/how-to-apply/>

8. Garfield Weston Foundation (£1,000 - £30,000)

The Foundation can support a wide range of projects led by organisations committed to making a positive impact to the lives of the communities in which they work. This can include capital grants for the restoration of village halls and community centres. They are particularly interested in the environmental impact of such capital projects.

Although the general rule for Capital projects is to apply for **up to 10% of the total costs**, for Capital projects that benefit local communities (e.g. repairs and refurbishments of village halls, community centres, places of worship, schools etc) they will typically receive **under £30,000** regardless of project size.

The Trustees expect that you have raised approximately half of the costs before applying and can demonstrate significant local fundraising as this shows that the project is valued by the community.

Grants are generally provided for one year.

Who can apply?

Organisations eligible to apply include: UK registered charities, Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs) and churches.

The Foundation is unlikely to fund organisations such as social enterprises or Community Interest Companies (CICs).

Application process

Applications can be submitted either online or via the post at any time. Full information can be found on the website. Decisions are normally made within 4 months.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.garfieldweston.org/>

9. Naturesave Trust (£500 - £2,500) – **CLOSED FOR REVIEW**

Grants are awarded for UK based environmental projects from between £500 and £5,000, covering nature conservation, renewable energy and help to create more sustainable communities. Grants follow a theme which will be announced when the funding window opens.

Examples of previously supported projects include:

- Mayflower Theatre received funding to install LED lighting, which reduced its carbon emissions by 90%
- Pentredwr Community Centre received £500 towards the cost of installing solar panels on the community centre.
- Sutton Community Farm received funding to support the purchase of an electric van, to help with a vegbox scheme at this community space.
- Killington & District Sustainable Energy received early stage funding for a community hydro project.

Who can apply?

Community groups and companies seeking funding for specific renewable energy projects.

NB schools and educational establishments are no longer eligible to apply.

Application process

The Naturesave Trust is currently CLOSED while they review the programme. Details on the next funding window will be announced in due course on their website.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.naturesave.co.uk/the-naturesave-trust/>

10. Postcode Neighbourhood Trust (£500 - £20,000)

The Postcode Neighbourhood Trust is a grant-giving body funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery. It provides funding for smaller charities and good causes in the North of England. One of its priority themes is “responding to the climate emergency and promoting sustainability”.

NB the Trust does not support building renovations or general refurbishments.

Projects should be delivered within an 18 month period.

Who can apply

Registered charities, CICs and charitable community benefit societies can apply from £500 - £25,000

Other constituted not for profit organisations may apply for up to £2,500 for community based projects.

Application process

Organisations may apply using the online application form which will be available for each funding round. (A copy of the questions can be downloaded in advance).

Funding rounds open at 9 a.m. on the first working day of each month from February to October.

Please note that they only accept a limited number of applications per round so early application is essential.

Further information

Can be found at - <https://www.postcodeneighbourhoodtrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant>

11. Rank Foundation Pebble Grants (£250 - £4,000)

This programme is aimed at UK registered charities and recognised churches that are raising money for projects where the total cost is less than £150,000. Projects must benefit the wider community. The grant can be spent on equipment or capital costs such as refurbishment or minor building work. (Minor building work is defined as work that does not require planning permission. The building of new foundations, walls or roofing is not eligible).

Who can apply

Smaller UK registered charities and recognised churches with an annual income of less than £500,000 can apply.

Application Process

Pebble grant applications are processed on a quarterly basis. It can take up to 4 months for a decision and payment to be made.

Grants are awarded on a discretionary basis, depending on the total cost of the project.

NB applicants must have already raised a third of the total project costs prior to applying to this fund.

Further information

Can be found at - <https://rankfoundation.com/pebble-grants/>

12. Reaching Communities England (£10,000+ for up to 5 years)

The National Lottery Community Fund's Reaching Communities Programme supports organisations who want to take action on issues that matter to people and communities, and have ideas that enable communities to thrive.

Projects must address one or more of the following funding priorities:

- Bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities
- Improving the places and spaces that matter to communities
- Enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.

NB they are currently particularly keen to support people and communities most adversely impacted by Covid-19.

The programme can fund project activities, operating costs, organisational development and capital costs.

Grants are available from £10,000 upwards and funding can last for up to 5 years.

Who can apply?

Applicants can be a:

- voluntary and community organisation
- registered charity or charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
- group of organisations, as long as they are led by a voluntary and community organisation
- school
- statutory body (including *local authorities*, town, parish or community council)
- not for profit company including companies limited by guarantee and Community Interest Companies with two or more directors

Projects must be designed for and by the community.

Application process

The programme follows a two-stage application process. In the first instance, applicants need to submit a brief outline of their project. This can be done using the online form, by email, or by sending the funder a video. If the project idea is accepted, the applicant will then be invited to submit a full proposal.

Further information

Can be found at -

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/reaching-communities-england#section-1>

13. Rothley Trust (£100 - £1,000)

The Rothley Trust gives small grants to assist groups with charitable work in the North East. It focuses on the needs of children and young people in areas of disadvantage and also supports community development and those groups which help people with disabilities.

The trust can help small charities and voluntary groups operating in the North East to reduce their energy bills and offers grants of £100 – £1,000 for small energy saving items such as roof insulation, radiator thermostats, blinds and curtains, energy efficient equipment, double glazing, timer switches etc.

Grants are generally made for specific projects such as the purchase of equipment or the provision, refurbishment or repair of premises but the trust will **not** fund large projects such as solar panels and wind turbines.

Who can apply?

Registered charities, community interest companies and voluntary groups in Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham and Cleveland are eligible to apply.

(NB voluntary groups must be properly constituted and must find a registered charity to act as a cheque handler).

Priority is given to organisations operating in disadvantaged areas and dealing with needs of people who have difficulties or disabilities. Also local community groups at grass roots level who require support.

How to apply

Applications should be made by submitting an appeal letter, preferably via email. The website sets out what information this letter needs to include. As a guide two sides of A4 should be sufficient.

Grants are awarded at quarterly meetings in February, May, August and November. The deadlines for submitting applications are normally the month prior to these grant meetings.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.rothleytrust.org.uk/>

14. Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund (£15,000 ave.)

A £700,000 DEFRA fund run by ACRE can help community groups renovate, refurbish and construct rural buildings such as village halls, church halls and community centres. This can include activities to improve energy efficiency, for example improving a building's insulation, adding photo-voltaic panels, ground source heat pumps, air source heat pumps, sensor and timer switches on lights and heaters, energy saving lights and water saving taps.

The average size for a loan is normally £15,000 and projects must show that they can attract some local funding or other funding sources.

The loans, plus interest, are repaid using a straightforward, flexible payment system over a period of 5 to 8 years.

Approximately 10-14 new loans are approved each year.

Who can apply?

Community groups responsible for community buildings in rural England.

How to apply

Potential applicants need to contact ACRE for further information on and to start the application process.

(The Durham contact for ACRE is Kate Burrows at Durham Community Action – Tel. 01388 742040, Email kate.burrows@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk)

Further information

Can be found at - <https://acre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Rural-Community-Buildings-Loan-Fund-Leaflet-2022.pdf>

15. **Sir James Knott Trust (average grants £5,000)**

The aim of Sir James Knott Trust is to help improve the conditions of people living and working in the North East of England. Funding is available for a wide range of projects, including those addressing community issues and events. The Trust particularly welcomes projects relating to military and maritime organisations, youth clubs, and projects that can help the elderly, education and training.

A typical grant awarded towards upgrading a community hall would be £5,000.

The Trust offers funding as a contribution towards total project costs (it does not offer 100% funding).

An example of a previously supported project within the Community Issues theme is as follows:

WW1 Memorial Hall in Boulmer - the Trust awarded a grant of £5,000 to help with the costs of a major renovation project. The hall, a former First World War barrack hut, was very difficult to keep warm and the exterior of the building had become unsightly. The villagers came together to make the project happen and the hall is now '*very warm and cozy and no longer an eyesore.*'

A number of community buildings have also been awarded small grants (£1,000 - £2,500) to install solar or photovoltaic panels to generate their own electricity and help reduce their utility bills.

Who can apply?

Grants are normally made to charities, community groups and social enterprises that can demonstrate that their aims have identifiable public benefit and that they operate in, or for the benefit of Tyne and Wear, Northumberland and County Durham including Hartlepool.

Most charitable organisations are eligible to apply, however the Trust can only make payments to registered charities.

Application process

Apply online. Applications for funding under £1,000 can be submitted at any time and are normally processed within 6 weeks.

For larger grants, Trustees meet 3 times a year to consider applications, usually in spring, summer and autumn. Applications over £10,000 normally require a visit from an assessor or a member of Trust staff team. It is advisable to allow 3-4 months for your application to be processed.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://knott-trust.co.uk/>.

16. Screwfix Foundation (up to £5,000)

The Screwfix Foundation accepts applications from charities and not for profit organisations for projects that will fix, repair, maintain and improve the properties and community facilities of those in need by reason of financial hardship, sickness, disability, distress or other disadvantage throughout the UK.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for all kinds of projects, from repairing buildings and improving facilities in deprived areas, to decorating the homes of people living with sickness and disabilities.

Who can apply

To be eligible, an organisation MUST:

- Be a registered Charity or Not for Profit organisation
- Help those in need. This could be by reason of financial hardship, sickness, distress or other disadvantages in the UK
- Be looking for funding to support projects that relate to the repair, maintenance, improvement or construction of homes, community buildings and other buildings.

How to apply

Applications can be made at any time using the online form. They will be reviewed on a quarterly basis, i.e. in March, June, September and December.

Further information

Can be found at <https://www.screwfix.com/help/screwfixfoundation/>

17. The Theatre Trust's Theatre Improvement Scheme (up to £20,000)

The Theatre Improvement Scheme currently offers grants up to £20,000 for theatre operators to improve the environmental sustainability of their theatres. Funding can support a range of projects that consider different ways theatre buildings can reduce their environmental impact. This might range from building management systems to more efficient water heaters, or a green roof to new windows.

Initially running from 2018 to 2020, Wolfson renewed its funding for this scheme which will now run in 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Projects funded in the 2021 round included installing secondary glazing, fitting solar panels, replacing inefficient building management services and heating systems, and upgrading lighting to energy efficient LEDs.

Who can apply?

The scheme is open to theatre operators who can demonstrate that they:

- own or manage theatres with titles or signed leases of more than 5 years on buildings in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- run a year-round programme of live performance, of no less than 30 performances a year
- have a bona fide UK charitable or not-for-profit legal structure and be able to provide certified or audited accounts for at least two years
- operate theatres that achieve excellence through their producing and programming or architectural significance

How to apply?

The funding is being made available through the Theatres Trust in partnership with the Wolfson Foundation. A copy of the application form is available online. It should be completed and submitted by email to grants@theatrust.org.uk.

The 2022 funding round is now open for applications, with a deadline of noon on **6th September 2022**.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.theatrust.org.uk/how-we-help/grants-funding/theatre-improvement-scheme>

18. Veolia Environmental Trust Community Grants (£10,000 to £75,000)

The Veolia Environmental Trust is a Distributive Environmental Body that awards grants as part of the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) to create or improve community facilities or outside spaces for the benefit of the community.

The type of activities that can be supported include community buildings and rooms, such as: Community centres, Village halls, Community spaces within religious buildings, and Scout or Girl guiding buildings, Sports pavilions or changing rooms. (NB the building/ community space must be available for everyone to use on a daily basis).

For example, the programme has previously supported community centre refurbishments that have involved improving the lighting; rewiring; installing energy-efficiency radiators; replacing wooden framed, singled glazed windows with PVC, double glazed ones; and installing a new, more efficient boiler.

NB the programme will **NOT** fund renewable energy projects that have potential to generate income, e.g. solar panels.

The maximum grant is £75,000 for projects with a total cost up to £250,000 (including VAT and professional costs). Projects need to have already secured at least 10% of the total cost in cash before submitting their Stage 1 bid.

Who can apply?

Constituted, not-for-profit organisations and local authorities within the vicinity of a qualifying Veolia site can apply – e.g. there is a qualifying site at Ferryhill. There is a postcode checker on the website for applicants to check if they are within the catchment area.

Application process

To apply for a grant, you will need to complete an online application form.

There are normally four funding calls issued per year. The exact dates can be found on the Veolia Trust website.

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.veoliatrust.org/funding/>

19. William Leech Charity (grants up to £1,000 & loans up to £10,000)

The mission statement for the William Leech Charity is *“To encourage the improvement of the physical, mental, spiritual and economic quality of life for people in the North East of England through the support of charitable organisations which aspire to high ethical standards and to the highest standards in their field.”*

Grants up to £1,000, and loans up to £10,000 can be provided for a wide range of capital or revenue projects.

Who can apply?

Applications are only accepted from registered charities, normally for projects to be delivered in the counties of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and Durham.

Application process

Applications should be submitted online using the ‘Apply Now’ link on the website. (Applications will no longer be accepted by post).

Further information

Can be found at - <http://www.williamleechcharity.org.uk/>

20. Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund...

Community groups and projects can apply for grants for capital items, improvements to community buildings, biodiversity and habitat conservation projects, energy conservation and community based or led projects. This can range from projects to improve public amenities e.g. community halls, sports facilities to energy efficiency or renewable energy projects.

The fund is geographically focused, as follows:

a. East Durham (grants up to £5,000)

This programme comprises of:

- **RWE - Haswell Moor Wind Farm** (offers grants to projects in Easington Lane, Haswell, Haswell Plough, High Pittington, Littletown, Low Pittington, Ludworth, Cassop, Old Cassop, Shadforth, Sherburn Village, Sherburn Hill, Thornley and Wheatley Hill).
- **RWE - Great Eppleton Wind Farm** (supports projects in Chilton Moor, Colliery Row, Easington Lane, Grasswell, Hetton, Houghton-le-Spring, Littletown, Rainton/Rainton East/Middle/Gate, Murton, South Hetton, Seaton, Sunnyside and Warden Law) – **DUE TO RE-OPEN IN SUMMER 2022**
- **South Sharpley Community Benefits Fund** (operates in Dalton-le-Dale, Easington Lane, Hetton-le-Hole, Houghton-le-Spring, Murton, Silksworth, Seaham Grange and Seaton) – **DUE TO RE-OPEN IN SUMMER 2022**
- **High Haswell Community Benefits Fund** (covers Haswell, Ludworth, Shadforth, Shotton Colliery, South Hetton, Thornley, Wheatley Hill)

b. North Durham (grants up to £2,000 or £5,000 depending on the fund)

This programme covers the following funds:

- **EDFE - Langley Wind Farm** (offers grants up to £2,000 for projects in Craghead, Edmondsley, Esh, Grange Villa, Greencroft, Hartside, Hett Hills, Holmside, Lanchester, Langley Park, Maiden Law, Pelton Fell, Plawsworth, Quebec, Sacriston, South Moor, Tan Hills, The Middles, Walldridge and Witton Gilbert)
- **EDFE - Boundary Lane Wind Farm** (offers grants up to £5,000 for projects at Snods Edge, Chopwell, Shotley Bridge and Stocksfield)

c. South Durham (grants up to £5,000)

This programme is comprised of the following funds:

- **EDFE - Trimdon Grange Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund** (grants available for projects in Bishop Middleham, Cassop, Cornforth, Coxhoe, Fishburn, Kelloe, Old Cassop, Old Quarrington,

Quarrington Hill, Running Waters, Shadforth, Station Town, Thornley, Trimdon & Trimdon Colliery/Grange/Station, Wheatley Hill or Wingate)

- **EDFE - Walkway Wind Farm Fund** (supports projects in Sedgfield, Trimdon, Fishburn or Wynyard)
- **RWE - Butterwick Moor Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund** (grants available for projects in Fishburn, Thorpe Larches, Trimdon, Trimdon Station, Sedgfield or Winterton)

d. West Durham (£2,000 - £5,000)

This programme includes the following funds:

- **ESB West Durham Wind Farm** (grants up to £5,000 available for projects in Cornsay, Cornsay Colliery, Hamsteels, East Hedleyhope and Satley).
- **EDFE High Hedley Hope II Wind Farm** (grants up to £2,000 for projects in Cornsay, East HedleyHope, Esh, Esh Winning, Roddymoor, Satley, Sunnyside, Tow Law and Waterhouses)
- **EDFE Broom Hill Wind Farm** (grants up to £2,000 for projects in Billy Row, Cornsay Colliery, Crook, East Hedleyhope, Esh Winning, Fir Tree, Hedley Hill, Oakenshaw, Roddymoor, Stanley, Sunnyside and Thornley).

Who can apply

This fund is open to charities, voluntary, community groups, town and parish councils, schools and educational establishments, social enterprises (including credit unions, co-operatives, social firms, and community owned enterprises, community interest companies and development trusts) provided they operate on a not-for-profit basis and have projects that support communities in areas or villages, generally within a 3 mile radius of the eligible wind farm.

How to Apply

Register to receive the online application form via the County Durham Foundation [Wind Farm Programme webpage](#).

You can register at any time. Decisions are normally made within twelve weeks of you submitting your full application form.

Further information

Can be found at - <https://www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/grants-for-groups/wind-farm-community-benefit-programme/>

21. 1989 Willan Charitable Trust (£750 - £10,000)

The trust offers support to projects seeking to ease social deprivation and/ or enrich the fabric of the local community and the quality of life of individuals within that community. Grants are available to support organisations' core costs, as well as discreet projects, equipment or capital developments. This can include projects that meet the needs of communities experiencing high levels of deprivation, and projects that will assist local communities affected by crime and anti-social behaviour. The grants generally range from £750 to £10,000.

Who can apply?

Applications are welcomed from registered charities based in, or benefitting, residents of Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, County Durham and Teesside. Priority is given to those which ease social deprivation and/or enrich the fabric of the local community and the quality of life of individuals within that community.

Community and voluntary groups that are not able to register as charities may apply for a Willan grant. However such applications must include a letter of support from a suitable registered charity (e.g. a local CVS) which is willing to hold the grant on their behalf.

Application process

Applications should be submitted online via the funder's website.

The trustees meet in March, June, September and December to consider applications.

Further information

Can be found at - https://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/group_grant/the-1989-willan-charitable-trust/