

Funding Guide 8

Identifying Potential Funders

TOOL



The National Lottery

For every £1 that the public spends on Lottery tickets, 28p goes to the Lottery 'Good Causes.' These are the arts, charities and voluntary groups, heritage, health, education, the environment and sports. Lottery funders are independent organisations that distribute the 'Good Causes' money to local communities and national projects.

For England, the distributors of Lottery money are:

- Arts Council England
- Big Lottery Fund
- Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)
- NESTA (the National Endowment for Science, Technology & the Arts)
- Sport England
- UK Film Council
- UK Sport

The website www.lotteryfunding.org.uk points you to the individual sites of each of these.

The Ethical Aspect of Applying for Lottery Money

Some parishes may question whether they should have anything to do with the National Lottery. Each parish is free to make its own decision.

The policy agreed nationally in 1995 by the House of Bishops is as follows:

"Throughout the debate on the establishment of the National Lottery, the Church of England, along with other churches, has made known its reservations. We accept freely our own financial responsibility in worship, witness, evangelism and pastoral care, and see no basis on which Lottery money should be used by the Church in these areas.

"However, it is clearly the Government's intention that the Church's heritage responsibilities should attract grants from public funds made available through the Lottery.

"Sometimes the Church resists proposed changes in our society, but when the decision is made we have to live with it. In this instance we recognise that the Government has made it clear that the Lottery is the way it will increasingly fund heritage and charitable and other matters.

"The decision whether or not to apply for such help is a matter for the responsible body in each case."

It should be noted that whilst lottery providers will not provide money for worship, witness, evangelism or pastoral care, many will fund the additional work of the parish, such as community activities or heritage conservation and learning.

Heritage Projects

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has three main outcomes - Heritage, People and Communities. All HLF projects must have opportunities targeting two or all three of these outcomes:

Outcomes for Heritage

- Better managed
- in better condition
- Better interpreted and explained
- Identified / recorded

Outcomes for People

- Developed skills
- Learnt about heritage
- Changed their attitudes and/or behaviour

- Had an enjoyable experience
- Volunteered time

Outcomes for Communities

- Environmental impacts will be reduced
- More people and a wider range of people will have engaged with heritage
- Your local area/community will be a better place to live, work or visit
- Your local economy will be boosted
- Your organisation will be more resilient

The HLF has a number of heritage funding programmes available:

1) Start Up Grants

Start-up grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 can support the early stages of planning your activities. If you are not yet formally constituted, a Start-up grant can help you to adopt the right governance structure for your organisation. If you are further along in your development, a Start-up grant can also help you to explore options for managing and sustaining your heritage in the future, or carrying out early scoping work to inform a future application for project funding.

2) Sharing Heritage

Small grants of between £3,000 and £100,000 are available to projects which help the HLF meet its three aims. The key aspect is heritage learning, although they will fund changes to a church building, such as the addition of toilets/kitchens/community rooms if this will enable heritage education and engagement to take place.

3) Heritage Grants

This programme is similar to Sharing Heritage, but gives grants of £100,000 and above. Typically the larger the grant, the more in-depth and detailed the heritage education programme needs to be, and the more of the programmes outcomes need to be met.

4) Grants for Listed Places of Worship

The Grants for Places of Worship programme is for projects that involve urgent structural repairs to places of worship that are at risk. As part of a repair project we can also fund work to encourage greater community use and engagement. You can apply for a grant from £10,000 to £250,000.

5) Targeted Programmes

The HLF also has 'targeted programmes' to support particular themes such as young people and heritage, townscapes, landscapes and heritage skills. These are typically open for a limited time and change periodically so it is worth keeping an eye on the website.

For further information on all of these schemes, please go to www.hlf.org.uk

Community Projects

The Big Lottery Fund is the main funder of church based community projects and has a number of funding streams, the most relevant of these are:

1) Awards for All

Small grants of up to £10,000 are available to support small scale community projects. These grants are for a range of projects and will cover both revenue (on-going) costs and capital (one off) costs. It should be noted that they will not contribute towards building projects where the total project cost is more than £25,000. Further information is available at www.awardsforall.org.uk or tel: 0845 410 20 30.

2) Reaching Communities

The Reaching Communities programme target community projects. Funding is available for revenue funding of up to five years and £500,000 and capital for up to £50,000 towards a cost of not more than £200,000. This is an open programme with a two stage application process – churches are eligible to apply as long as the project is genuinely open to the whole community and the beneficiaries are not limited to the church. All projects must be able to meet one of the following aims:

- People having better chances in life, including being able to get better access to training and development to improve their life skills.

- Strong communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems.
- Improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy.
- Healthier and more active people and communities.

3) Reaching Communities, Community Buildings

Very similar to the main Reaching Communities Fund, this gives grants of between £100,000 and £500,000 towards community buildings however funding is restricted to the most deprived communities. You should check eligibility carefully using the online eligibility checker. Further information on these programmes, and other programmes targeting specific communities and parks, along with the Reaching Communities eligibility checker are available at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Volunteers

The Heritage Lottery Fund has issued guidance on the costing of the value of voluntary input into projects, when assessing the contribution from these sources as partnership funding for lottery applications. It suggests: professional services = up to £350 a day, skilled labour = £150 a day and unskilled labour = £50 a day. The Big Lottery Fund does not put a financial value on volunteers' time. Where there is in kind support this should be noted in the application form and Big Lottery fund will look at funding volunteer expenses under the programme.

Find out how to Apply

All the lottery funders have excellent websites with much more detailed information specific to your area. Many local infrastructure organisations such as your local Council for Voluntary Service will have officers who know and understand the lottery process and will be able to provide support for churches finding their way through. The Heritage Lottery Fund has a network of Development Officers available to help develop project ideas. It is a good idea to talk to these people before you get too far with planning the detail of your project.