



## FUNDING GUIDE 11: 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 and the Arts)
- Sport England
- UK Film Council
- UK Sport.

The website [www.lotteryfunding.org.uk](http://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.

## **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:

### **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 (ongoing) 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](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk) or tel: 0845 4 10 20 30

### **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

### **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](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk).

## **Heritage Projects:**

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has three main outcomes – Learning, Conservation and Participation. All HLF projects must provide opportunities for heritage learning; they must also promote conservation, participation, or combination of the two, alongside this. The HLF has a number of funding areas – the most relevant are:

### **Your Heritage**

Small grants of between £5,000 and £100,000 are available to projects which help the HLF meet its three aims. The key thing 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 learning to take place.

## **Heritage Grants**

As above, but for grants above £100,000 – typically the larger the grant the more in-depth and detailed the heritage learning programme needs to be, and the more of their outcomes need to be met.

## **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.

Changes to the '**Repair Grants for Places of Worship**' will see it being brought under the auspices of the Heritage Lottery Fund from December 2012 (they have been funding it for some years). The EH scheme will remain open for Grade II listed building applications until September 2012 only. The new HLF Places of Worship targeted programme will not only fund urgent repairs but will also seek to make buildings more sustainable by increasing their community use and engagement.

For further information on all of these schemes, please go to [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk).

## **Arts Projects:**

The Arts Council offers some grants to support activities which engage people with the arts. They have two funding streams, one for those under £10,000 and those for above £10,000. Further information is available on [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk).

## **Sports Projects:**

Sport England runs a small grants programme to enable people to take part and progress in their chosen sport and to create more opportunities for disabled people to get involved in sport. Grants are available for between £500-£10,000 for projects costing not more than £50,000. There are also some grants available to create inspired sports facilities for grassroots sports. Further information on both these schemes is available at [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org).

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. Likewise 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.

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These Funding Guides have been developed by a "Good Practice" group of the National Stewardship Committee of the Church of England and are intended to support your church's fundraising. They are available on-line at [www.parishresources.org.uk/funding](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/funding) or at [www.churchcare.org.uk/funding.php](http://www.churchcare.org.uk/funding.php)