



Funders providing support in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic – Phase 2

September 2020

This report outlines some of the funders that currently have funding programmes open to support organisations during this second phase of the coronavirus pandemic. We have prioritised funders with a track record of supporting museums and cultural organisations. We have also provided an overview of the coronavirus-related funding rounds being run by the six Community Foundations across the East of England.

Foyle Foundation – <http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/>

The Foyle Foundation has two main areas of interest: Arts and Learning. Traditionally, support for museums, libraries and archives has fallen under the Learning heading. Their arts programme focuses on visual and performing arts.

Having temporarily suspended their grant giving at the start of lockdown, the Foyle Foundation reopened for applications on 15 July. Within their revised guidelines, the Foundation says:

1. Our focus will change to make one-year grants only (no multi-year grants) to charities **that can demonstrate ongoing financial stability for the next 12 months** from the date of their application.
2. They provide more grants to cover core costs, **favouring those with no, or without significant, public funding.**
3. They will provide **grants to cover essential equipment or re-equipping** to enable ongoing service provision, homeworking, delivery of on-line digital services and education work.
4. Grants to enable minor works, or fund equipment, to **enable social distancing within buildings.**
5. Projects/schemes that employ or support skilled freelance and independent artists and practitioners.
6. 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. This can include environmental efficiency projects to reduce your carbon footprint, energy costs, or which improve internal air circulation systems to improve safety for visitors.
7. Occasionally, to consider additional support (by exception) for existing building project already supported and underway, as costs will have increased during lockdown and site closures and where this will prevent the wipe-out of reserves. (Please discuss your situation with The Foundation before applying).

It is important to note that the Foundation has suspended its Capital Projects programme until July 2021.

Garfield Weston Foundation - <https://garfieldweston.org/>

The Garfield Weston Foundation has continued to provide funding under its normal guidance. For museums, this means “supporting organisations that conserve and interpret our nation’s heritage for future generations, ensuring it is accessible and available to all”. The Foundation will support both project costs and core costs but won’t support specific individual roles. This includes offering resilience funding for core costs as well as planning longer-term strategic projects.

On 9th September the Foundation announced it would be launching a £25million fund to support mid to large-scale cultural organisations. The Weston Culture Fund will provide grants to “help them restart work, re-engage with audiences, adapt to changed circumstances and generate revenue”. Mid to large-scale is defined as being charitable organisations with a regular income before Covid of £500,000 or more. The Foundation has confirmed that organisations with pre-Covid income of less than £500,000 will still be able to apply for regular grants under the Foundation’s normal funding programmes.

The Weston Culture Fund is due to launch on 5th October 2020. The deadline for applications is 9th November with decisions announced by the end of January 2021.

The Wolfson Foundation - <https://www.wolfson.org.uk/>

The Wolfson Foundation traditionally provides capital funding for arts and heritage organisations. As a result of coronavirus it has paused its capital funding programmes until 2021.

In place of the capital funding programmes, The Wolfson Foundation announced a £10million Covid-19 Support Fund, with unrestricted grants available for organisations working in the heritage and arts sector, as well as in health and disability. This unrestricted funding can be used by organisations where they need it most.

The Covid-19 Support Fund is only available to organisations that have received a grant from The Wolfson Foundation in the past few years. Invitations to apply were sent to eligible organisations on Friday 21st August.

Historic England – Grants for Programmes of Major Works - <https://historicengland.org.uk/coronavirus/funding/major-works/>

Historic England have put in place a £34million fund to support repair and restoration work that has been impacted by coronavirus. It is important to note that this is not for new projects, with most funding expected to go to projects that had started prior to Covid that were

delayed as a result of the pandemic, or that have come under risk due to the uncertainty of available funding.

Grants between £1million and £10million are available for “national organisations that manage a portfolio of nationally important designated heritage assets that are open to the public”.

Applications opened on 14th August. There is no stated deadline for applications. However, the guidance says that they will be processing applications quickly to try and enable work to start on-site as quickly as possible.

Heritage Fund – Green Recovery Challenge Fund -
<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/news/governments-ps40million-green-recovery-challenge-fund-opens-applications>

This fund is available to environmental charities and partnerships (which must include at least one environmental charity) delivering projects that contribute to one or more of the following themes:

- Nature conservation and restoration
- nature based solutions, particularly focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation such as through tree planting and restoring peatland
- connecting people with nature

The fund guidance say that “Projects will be favoured that create or retain jobs, providing opportunities and benefits for all ages, including young people. Projects from both rural, urban and inshore marine areas are welcomed”.

Grants of £50,000 to £5million are available through this fund. Examples of the type of work that could be funded are listed on the Heritage Fund website.

The deadline for grants of up to £250,000 is midday on 2nd October. For grants of over £250,000 an expression of interest should be submitted by 24th September.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation - <https://www.phf.org.uk/>

Having paused their grant-giving during lockdown, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation has announced that funds will reopen in late October. While details are still sparse, the Foundation has said that the previous “Explore and Test” and “More and Better” programmes will be replaced with a single fund. Through this they are aiming to continue providing “quicker decisions, more flexibility and better responsiveness to applicants”.

The broader categories of Shared Ground, Arts-based learning and Arts Access and Participation look set to continue. Within these areas the Foundation says “Applicants will tell us about the kind of support they need in the context of our priorities for these Funds –

from the underpinning or re-design of programmes to support for their core operations. These grants will range from 18 months to four years and will be up to £400,000”.

Other expected changes include:

- A simpler, more accessible application process
- More emphasis on pre-application conversations so as not to waste the time of applicants if their work is not a fit
- A renewed focus on social justice and tackling inequality
- A keenness to connect with organisations they have not previously funded

Art Fund – Respond and Reimagine Grants -

<https://www.artfund.org/supporting-museums/programmes/respond-and-reimagine-grants>

The Art Fund has created a new fund to support museums, galleries and cultural organisations to respond to the immediate challenges as a result of Covid-19.

Grants of £10,000 to £50,000 are available across two strands:

- **Responding to now** – costs associated with the museum’s current position. This could include costs to help reopen or for planning for the future. This appears to be unrestricted/core funding, with ArtFund asking organisations to tell them what support will be most helpful.
- **Reimagining the next** – support for developing ideas that will help organisations to adapt for the future. This enables organisations to take a risk and “dare to try something different” without the fear of failure.

The next deadline is 5.30pm on Monday 12 October, with decisions expected by 9 November. This is the third round for this fund and is currently the last round being advertised.

In addition, Art Fund have their normal grant programmes open. This includes:

- **Small Project Grants** – Grants of up to £10,000 to help organisations “act on good ideas and test new ways of working that will benefit their audiences”
- **Professional Network Grants** – small grants of up to £5,000, or large grants of £5,000 to £15,000 “to support Subject Specialist Networks and other curatorial and professional networks to share expertise across the sector, for the benefit of collections and audiences”.
- **Acquisition Grants** – Grants to support the acquisition of works of art and other objects of artistic interest, deemed to be of regional, national and international importance

Association of Independent Museums – Collections Care and Conservation Grants - <https://www.aim-museums.co.uk/for-aim-members/grants/collections-care-conservation-grants/>

This scheme is delivered in partnership between the Association of Independent Museums and the Pilgrim Trust. It is aimed at small and medium-sized museums to help them care for their collections to the standard required for accreditation.

There are three strands to this funding programme:

- **Collections Care Audits** – Grants of up to £,100 (plus travel and VAT) are available for small museums to carry out a basic (three-day) collections care audit to identify “key collection care issues and priorities”.
- **Collections Care Scheme** – Grants of up to £10,000 available for museums with under 50,000 visitors a year, or turnover under £300,000 to “develop a more sustainable approach to the conservation and management of collections through improvements to collection care”. Funding can be used to get external advice, buy equipment and to provide staff and volunteer training.
- **Remedial Conservation Scheme** - Grants of up to £10,000 available for museums with under 50,000 visitors a year, or turnover under £300,000 to conserve objects that are part of their permanent collection. These don’t have to be the objects at most risk in your collection but AIM does expect museums to have a conservation plan for these selected items.

Further guidance and application forms can be downloaded from the website. They also recommend contacting the AIM Programme and Finance Officer prior to applying (contact details on the website).

The next deadline for applications is 30th September 2020.

Local Community Foundations

[Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation](https://www.blcf.org.uk/) - <https://www.blcf.org.uk/>

The deadline for the second phase of Covid-19 funding was 4th September. Other funding programmes are open, depending on where in the county your organisation is based.

[Cambridgeshire Community Foundation](https://www.cambscf.org.uk/home.html) - <https://www.cambscf.org.uk/home.html>

The Cambridgeshire Community Foundation currently has 20 open grant programmes with a deadline of 1st November 2020. These range in size, area of interest and geographic preference. For the updated list of open grant programmes, visit <https://www.cambscf.org.uk/funds-a-z.html>.

The Cambridgeshire Coronavirus Community Fund -
(<https://www.cambscf.org.uk/cambridgeshire-coronavirus-community-fund.html>)

The Coronavirus Community Fund currently has two strands:

- ⊗ **Recovery funds**
- ⊗ **Emergency funds**

Recovery Funds provide grants of £10,000 to £25,000 to “support organisations that are helping the most vulnerable communities to recover from the impact of the pandemic and adapt to the new environment”.

How they define “most vulnerable” is described as being a changing picture. We recommend organisations check the Foundation website to see if the community they serve is included.

The deadline for Round 1 applications was 9th September. However, the guidance suggests that there will be a second round.

Emergency grants of £1,000 to £5,000 are available to community organisations to “deal with issues in the community, affecting vulnerable people as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. This may include; financial hardship, potential for hunger, lack of shelter, further exacerbation of health issues, loneliness and isolation of these people”.

To be eligible to apply your project must support vulnerable people and help to:

- ⊗ Supporting ongoing needs of people, to ensure that their well-being is maintained,
- ⊗ Reduce isolation and vulnerability during any isolation period that may arise as a result of the threat of Covid-19,
- ⊗ Any initiative that will help ensure people remain, safely connected with the outside world during this time.

The Foundation aims to process Emergency fund applications in 10 days.

Essex Community Foundation -

<https://www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk/>

Essex Community Foundation have changed their application process to try and make it simpler for organisations wishing to apply. Rather than listing all of the open funds they ask organisations to get in touch to tell them the type of funding they require. The Foundation team then identify if there is an appropriate fund and come back to request any additional information they require.

The Foundation can support any voluntary, community or not-for-profit organisation working to a charitable purpose to benefit local people in Essex, Southend or Thurrock. They can support core costs, specific projects, training opportunities or charitable projects that are responding to the coronavirus pandemic.

They cannot support for profit businesses, contributions to large appeals, organisations that give funds or award grants to other organisations, political campaigning, the promotion of religion or religious activities, statutory organisations or retrospective funding for activities that have already taken place.

Hertfordshire Community Foundation - <http://www.hertscf.org.uk/>

The second phase of the Coronavirus Relief Fund for Hertfordshire closed on 15th September 2020.

At the time of writing the Foundation had 5 open grant programmes to address identified needs across Hertfordshire. This includes the HCL Large fund with grants of up to £5,000 that are addressing an identified need within the region.

Norfolk Community Foundation – Build Back Brighter –

<https://www.norfolkfoundation.com/funding-support/grants/groups/>

The Build Back Brighter programme aims to make funds available to local charities looking to build resilience following Covid-19. It looks likely that this will consist of a number of funding opportunities that will be listed on their website. The size and focus of these funds will depend on the evolving need and the money raised through their fundraising appeal.

At the time of writing there were two funds open:

Norfolk Recovery Fund - <https://www.norfolkfoundation.com/funding-support/grants/groups/norfolk-recovery-fund/>

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to help Norfolk's charitable organisations to recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Fund is accepting applications from charities and community organisations "who continue to face additional/unplanned costs to deliver their services, due to new working practices, exceptional demand, or required safety measures". The Fund can also consider funding towards your ongoing services or activities, whilst you adjust to the impact of the pandemic on your organisation.

Grants may be used towards core running costs by organisations able to demonstrate strong pre-pandemic governance and finance. They can also be used for capital costs, providing action can take place promptly if a grant is awarded. However, grants cannot be awarded to organisations that are currently inactive or not delivering services and activities, unless a grant will enable the immediate re-start.

"Priority will be given to applications able to show that funded activities will primarily benefit the most vulnerable communities impacted by Covid-19. Priority will also be given to smaller voluntary and community organisations with limited access to other funding or income, and those that have not yet received Covid-19 community response funding from NCF."

The deadline for applications is 16th October 2020. However, the guidance also says that they expect high levels of competition for this funding and that the fund will close when the funds are all spent.

Norfolk Winter Resilience Fund - <https://www.norfolkfoundation.com/funding-support/grants/groups/norfolk-winter-resilience-fund/>

This fund has been established with the expectation that the winter will increase the challenges that many people, due to health, low income or isolation. Grants of up to £5,000 are available to support activities that help to reduce isolation for older and vulnerable people, provide food supplies, a hot meal or warm clothing, or help vulnerable people to access local services and information that may prevent a crisis situation arising.

This funding can also assist community action where a local outbreak of Covid-19 is identified and restrictions imposed, where urgent help is needed to support those at risk and/ or self-isolating.

Suffolk Community Foundation - <https://www.suffolkcf.org.uk/>

The Suffolk Community Foundation website lists 16 open funding programmes. These vary in size, area of interest and geographic location. The largest grants available are up to £20,000.

There are currently two Coronavirus-related funds open:

- 🌀 **The Suffolk Coronavirus Community Fund**
- 🌀 **Coronavirus Phase Two Funding**

The Suffolk Coronavirus Community Fund

This fund can provide grants of up to £5,000. The fund will support “charity groups and community organisations throughout Suffolk to reach the most vulnerable during this pandemic”.

The fund will currently support:

- 🌀 Groups that support the ongoing needs of vulnerable people to ensure that their health and wellbeing is maintained
- 🌀 Groups and activities that support vulnerable people self-isolating (the elderly, people with pre-existing medical conditions etc)
- 🌀 Support for foodbanks and organisations working to combat hardship caused by the pandemic including child hunger
- 🌀 Community response coordination
- 🌀 Volunteer costs for new and existing organisations responding to the effect of the pandemic.
- 🌀 Additional costs of working remotely and adapting services delivered in the wider community
- 🌀 Additional support as required for emotional support, mental health and bereavement support

The guidance notes that “this is a rapidly developing situation, and as a result, the focus of the fund will continue to evolve in line with the support required. **If you have other needs that require support, please email grants@suffolkcf.org.uk.**”

Applications should be made through the online portal - <https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/coronavirus-community-fund>

Coronavirus Phase Two Fund

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to support community organisations “still delivering services during Coronavirus who need support with costs of running the organisation”.

In particular, the fund will currently support:

- 🌀 Organisations working to reduce (health) inequalities among BAME communities in Suffolk
- 🌀 Groups that support the ongoing needs of vulnerable people to ensure that their health and wellbeing is maintained
- 🌀 Groups and activities that support vulnerable people self-isolating (the elderly, people with pre-existing medical conditions etc)
- 🌀 Support for foodbanks and organisations working to combat hardship caused by the pandemic including child hunger

- ⊗ Community response coordination
- ⊗ Volunteer costs for new and existing organisations responding to the effect of the pandemic.
- ⊗ Additional costs of working remotely and adapting services delivered in the wider community
- ⊗ Additional support as required for emotional support, mental health and bereavement support

However, the guidance also says “if you have other needs that require support, please email grants@suffolkcf.org.uk.”

The funding available is for running costs, which can include staff and volunteer costs, transport costs as long as the organisation “is providing support to both existing, and any potential new beneficiaries”.

Organisations that received support from the previous rounds of coronavirus emergency funding are eligible to apply but must make sure they have completed their reporting requirements for the first grant.

While £5,000 is the advertised maximum grant, the guidance says that requests above this amount will be considered depending on the funding still available.

What is stopping you from taking your fundraising to the next level?

Unsure about the steps you need to take? Worried that your team doesn't have the skills or knowledge they need to be successful? Nervous about putting your plan into action?

We all need a helping hand from time to time. Apollo Fundraising can provide the support you need to achieve your fundraising goals.

We can help you *find your direction* – we've helped arts organisations write their first fundraising strategy, planned large-scale capital appeals and reviewed the strategies of successful teams looking to take their fundraising to the next level.

We can help you *improve your skills* – we've trained arts fundraisers, volunteers, board members and senior managers. We've provided training on topics such as making the ask, making the most of digital technology and setting up individual giving schemes.

We can help you *build your confidence* – we've coached theatres on approaching major donors, mentored visual arts organisations on launching crowdfunding campaigns and supported museums to put their fundraising plans into action.

Need a helping hand? Contact us today to see how we can support you!



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