Support for organisations during the cost-of-living crisis

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## **Tips on saving money and finding grants**

**Charity Excellence** have dedicated a [whole web page](https://www.charityexcellence.co.uk/Home/BlogDetail?Link=Energy_Saving_Ideas_At_Work_And_Home&dm_t=0,0,0,0,0) to the cost of living crisis. (It includes savings for the home too).  If you can’t see the content, just register for free with an email and password.

* Also has a page listing [charitable trust and foundation and other sources of cost of living crisis grant funding for UK charities](https://www.charityexcellence.co.uk/Home/BlogDetail?Link=Cost-Of_Living_Grant_Funding)

[**Grants Online**](https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/cost-of-living-grants.html) – A list of resources to help organisations find **cost-of-living grants**.

### Talk to your funders

Members are advised to have a conversation with their existing funders and seek extra support. Members could signpost their funders to examples of what other Foundations are doing or considering at the moment, e.g.:

* [**ACF** – The cost of living crisis: what can foundations do to support charities?](https://www.acf.org.uk/acf/Blog/2022/September-2022/Cost-of-living-and-foundations-.aspx)
* [**London Funders** – The cost of living crisis: how are funders responding?](https://londonfunders.org.uk/latest/news/cost-living-crisis-how-are-funders-responding)

Many Funders are having discussions about this issue at the moment and some funders are expected to pro-actively reach out to grantees to offer support (e.g. unrestricted grant top ups to reflect the increase in the cost of living).

## **UK-wide funding and support**

### Energy Bills support and advice for organisations

[**The Government’s Energy Bill Relief Scheme**](https://www.civilsociety.co.uk/news/government-publishes-plans-to-discount-charities-energy-bills-from-october.html) will automatically apply a discount to charities’ energy bills from 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, meaning voluntary organisations do not need to apply to access the support.

[**ASDA Foundation** – **Cost of Living Grant**](https://www.asdafoundation.org/how-to-apply) – Offers rent and utility bill support and/or increased food costs support through grants of between £500 and £2,000 for groups that have a presence in and benefit the local community. Applications open until **February 2023**.

[**National Lottery Crisis Grant Funding**](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/news/blog/2022-10-25/we-are-here-for-you) - They expect to commit over £75mn to support communities on cost-of-living through the next year, including commitments already made and extra flexibility in grant making. They've also made changes to allow greater variations and adjustments in grants underway to reflect cost of living pressures. In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland it will be open to organisations applying to be awarded an additional National Lottery Award for all grants this year – worth up to £20k in total. An update on availability in England is to follow.

### Funding for organisations to support clients to manage the cost-of-living crisis

[**The Aviva Community Fund**](https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/costoflivingboost) has launched a Cost-of-Living Boost programme which will provide up to £50,000 in match-funding to charities helping people who are struggling financially.

[**Nationwide** **Community Grants** **programme**](https://www.nationwidemediacentre.co.uk/news/nationwide-to-give-grants-to-charities-addressing-cost-of-living-crisis-as-households-face-mounting-pressure?dm_i=6MG6,LTA4,4AJTH5,2QK7P,1) awards charities, community land trusts and housing cooperatives grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 to help struggling households.

[**Independent Age**](https://www.independentage.org/community/our-grants-fund/cost-of-living-grants-fund) **– Cost of Living Grants** – for organisations supporting older people. The first phase has now closed to applications but it may be worth keeping an eye on their website for future funding opportunities.

[**Groundwork – One Stop Community Partnership programme**](https://www.groundwork.org.uk/one-stop-community-partnership/) - Successful applicants will receive an initial grant of up to £1,000 and begin a partnership with their local One Stop store. The programme is designed to support organisations operating within two miles of a One Stop store and which do at least one of the following: tackle food poverty; support the vulnerable; support the elderly; support low-income families; or run youth sports teams.

### Funding to address homelessness

[**Leeds Building Society Foundation – Small Grants**](https://www.leedsbuildingsociety.co.uk/your-society/about-us/foundation/) – Grants of up to £1,000 for projects that support those in need of a safe and secure home.

## **Funding and support specific to certain home nations**

### Energy Audits and advice

**Wales** - Charities in Wales can get a free energy audit, support and advice from [**Sustainable Communities Wales**](https://sustainablecommunities.wales/about/)– funded by Welsh Government and delivered by Severn Wye Energy and partners.  

### Energy Bills support and advice for organisations

**England and Wales** - [**The Energy Action Group**](https://eaguk.org/) might be able to help.  In normal times they can negotiate new fixed deals for charities and provide advice too – as the market is so volatile, they might be able to help with a fixed deal, but certainly with advice, checking charities are paying the right rate of VAT on energy etc and it is free and no obligation.

### Support to improve organisations’ energy efficiency

**England** - [**Big Issue Invest** - **Big Energy Saving Loans**](https://www.bigissue.com/invest/big-energy-saving-loans/) - Loan finance between £20,000 to £150,000 to social enterprises and charities for energy efficiency and renewable energy installation.

**Wales** - If you are based in an eligible Coalfields area across Wales, you might be able to access grants from the [**Coalfields Regeneration Trust**](https://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/wales_support/funding-wales/) for energy efficiency improvements to a maximum of £2,000 which may help reduce energy costs.

### Funding for organisations to support clients to manage the cost-of-living crisis

**Scotland** – [**National Lottery Cost-of-Living support**](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/cost-of-living-support-fund) - Grants from £10,001 to £75,000 for projects to help support individuals, families and communities currently experiencing hardship as a result of the cost-of-living increases. Currently no deadline.

## **Regional funding**

### Funding for organisations to support clients to manage the cost-of-living crisis

**North East England** [**– Community Foundation - The Northern Gas Networks Community Partnering Fund**](https://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/grants/supporting-fuel-poverty-energy-efficiency-measures-and-covid-19-recovery-resilience/) – Grants of up to £10,000 to support fuel poverty/energy efficiency measures and Covid-19 recovery and resilience aimed at supporting those most affected by the recent pandemic and likely to be further affected by the impending cost of living crisis. Deadline **11 December**.  
The Foundation has also set up [a Cost-of-Living Fund](https://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/cost-of-living-fund/)

### Funding to address homelessness and financial hardship

**Yorkshire and North East England -** [**Leeds Building Society Foundation – Large Grants**](https://www.leedsbuildingsociety.co.uk/your-society/about-us/foundation/) – Grants of up to £100,000 for projects that support those in need of a safe and secure home.

**North East England –** [**Greggs Foundation – Hardship Fund**](https://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/grants) **-** Recognised social organisations such as housing associations and charities can apply for small grants for families or individuals in financial need in the North East of England. Grants fund household equipment, such as cookers, fridge freezers and clothing.

## **Local funding**

### Support to improve organisations’ energy efficiency

**Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull –** [**Heart of England Community Foundation - Community Energy Warwickshire Fund**](https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Community-Energy-Warwickshire-Fund-Factsheet-Dec-2021.pdf) - Grants of up to £2,000 for organisations looking to improve their energy efficiency.

### Funding for organisations to support clients to manage the cost-of-living crisis

**London** – [**London Community Foundation – Together for London programme**](https://londoncf.org.uk/grants/together-for-london) - Grants of up to £10,000 available for organisations responding to the immediate impacts of the cost-of-living crisis on the communities they support. Part of the grant can also be used to for core costs. Priority groups include homeless people or people at risk of homelessness, Black and Minoritised Ethnic (BME) communities and older people. Only open to organisations with a total annual income of up to £500,000 in the previous year. Deadline **noon 17 November.**

**Hertfordshire –** [**Hertfordshire Community Foundation - Warm Herts Fund**](https://www.hertscf.org.uk/warmspaces) **-** Grants of up to £2,000 for organisations providing a warm place for local people to take a break from the cold, particularly people who are vulnerable or have been affected by the rising cost-of-living.The warm space could be something set up specifically for this winter, or an existing service. **Rolling deadline.**

**Bristol -** [**Bristol One City - Cost of Living Social Action Small Grant Programme**](https://quartetcf.org.uk/grants/cost-of-living-social-action-small-grants/)supports organisations to help mitigate the impact of the cost of living crisis by enabling the development of support networks, online and in-person activities, and online and in-person Welcoming Spaces. Deadline**: 24 November**

**Devon** – [**Devon Community Foundations – Community Grants**](https://devoncf.com/grants/community-grants/) - Grants of up to £2,000 that fall within certain funding themes, including helping people find and keep a home, and keeping people safe and well.

**South Yorkshire –** [**South Yorkshire’s Community Foundation – Community Grants**](https://www.sycf.org.uk/grants-to-organisations/sycf-community-grants-programme/)– Grants of up to £5,000 to support community groups and organisations across South Yorkshire, especially smaller, developing or less well-resourced organisations. The next round of applications will open 15 November and the closing date will be **noon on 24 January 2023**, for grants to be awarded from April 2023 onwards. During the cost-of-living crisis, organisations tackling poverty and other pressing issues will be prioritised.   
The Foundation has also launched the [South Yorkshire Cost of Living Fund](https://www.sycf.org.uk/costoflivingsouthyorkshire/) intended as a long term source of funding for community groups.

**Calderdale – Community Foundation for Calderdale – Household Support Grant October 2022** - Grants of up to £4,000 to provide support to vulnerable households in most need of support to help with significantly rising living costs. Applications from organisations supporting refugees and asylum seekers are encouraged. Deadline **10am Monday 7th November**.

**Leeds and Bradford –** [**Leeds Community Foundation**](https://www.leedscf.org.uk/open-grants/)– Upcoming grant programmes include the Leeds Fund Strategic Grants, which will support the resilience and sustainability of Community Organisations in Leeds.

## **Other funding resources (not cost-of-living specific)**

[**The Active Wellbeing Society**](https://theaws.co.uk/funding/)has listed funding opportunities for community groups and local organisations, including:

* [**Morrisons Foundation – Homelessness Support Fund**](https://www.morrisonsfoundation.com/latest-news/covid-19/)