



**DEVELOP**  
Knowledge Bank  
Factsheet

**FUNDING:**  
How to Find Funding

**DEVELOP**

## How to Find Funding

Firstly you will need to work out how much funding you need. Is it needed for a one-off event, or for a bigger project? You need to be clear about your aims and objectives and exactly what you want to do with the money.

Prior to thinking of any funding streams you need to be clear about:

- The Organisation and project aims/objectives
- Activities you will undertake
- Who will benefit from the work
- What will be the outcomes/benefits of having this work funded
- Resources already in place (staff, money, skills/knowledge, etc) and resources which are needed
- Have a budget planned
- Know how much funding you already have in place

If you need funding for your group or project, there are a number of resources and online sites you can use to search for funding. While trust and foundations are an important source of funding for most groups, be sure to consider other sources. The greater your mix of funding, the more “sustainable” your organisation will be.

## Trusts and Foundations

Finding the right trusts to apply to takes time and research. For more information on applying to trusts and foundations, see our factsheet How to write applications.

[www.fundingcentral.org.uk](http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk) - A free national database, run by the NCVO. Sign up to receive regular email alerts of new funds and approaching deadlines in your area of work.

<http://www.ffhb.org.uk> - Funds for Historic Buildings for comprehensive list of capital funds.

<http://www.grantsonline.org.uk/> - Information on EU/Government, Lottery and trust and foundations. Free 7 day trial, otherwise subscriptions apply.

[www.trustfunding.org.uk](http://www.trustfunding.org.uk) – Subscription site run by the Directory of Social Change (DSC)

[www.governmentfunding.org.uk](http://www.governmentfunding.org.uk) –DSC subscription site for government funding and contracts.

## How to Find Funding

### Other sources of information

**Charity Commission website** – Reading annual reports gives valuable insights into what trusts are currently funding, how much they give and what their priorities are.

**Develop funding ebulletin** – Regular updates on the latest funding news.

**GRIN** – Daily funding bulletin. To subscribe email: [info@grin.coop](mailto:info@grin.coop)

**The Directory of Grant Making Trusts** – This large volume is still a useful way to search for funding. Has comprehensive lists in categories including area of benefit, beneficiary, etc. Available to view in the reference section of most libraries.

**The Guide to the Major Trusts** – Also available in library reference section, they offer detailed information on trusts and foundations according to size, area of benefit and more. There is also a **Guide to Local Trusts in the Southwest**.

### Other types of funding

**Lottery:** For up to date information on all current lottery funding [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk)

**Sport England:** <http://www.sportengland.org/default.aspx>

**Arts Council:** <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>

**Contracts:** To view and receive alerts about contract opportunities across the southwest, sign up to [www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk](http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk)

**Social Finance:** Offering a mix of loans and grants. See Social Investment Business Group <http://www.sibgroup.org.uk/>

**Loans:** Can be suitable in some circumstances <http://www.charitybank.org/> and others.

**Community Shares:** A new form of finance, most commonly used by community energy groups and similar. Must have robust business plan <http://www.communityshares.org.uk/>

**Philanthropic:** Rotary Clubs, Round Tables, Lions and the like will fundraise for local charities.

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### Other sources of information

**Donations:** Make it easy for your supporters to donate to you: a button on your website, collection buckets at events, payroll giving, on-line donation sites. Be sure to [Gift Aid](#) donations

**Legacies:** Takes time to develop, but can be a valuable source of income.

**Fundraising:** From community fetes to a sponsored head shave. Ideas, templates and guidance at <http://www.how2fundraise.org/>

**Corporate:** Building links with business can provide in kind support, employee volunteering, sponsorship and more. DSC have a subscription site for researching corporate partners [www.companygiving.org.uk](http://www.companygiving.org.uk)

**Trading:** See guidance on the charity commission website in the first instance. [http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/faqs/running\\_a\\_charity/id147.aspx](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/faqs/running_a_charity/id147.aspx)

**Crowdfunding:** This is a new way of raising finance by asking a large number of people for a small amount of money. [www.indiegogo.com](http://www.indiegogo.com) <http://www.kickstarter.com/blog/kickstarter-in-the-uk>

## About this factsheet

This is one in a series of fact sheets produced by DEVELOP on subjects of interest to Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations. It is intended for guidance only and is not a comprehensive statement of the law.

Factsheet produced by:

**DEVELOP**

DEVELOP is the support service for VCSE organisations in Wiltshire. It is also the NCVO accredited volunteer centre for the county.

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