

Big Lottery Fund

Enabling Communities to take the lead



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LOTTERY FUNDED**



www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Our Funding in England



The Big Lottery Fund is the largest community funder in the UK, and one of twelve distributors of money raised by National Lottery Players.

Last year in England, we awarded **£509.6m** across **8,704** grants. Overall, the Big Lottery Fund awarded **£712.7m** across **13,814** grants.

Most of our grants go to local charities, run by volunteers, and whether the grant is for £500, or £5m, our funding is used by communities to support amazing projects led by local people.



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Our Vision: People in the Lead



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We believe people should be in the lead in improving their lives and communities. Our approach will focus on the skills, assets and energy that people can draw upon and the potential in their ideas.

We feel that strong, vibrant communities can be built and renewed by the people living in them, making them ready for anything in the face of future opportunities and challenges.



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Making a difference



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Our priorities in England



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Stronger relationships

We support ideas that bring people together, strengthening relationships in and across communities



Shared and sustainable places and spaces

We support people to shape and sustain the places that matter to them, like a park, community centre or online network



Early action to prevent problems and tackle disadvantage

We support activity that empowers people to fulfil their potential, working to address problems at the earliest possible stage

Our funding in England



National Lottery Awards for All

This is our most popular funding stream. We award grants of £10,000 or under. Last year, we made more than 12,352 grants, reaching over 6m people across every local authority in the UK (7,786 in England).

Reaching Communities

This stream provides longer-term funding, with awards upwards of £10,000. Last year in England, we made 434 successful awards, with an average award size of £340,000.



Partnerships

Funding for joint action that goes beyond what any single organisation can achieve alone. Supporting ideas that address long term issues in a place or with a theme.

Funding for Churches



- We gave **£642,674*** to church-based groups/parochial church councils in 2016/17, an increase on the previous year.
- Most of this funding was delivered through **National Lottery Awards for All**.
- 75% of the funding was for a 'community venue' e.g. refurbishments, new boilers, accessible toilets.
- We have seen a year-on-year increase in faith groups applying for funding towards food banks and providing services for the homeless.
- One of the main challenges around funding faith groups is confusion around eligibility.

Eligibility



- Religious organisations are eligible for funding from the Fund.
- Crucially, the activities undertaken with Lottery money cannot promote religion or belief e.g. religious education, prayer groups, festivals or events where the key purpose is to promote a religious belief.

For example, a Christian group running community activities for homeless people could apply to us. If the organisation wanted to use the project award to run Bible-reading sessions for the homeless people then the application would be rejected.

- We will not make grants to projects that want to replace or improve buildings that are only used to promote particular religious beliefs. However, we will consider applications from religious organisations for buildings where some religious activities take place, as long as the building will be open to the whole community.



St Mary the Virgin Church Lewisham Awarded £10,000 in 2016

In collaboration with Lewisham's Integrated Therapies Team, the church-based group will use the funding to make improvements to their churchyard, turning it into a therapeutic garden. The group view gardening as an ideal way of reducing isolation associated with mental illness and our funding will improve the existing space, allowing it to be used by a range of community groups.

In particular, our funding will go towards the Installation of gates and arches, benches, signage, planning, refurbishment of paths, topsoil, timber edges, railings, and external advice.



Hull Community Church The World of Wonder (WOW) Awarded £476,747 in 2014

Using their award, Hull Community Church created a “World of Wonder” and made the vision that local children had about the community space a reality. The old church building is now a unique and safe place for local children in Newland and provides families with access to activities and facilities.

The building work might be done, but that’s only one element of the project. Hull Community Church will spend the next three-and-a-half years delivering activities to help them further develop relationships with the community and continue to support people through the challenges they face.

Find out more



Email: Rosie.mockett@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Visit our website

Call our BIG Advice Line: 03454 102030



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