



Gloucestershire
Community Foundation

Meet the Funder: GCF

Faye Hennessy – Grants Manager

Lucy Pollock – Projects and Operations Manager

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Who We Are & How We Work

- Gloucestershire Community Foundation (GCF) was established in 1989 to build a permanent and sustainable endowment to support communities in Gloucestershire.
- We focus on grassroots organisations that are the lifeblood of our community and support the changing needs of communities.
- We are part of a national network of 47 Community Foundations across the UK, who collectively disbursed £184 million of small grants in 2024.
- GCF distributed £3.4m in grants to organisations across the county between 2020 and 2024.
- A grade in the Foundation Practice Rating (FPR)



Our grantmaking



- GCFs Area of Benefit is Gloucestershire
- We seek to promote community engagement and support charitable activity that enriches the lives of people in Gloucestershire.
- We particularly focus on
 - ✓ the advancement of education
 - ✓ protection of good health (both mental and physical.
 - ✓ the relief of poverty and sickness.
 - ✓ the provision of recreation and leisure facilities.
- We work with a wide variety of fund holders, operating bespoke programmes, each with its own aims and criteria.
- Funds must also meet GCF's own grantmaking policy .



Our grantmaking policy



- GCF grants are available to registered charities and/or organisations established for charitable purposes where:
 - ✓ governed by a management committee or trustee body with at least three unrelated individuals
 - ✓ a written constitution or governing document has been adopted
 - ✓ operates a bank account in the name of the charity or organisation with a minimum of two authorised signatories

Applicants should maintain a reasonable level of reserves, in line with costs, typically c.3-6mths - reserves in excess of 9mths are unlikely to be successful.

Organisations based in Gloucestershire and operating nationally can be considered where Income is below £5 million.





Our current programmes

GCF Community Fund (Main Grants Programme)

Supporting local, voluntary and community organisations where a small amount of money can make a big difference. Maximum grant size: £5,000

Next Round: June 2026

Freemasons Grant Programme

Initiatives for older people, those with disabilities and disadvantaged young people. Maximum grant size: £2,000

Next Round: Now open – deadline 6th May

High Sheriff of Gloucestershire Grant Programme

To motivate young people towards constructive occupation and away from crime.

Maximum grant size: £2,500

Next Round: July 2026



Our current programmes

Cheltenham Centenary Community Fund

Supporting charitable activities in the vicinity of the Cheltenham races.

Maximum grant size: £2,000

Next Round: May 2026

ICB Gloucestershire Communities Against Cancer

To improve awareness around early cancer diagnosis and reduce health inequalities.

Maximum grant size: tbc

Next Round: tbc 2026

2026 Work in progress

- A new educational fund focused on Tewkesbury
- Various donor directed awards and philanthropic projects
- Gloucestershire funding via <https://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org/>



Grant application process

- Programme details available on GCF website & shared on social media
- Applications are made via the online portal on the GCF website
- Application window is open for approximately 4-6 weeks
- Initial assessment completed by GCF Grants team
- Panel meeting held to review and decide on awards
- Feedback/award notification provided within 1-2 weeks of the panel meeting
- Grant acceptance and monitoring requirements
- Repeat/multiple applications
- Engagement – the virtuous circle



Grant application portal



Applications are made via the online portal:

gcf Gloucestershire Community Foundation

Welcome to the Grant Management Portal

Funding Programmes My Applications My Monitoring Forms



Grant application portal



Click 'Apply now' to apply for an open GCF grant fund:


The screenshot shows the Gloucestershire Community Foundation website. On the left is a dark blue navigation menu with the following items: HOME, ABOUT GCF ▶, GRANTS ▶, GIVING AND PHILANTHROPY ▶, INVEST PROGRAMME FOR BUSINESSES – DELIVERING SOCIAL VALUE FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE, INVEST PROGRAMME FOR CHARITIES – SUSTAIN, DEVELOP AND GROW, INVEST BUSINESS CLUB, USEFUL RESOURCES, and NEWS & EVENTS ▶. The main content area has a teal header with the text 'INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THIS GRANT?' and a blue 'APPLY NOW' button circled in red. Below this is a dark blue footer containing the GCF logo, navigation links for GRANTS, MY FUND, and DONATE, copyright information for 2026, links to Annual Reports, Cookie Policy, Privacy Policy, and Policies, the full name and address of Gloucestershire Community Foundation, registration details (Registered Charity 900239, Registered Company 02420411), and the phone number 01242 682 345.





Grant application portal



Create an account for your organisation:



 Username

 Password

Log in

[Forgot your password?](#)

[Not registered?](#)



Beyond Grants

Philanthropy Advice Service: Supported by our grant making.

Impact Investing: for the business and statutory sectors

INVEST Leadership Programme – for Community leaders and their charities

- Mentoring – Leaders and managers coaching opportunities
- Pro-Bono services – specific projects



Q & A



Contacts & Links

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GCF Grants: <https://gloucestershirecf.org.uk/grants/>

GCF: <https://gloucestershirecf.org.uk/>

UKCF: <https://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org/>