



Norfolk County Council

Funding Opportunities and News Summary

Update April 22 2020

A summary prepared by NCC External Funding Team

Most of the current listed opportunities summarised below are emergency funds for support directly related to the Covid-19 Health crisis. However, there are also some funds continuing to provide their standard funding streams. We have included these within the summaries as much work is still ongoing to support Norfolk residents living with disadvantages

Norfolk County Council would like to ensure that as many Norfolk organisations as possible are able to access the funding opportunities they need . If your organisation is interested in submitting an application to any of the opportunities listed below, or if you have any queries, or need further information and/or application support please email funding@norfolk.gov.uk

We have now included social media friendly summaries so that these opportunities might be presented to as many Norfolk individuals and organisations as possible.

The latest updates are marked with *

Key (funding primarily aimed at, but not always restricted to):

Private Sector

VCSE Sector

Public Sector

*****Mental Health Response Fund**

Voluntary and community sector (VCS) mental health organisations have a vital role working in the community providing support to anyone who has a mental health need.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, demand for mental health services is increasing.

To help VCS organisations based in England continue to provide mental health services – or provide additional support – organisations can apply for a Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund (CMHRF) grant. Thanks to £5m support from government (the Department of Health and Social Care), grants of £20,000 or £50,000 are available for projects lasting up to 12 months.

About the application process

- Applicants are invited to apply at any time.
- It's a fast track assessment process so applications will be assessed every two weeks and applicants will be informed of the outcome within a month of applying.
- Applications should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete.

The fund will remain open for mental health voluntary sector organisations for as long as funds remain.

Online application portal

You will need to submit your application online [via Flexigrant](#).

If you have never applied for a grant with Mind before, you will need to register a for a Flexigrant account via the portal.

Further information and guidance is available here: <https://amhp.org.uk/mental-health-response-fund/>

Social Media Friendly version to cut and paste is here

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****Mental Health Response Fund (part two- for smaller VCSEs)**

As part of this funding programme, NSUN is administering a smaller fund to support user-led organisations (ULOs) and smaller, unconstituted community groups in England, who might not otherwise be eligible for a grant. Grants of up to £1000 will be available to support community action, peer support, mutual aid and other activities that will make a direct difference to the lives of people living with mental ill-health, trauma and distress during this Covid-19 period.

Historically, unconstituted groups have been left out of these funds so we're delighted that there is a commitment to supporting ULOs and community groups.

This fund will open by the end of April.

The NSUN grants are available to User Led Organisations across England who need additional funds to deliver their support and activities during Covid-19. You may be a peer support group, a mutual aid group, a community group, a Disabled People's Organisation (DPO), or a ULO (this is not an exhaustive list).

The NSUN grant is for organisations or collectives or groups which may or may not be constituted (but are not set up as a charity or a community interest company (CIC), for example) or who otherwise are not eligible for the main Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund.

You will need to be a member of NSUN. Membership is free for ULOs and community groups

If you do not have a bank account, you are still eligible to apply providing you meet the criteria above.

Further information is available here <https://www.nsun.org.uk/nsun-covid-19-fund>

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<https://www.nsun.org.uk/nsun-covid-19-fund>

1.25 Billion for Innovative and Research Intensive Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

A £1.25 billion government support package has been announced for innovative new companies that have been impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19) and are not eligible for existing coronavirus rescue schemes.

The package includes a £500 million investment fund, called the Future Fund, for high-growth companies across the UK to receive the investment they need to continue during the crisis. It is made up of funding from government and the private sector. A £750 million package of targeted support for the most research and development (R&D) intensive small and medium-sized firms will be also available through Innovate UK's grants and loan scheme.

The Future Fund will provide government loans to UK-based companies ranging from £125,000 to £5 million, subject to at least equal match funding from private investors. These convertible loans may be a suitable option for businesses that rely on equity investment and are unable to access the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme. These loans will automatically convert into equity on the company's next qualifying funding round, or at the end of the loan if they are not repaid.

Innovate UK will accelerate up to £200 million of grant and loan payments for its 2,500 existing customers on an opt-in basis. An extra £550 million will be made available to increase support for existing customers and £175,000 of support will be offered to around 1,200 firms not currently in receipt of IUK funding. The first payments will be made by mid-May.

To be eligible for the Future Fund, a business must be an unlisted UK registered company that has previously raised at least £250,000 in equity investment from third party investors in the last five years.

The Future Fund is not yet open- it will open in May 2020. For more information here is the link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/future-fund>

For more information on Innovate UK the link is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/innovate-uk>

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New government funding has been announced for companies that innovate, and are not eligible for the current business support measures previously introduced. The £500m Future Fund, for high growth companies and further support from Innovate UK
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<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/future-fund>

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Care Workers individual grants

The Care Workers Charity has set up a Covid-19 emergency Grant programme for currently employed care workers who must take time off work due to Covid-19 for either illness or self-isolation or for funeral costs. Applicants must work in role that is involved in or supports the provision of adult, elderly or disability care. These may include residential social care, domiciliary/home care, supported living care. Care workers who are unable to work for one week may apply for a £250 grant and those who are unable to work for two weeks may apply for a £500 grant. If a care worker is responsible for paying for the funeral costs of a next of kin (partner, parent, sibling, child, or other on a case-by-case basis), £500 grants may be available. If the care worker has passed, the next of kin of employer may apply on behalf of the family.

For More information : <https://www.thecareworkerscharity.org.uk/grants/>

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<https://www.thecareworkerscharity.org.uk/grants/>

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme now open

Under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, all UK employers can now access support to continue paying part of their employees' salaries for those that would otherwise have been laid off during the coronavirus crisis.

To access the scheme, applicants must have designated affected employees as 'furloughed workers' and notified these employees of this change. They must also submit information to HMRC about the employees that have been furloughed and their earnings.

Employers will receive grants to cover most of the wages of their workforce who remain on payroll but are temporarily not working during the coronavirus outbreak. Salaries will be paid at 80% of their current level, up to a maximum of £2,500 per worker each month, and minimum automatic enrolment employer pension contributions on that subsidised wage.

The funding will be backdated to 1 March 2020, if applicable, and will be initially open for four months, to be extended if necessary.

All UK businesses and employers with a PAYE scheme that was created and started on or before 19 March 2020, small or large, will be eligible for the scheme. This includes employers across the private and public sector and charities and non-profit organisations.

Applications are now open. Details of what applicants need to make a claim are available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wages-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>

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Big Society Capital provides information on Resilience and Recovery Fund

Big Society Capital is one of the funders of the £100 million social investment response to Covid-19 (made partly possible with £45m of dormant account monies provided by UK government). They had provided some clarity as to how Charities and social enterprises can use the access to their interest free social investment offer. The new £25 million Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund, managed by Social Investment Business (SIB), will enable social lenders to provide emergency loans to social enterprises and charities who face a problem because expected income and activity has been delayed or disrupted. A loan may help with this, providing working capital until normal business can commence again. Examples could include:

- loan that provides a bridge until receiving government payments (eg contracts, furlough etc)
- loan to meet increased demand/scale an existing model more rapidly

Loans will not require personal guarantees and there will be no fees or interest for 12 months. Big Society Capital will provide the initial investment, with loans backed by the Government's existing Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) and issued through SIB working initially with Charity Bank, Social and Sustainable Capital and Big Issue Invest.

For more information: <https://bigsocietycapital.com/covid-19-information-social-investors/how-big-society-capital-responding-coronavirus-crisis/>

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More information is here: : <https://bigsocietycapital.com/covid-19-information-social-investors/how-big-society-capital-responding-coronavirus-crisis/>

Authors Emergency Fund

- Emergency grant fund for professional authors in the UK, including writers, illustrators, literary translators, scriptwriters, poets, journalists and others, for whom author-related activities make up a substantial amount of their annual income.
- Grants are likely to be up to £2,000 and designed to meet urgent need.
- More information [here](#).

Funding Enlightened Agriculture – LEAP: Small emergency loan programme

- For a period of 3 months from the 1st April, small unsecured loans from £5,000 - £20,000.
- 3-month capital and interest holiday, followed by 12-month capital holiday · Interest rate: 5%; term: 5 years and 3 months – no arrangement fees

The focus for this funding will be on established community food businesses and agroecological growers and it can be used for anything that helps them navigate this crisis. The investment could be used for working capital to develop new routes to market or to scale up production to meet growing demand. It can be used for recruiting more staff, investing in IT and delivery vehicles, new processing facilities and equipment. We have set the following main criteria:

At least 50% of income must come from food and drink production or sales

Must have been established and trading for at least 3 years or have a turnover of at least £40,000

Must be constituted as a CBS, CIC, CLG, Coop or CIO. We cannot fund sole traders, partnerships or CLSs

We will look for evidence that you meet our enlightened agriculture and social impact criteria

- More information on eligibility and agriculture can be [here](#).
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**Cadent Foundation

The Cadent Foundation has been established to make a positive and lasting difference to local communities and the wider society. Cadent have £20m available over the next 5 years to charities and community groups to support projects that make a real difference. The Foundation funds two specific streams:

1) Projects through partnerships:

Research and Innovation (R&I) - Projects that help eliminate harmful emissions and support sustainable energy

R&I grants will only be made through partnerships, contact: enquiries@cadentfoundation.com with details of your project.

2) Projects through online grant applications:

People – Projects that help alleviate suffering and hardship of people in vulnerable situations

Environment – Projects that will help protect and preserve the environment

Communities – Projects that provide a better and healthier community to live in and use

Grants can be applied for up to £100,000 by UK charities or groups* with charitable purposes.

Applications are open to May 31st.

More information is here: <https://cadentgas.com/cadent-foundation#apply>

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****COVID-19 Relief Cash Grants for England's Fishing Businesses**

The Government has announced a new grant scheme offering support to more than 1,000 fishing and aquaculture businesses in England that are suffering as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) Up to £9 million will be available for grants to eligible fishing and aquaculture businesses. A further £1 million will be made available to support projects to assist fishermen to sell their catch in their local communities. This money will help fishing businesses find new ways to market and sell their catch while traditional markets are restricted, not only supporting the sector but also the local communities that depend on the industry. Grants will be made to help cover fixed business costs, such as insurance, equipment hire and port costs. For the catching sector this will be calculated from the average business costs for the size of the vessel, as surveyed by the industry annually.

Fishing and aquaculture businesses in England may apply. The measures will support smaller fisherman in particular during this challenging time. For the catching sector, the fund will be open to under-24m vessel owners with fishing licences registered in England who recorded sales of £10,000 or more in 2019.

- Details of the eligibility criteria, including the criteria for the aquaculture sector and support for local projects, will be announced in due course by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).
- The MMO will administer the fund, contacting eligible registered owners and licence holders directly in stages with details of how to apply, starting on Monday April 20 through to early May.
- Payments will be made for up to three months.

Link for information is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-financial-support-for-englands-fishing-businesses>

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****Good Finance launches Resource Hub for Charities and Social Enterprises**

Good Finance have launched a resource hub for charities and Social Enterprises. The hub contains information, resources and tools designed to support charities and social enterprises navigating COVID-19. These include sections on funding advice, guidance on how to support staff, volunteers and beneficiaries, as well as impact on social investors and financial implications for the sector.

More information is here: <https://www.goodfinance.org.uk/latest/post/coronavirus-post/voluntary-community-social-enterprise-sector>

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£100 million response announced to help social sector organisations through the coronavirus crisis

An ambitious £100 million programme of loans and investment is announced today to help get much-needed emergency funding to social enterprises, charities and small businesses in disadvantaged areas affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The measures complement the coronavirus grants programme for social sector organisations announced earlier by the Government. The new measures, announced today by leading social investors, will create routes for charities, social enterprises and some small businesses facing cash-flow problems and disruption to their trading to obtain urgent finance which they otherwise couldn't access. Within weeks, affected organisations will be able to apply for emergency loans and investment without paying any fees or interest for 12 months. The new measures include:

- A new Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund, managed by Social Investment Business (SIB), to enable social lenders to provide emergency loans to affected social enterprises and charities without requiring personal guarantees and charging no fees or interest for 12 months. Big Society Capital will provide an initial investment of £25 million, with loans backed by the Government's existing Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) and issued through SIB working initially with Charity Bank, Social and Sustainable Capital and Big Issue Invest. Co-investment from social investors is being sought to supplement Big Society Capital's initial investment.
- Up to a further £50 million which Big Society Capital will reprioritise and repurpose over coming months to address emerging funding needs among social enterprises and charities, either through the Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund or alternative funding vehicles as appropriate.

Morrisons Foundation - COVID-19 Homeless Support Fund

The supermarket chain Morrisons has established the Morrisons Foundation to support local good causes across Great Britain. The Foundation Trustees have pledged support for the Homeless Support Fund, aiming to fund charities caring for the homeless during the coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak and ensure help gets to those who need it most.

The Foundation recognises that homeless people are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 because they are more likely to have underlying health conditions and are less able to access basic sanitation. For those who are sleeping rough or are in a crowded night shelter, it is impossible to self-isolate and maintain social distance.

Applicants should:

- Be registered with the Commission/OSCR for a minimum of one year and have filed their documents (ie trustee's reports and financial accounts) on time.
- Work directly with homeless people and provide support of one or more of the areas the fund cover.
- Accept payment electronically over the phone (by credit card or BACS).

There is a total of £500,000 for this fund. Awards up to £10,000 are available. However, smaller requests will allow more charities to be supported from the fund.

Registered charities who care for the homeless can apply for support to cover the following broad areas:

- Outreach and support for rough sleepers, including provision of essentials.
- Delivery of services in hostels and shelters.
- Information and advice.

Applications can be made at any time. Link is here: <https://www.morrisonsfoundation.com/>

Social Media Friendly version to cut and paste

Morrisons opens fund to support VCSE organisations working with homelessness

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- Outreach and support for rough sleepers, including provision of essentials.
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