

Small Grants for Every Day Essentials and Activities

Grant Rounds 2026

These grants are for £50 to £2,000 to allow small community organisations to purchase items to run their group or for all organisations to buy kit, equipment, qualifications or deliver time limited activities over 6 months.

For Grants over £2,000 or for projects that do not fit this grant guidance please have a look on our website at our Community Grants and Catalyst Grants.

Please read the guidance below carefully before deciding to apply. If you are unsure of whether to apply, or what for, contact us for advice. We are happy to discuss ideas and signpost you to support.

If you have not applied to the Woodsmith Foundation before, please do give us a call. We would love to hear from you and learn more about your work. **We encourage anyone to call before applying.**

1) Background of Small Grants for Every Essentials and Activities

The Woodsmith Foundation has been supporting organisations within our area of benefit with Community Grants. We know these grants work well for longer or larger projects or contributions to building, but we have identified a need for smaller sums of funding with quicker decision times, especially for some of the smaller grassroots organisations. This is a new grant offer for 2026.

2) Who can apply

If you are unsure about your eligibility, please contact us for advice.

We can support the following types of organisation:

- Local, voluntary groups that are constituted. That means you have a brief, written set of rules explaining how you will run your organisation and are governed by a committee of at least three unrelated members. You will have a bank account (or a relationship with a community organisation that is willing to hold the grant money for you).
- Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) or sports clubs run as constituted voluntary groups.
- Charities or Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs) registered with the Charity Commission.
- Community Interest Companies (CICs) limited by guarantee and with at least two unrelated bank signatories and three unrelated Directors. To be eligible for funding from the Foundation you will need to be able to provide evidence of trading activity/planned trading activity and a contribution to public benefit.
- Parish and Town Councils or Parish Meetings.
- Faith organisations for secular activity benefitting the wider community beyond the congregation.
- Schools or school parent led fundraising groups that are constituted voluntary groups.

- We may consider companies limited by guarantee with charitable objectives, but would only fund this type of organisation once and following a detailed due diligence. Please contact us to discuss your situation before applying.

3) Types of activities we will NOT fund:

We anticipate this grant round will be popular so please do not waste your own time applying if your project includes one of the following activities that we cannot fund.

We will not fund the following through this grant round:

- Projects that are not in our area of benefit or support people outside our area of benefit. **Our area of benefit is the Borough of Redcar and Cleveland, the Borough of Scarborough and the North York Moors National Park.**
- A contribution to a large capital project.
- Projects where you intend to pass our funding on as grants, sponsorship or donations to other organisations/individuals.
- Projects to work in school settings that have not been applied for by the school or their parent fundraising group themselves.
- General appeals or sponsorship or prizes for competitions or raffles.
- Heritage or conservation projects with no significant community involvement or benefit.
- Retrospective funding. Costs that you have already incurred or will have before the grant is awarded.
- Activities which are funded by another organisation. If, having applied to the Foundation, you find that you have been successful with an alternative bid for the same work, please contact us to discuss your application.

4) Funding available

Organisations can apply for grants between £50 and £2,000. Please see the table below for the maximum you can apply for in each option. We encourage you to work on a detailed budget which is based on accurate quotes and costs and then apply for what you actually need, not simply the maximum grant available. The total grant pot in 2026 for Small Grants for Every Day Essentials and Activities is £70,000. We can only accept one application in a 12 month period. You cannot submit the same application or project to our Community Grants round. Funds must be spent within 6 months of your grant being awarded.

If you would like to check if your project or activity is eligible then please call for a conversation.

Option 1

This option is for small grassroots organisation with an annual income of less than £10,000 who require funding towards everyday essential items. CICs are not eligible to apply for this option.

You can apply for **up to £500 revenue or capital* costs**. Examples of the type of every day essentials we have in mind are:

- Broadband set up
- Insurance

- Membership fees
- Replenish emergency supplies
- A computer or mobile phone

Option 2

This option is for any eligible organisation with any annual income. It is for time limited, every day activities. CICs, and all the other eligible organisations listed in section 2 may apply for this option.

You can apply for **up to £2000 revenue or capital* costs**. Examples of the type of every day activities we have in mind are:

- Support community groups, amateur sports clubs or schools **to purchase small items of equipment, kit or trips**. If you are a sports club that has multiple teams we will accept on a first come first served basis of one application per year. Please ensure you have considered which team is a priority.
- Small items for a school that statutory funding does not cover or new extra-curricular activities.
- Community events and festivals for local people led by local people (maximum contribution of £500)
- Deliver **a time limited series of activities or events** e.g. 3 or 4 community events that bring people together who are most at risk of feeling lonely or isolated.
- Funding for coaching qualifications, essential employee or volunteer training.

If you are requesting **inclusive** equipment please call us before applying as we have the potential to increase the funding available for some projects.

We are unable to fund a school reapplying for the same thing year on year.

Definitions:

A capital item is for something you can see and touch that is a lasting asset e.g. equipment or laptop. **Revenue costs** are where there is no lasting asset e.g. event costs, materials for a workshop, staff time etc.

5) How to apply

Our preference is for you to apply via the link on our website. You are able to save and resume your application at any time and full instructions are at the top of the online application. A word version of the application questions can be found on our website so that you can work on it offline, but you will need to cut and paste answers into the online application.

We understand that some people may be unable to complete the application form online. Or perhaps you struggle with text heavy long documents, or you need information in another format that works for you. We would encourage you to contact us and we will work with you to find the best way for you to apply, for example a video transcript or hand written document.

All applications received via our online application method will be sent a receipt to the email address provided.

You can find top tips and more useful information on our “Helpful Information” tab on our website.

6) Supporting Information

The following documents will need to be uploaded with your completed application form when you make your submission online.

- Accounts
 - If your organisation is required to have an audited/examined statement of accounts please send us your most recent version. If your most recent accounts do not cover the majority of the last 12 months, please also send your organisation's income and expenditure for the last financial year and a copy of your most recent bank statement.
 - If you are not required to have accounts, please send us your last 12 months income and expenditure and a copy of your most recent bank statement.
 - If you are a new group and do not have either accounts or financial information for last year then please send a brief note about your financial position and your most recent bank statement.
 - CICS are required to send a detailed profit and loss showing the split between grants, earned/traded income and other. Please specify what the "other" includes.
- Quotes for any significant items/activities over £100. This can be a screenshot of the website showing the item and cost.
- Your organisation's terms of reference or constitution or governing document.
- CICs will need to send a statement signed by all Directors stating they *agree to the application being submitted*. The letter needs to include:-
 - a) information on your financial viability. Please state your unrestricted funds at the end of your financial year. This includes all funds that are freely available to spend on your company's social objectives after excluding any funds that are restricted (e.g. restricted grants) and any fixed assets in your balance sheet.
 - b) your percentage of turnover which was earned/traded income in the last 12 months. Please also attach your latest CIC 34 document which is a mandatory submission to Companies House.

Your application will not pass to assessment until all documents are received. If for any reason you have not submitted the correct document we will contact you and advise you on what we require. We will not simply reject your application.

If you have any queries around which documents to submit please contact Rebecca Wagner on 07756395535.

7) Timescales for 2026

All application received by last Monday of every month will be taken to a decision panel. You will receive the panel decision within 2 weeks and have 6 months from the date of the offer letter to spend the grant.

An extension will not be granted after the grant end date, but we are always open to a conversation about budget changes within the 6 months of your grant – please don't leave contacting us until the week before your grant is due to end!

We understand that things don't always go to plan. We will try to be as flexible as possible when things change. If you are successful, your grant will be approved on the application we receive, so it

is important we review and approve any changes to your project before those changes are made. Send us an email or give us a call to discuss the planned changes. We often only find out about these situations within the last month of a grant period, or after the grant period has ended, which limits the support we can offer and in some cases could lead to your grant funding being returned.

Applications received after 10am on 5th November 2026 will not be considered for funding.

8) How grant applications will be assessed

We will award grants to applications that are the best fit for the grant criteria above. If we receive a high number of good quality applications we may prioritise organisations who have not received funding from the Foundation before or projects which give a good geographic spread across our area of benefit.

Unsuccessful applicants are always given feedback in writing and the opportunity to have a conversation with the Grant Officer or Chief Executive.

The Trustees' decision is final, and we are not obliged to enter into correspondence with regard to the funding decision.

9) Monitoring your grant

We will ask you to complete a simple form when you have finished spending your grant and will send a copy of this with your grant agreement. You will receive an email with a link to complete your form a month before it is due as a helpful reminder. This will be a confirmation you have spent the money together with a link to your social media so we can look at your photos or a copy of a photo.

10) Support

If you need support to develop your project idea or write an application, then please get in touch with your local infrastructure support organisations:

For North Yorkshire	Community First Yorkshire (www.communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk) info@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk
For Redcar and Cleveland	Enhance Redcar & Cleveland hello@enhanceredcarcleveland.org.uk

If you are unsure if your request for a grant meets the criteria, please get in touch to discuss your application. If in doubt, please give us a call.

Rebecca Wagner – Grants and Programmes Officer – 07756 395535

Good luck with your application