

Funding Factsheet - Small Capital Projects/Renovations

The majority of funders highlighted below relate to funding for capital projects supporting community buildings and priority groups within communities, such as older people facing disadvantage, and children and young people.

This is just a selection and there are a number of theme-specific funders that may be suitable for capital projects such as theatre, the arts, heritage and church buildings which are not listed here. If you are a not-for-profit, looking to develop a capital project in Richmond borough, please get in touch to outline your capital project and funding needs and we will be happy to provide advice.

Rose Foundation

This Foundation offers grants for building projects under £200,000 in the London area, ie.32 London boroughs. The funder will consider any project that involves the use of a builder, eg. general refurbishment, windows, disabled access, redecoration. They fund between £5,000 - £10,000. Apply any time after 1 July each year and before 31 March the following year. For example, July 2025- March 2026 – project start will be in 2027.

Awards for All

This funds projects that do at least one of the below:

- bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities
- improving the places and spaces that matter to communities
- enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage
- support people, communities and organisations facing increased demands and challenges because of the costs of living crisis.

Up to £20,000 for small capital projects. For more information and [to apply click here](#).

Reaching Communities Fund

This programme offers a larger amount of funding (over £20,001 – max £500,000) for organisations that support the Reaching Communities Fund's priorities:

Support people, places or communities experiencing poverty, disadvantage or discrimination **and** support people and communications to shape the decisions that affect people's lives.

Your project must also achieve one of their missions:

- Come together
- Help children and young people thrive
- Be healthier
- Be environmentally sustainable.

One of the things the Reaching Communities Fund can be used for is the **purchasing, refurbishing or developing of land and buildings**. Read more [here](#).

Garfield Weston Foundation

This Foundation funds a wide range of themes including community. Their funding includes capital grants for the restoration of village halls and community centres and facilities to support community life. Their usual grant range is 10% of the total capital cost. Rolling programme.

The Richmond Community Fund

This allocates funds collected from the Community Infrastructure Levy generated from building developments in the borough to spend on local priorities which address the demands that the development places on the area. Previous awards have included a community kitchen, playground and garden spaces, and refurbishment of community spaces and places. The funding windows are contingent on their being sufficient funding available and are usually once a year. Round 6 is currently open for expressions of interest (closing date 6 May 2025).

Span Trust

Span Trust awards grants between £5,000 and £20,000 that will alleviate poverty, disability, age or ill health, and advance urban regeneration through the improvement of the built environment. They offer grants to both registered and exempt charities. There are two annual deadlines – the last Friday of January, and the last Friday of June.

The Bernard Sunley Foundation

This Foundation is an independent grant-making charity. It was founded by Bernard Sunley, a pioneer in the post-war reconstruction of Britain. It gives funds to registered charities and certain exempt organisations, such as specialist schools and scout and guide groups, for capital projects including building-related and minibuses. Grants are from £1,000 upwards and the majority, around 80%, are under £5,000.

Grants are divided into the following four categories. Please click on a link for more information as to whether your project qualifies:

- [Community](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Social Welfare](#)

Before applying it is essential that you read the funder's [Eligibility Criteria](#) and [Funding FAQs](#).

The Clothworkers' Foundation - Open Grants Programme

The Clothworkers' Foundation awards grants to UK registered charities, CICs, and other registered UK not-for-profit organisations (including special schools). Grants are awarded towards capital projects which are defined as:

- Buildings: purchase, construction, renovation or refurbishment
- Fittings, Fixtures, and Equipment - this includes but is not limited to office equipment/furniture, sports/gym equipment, digital/audio visual equipment, garden equipment, specialist therapeutic (excluding medical) equipment. It does not include equipment for one-off use, or which will be given to service users for personal use on a permanent basis.

- Vehicles - this includes a minibus, car, caravan, people-carrier, or 4x4. They are unlikely to fund the total cost of a new vehicle and do not provide grants towards vehicle leasing.

The size of grant awarded will depend on a number of factors including the size of your organisation and the cost and scale of your capital project. At least 50% of the service users benefiting from your capital project must be from their identified priority groups which are:

- Communities experiencing racial inequalities
- Disabilities including mental health and visual impairment
- Domestic and sexual abuse
- Economic disadvantage
- Homelessness
- LGBT+ communities
- Older People facing disadvantage
- Prison and rehabilitation
- Substance misuse and addiction
- Young people facing disadvantage.

Learn more about applying for a grant [here](#).

London Marathon Charitable Trust Active Spaces Fund

This Fund is for projects in London only that will improve and activate spaces, places and facilities that will help the least active children and young people and marginalised groups and communities to lead active and healthy lives. Grants of between £10,000 and £80,000. Your project must be aimed at one of the following:

- Children and young people
- People from ethnically diverse groups
- People from lower socio-economic groups
- Women and girls
- People with disabilities
- Long term health conditions
- Older people aged 65+.

You can submit an Expression of Interest at any point in the year. If you are invited to make a full application there are four deadlines in the year. The remaining dates for 2025 are 8 July and 25 September 2025.

Screwfix Foundation

Screwfix Foundation supports projects that improve, repair and maintain homes and community facilities used by those in need throughout the UK. Funding up to £5,000 is available.

B & Q Foundation

This Foundation provides grants, volunteer time and DIY resources to charities who are creating or improving spaces so that people in their communities have a place to feel comfortable and at home. They focus on funding charities that support people who are most in need because of homelessness, financial hardship, sickness, disability or other disadvantage. Grants are usually up to £10,000 for building or indoor projects, and up to £5,000 for garden projects, but they will consider larger grants for projects that support their objectives. Examples of funding awarded

include refurbishments of community spaces, creation of community gardens, and equipment for hospices and charities supporting physical health and mobility.

Biffa Award Main Grants Scheme

Grants of £10,000 to £75,000 are available for projects that provide or improve biodiversity, community spaces, cultural facilities, and places for outdoor recreation. Use the Postcode Checker to check eligibility. Many, but not all Richmond postcodes are within ten miles of a Biffa site. The type of activities that could be funded could be to improve community buildings; site-based projects to protect and enhance a species or habitat; improving an open space such as a park, play area or woodland that needs transforming to benefit local people of all ages. Potential projects must be within 5 miles of a significant Biffa Waste Services operation (15 miles for Rebuilding Biodiversity projects) and 10 miles of a licensed landfill site in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The total cost of the project must be less than £200,000 including VAT. The organisation is required to source from a third party 10% of the award. This is paid to Biffa to allow the full funding to be released to the applicant. This is due to Landfill Communities Fund regulations. These third-party contributions are separate from match funding.

If you are a church or heritage organisation looking for specialist funders why not try:

The Heritage Funding Directory

National Churches Trust

Please contact Richmond CVS to discuss any funding projects, including church and heritage projects in the borough of Richmond that you would like further advice on.

Email us at action@richmondcvcs.org.uk.

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