



## EASTERN COMMUNITY HOMES FUNDING GUIDE

This guide covers some of the potential funding sources for community led housing groups nationally and specifically within the 6 counties in the East of England. Most of this funding is not community led housing specific but there is the potential that groups could secure funding from these sources if they are eligible. Some local authorities in the East of England have community led housing specific funds available to start up groups and these are listed. Local authorities may also have other community funding where community led housing groups may be eligible (although not explicitly stated) as well as money available for individual councillors to invest in community projects. Individual town or parish councils may also have funding available for community or charitable projects such as those based around community led housing. It is advised that groups contact their local authorities and town/parish council on an individual basis regarding the support they can offer. Loans may also be available from ethical lenders. Please contact the hub for more information on this.

### NATIONAL FUNDING

#### **Affordable Homes Programme**

**Funding available:** £7.39 billion from April 2021 to deliver up to 130,000 affordable homes by March 2026 – outside of London.

**Location:** England, outside of London.

**Purpose:** The Affordable Homes Programme provides grant funding to support the capital costs of developing affordable housing for rent or sale.

**Eligibility:** Homes England welcomes proposals from existing and new partners – housing associations, local authorities, developers, for-profit providers, community-led organisations and others who have an ambition to develop affordable homes – including those they haven't previously worked with. Applications can be as an individual organisation or as part of a partnership or consortium. To receive grant funding, organisations need to be a qualified investment partner of Homes England or be working with an organisation that is. In a consortium, only the lead organisation needs investment partner status, unless other partners also intend to apply for funding on their own. Investment partner status confirms that organisations have the financial and technical capacity to deliver their proposed scheme, and that they have financial and legal good standing. Please contact the hub at [enquiries@easterncommunityhomes.com](mailto:enquiries@easterncommunityhomes.com) to find out more.

#### **National Lottery Awards for All England**

**Funding available:** Grants of £300 - £10,000.

**Location:** Nationwide.

**Purpose:** To support communities to thrive through building strong relationships in and across communities, improving places and spaces that matter to communities, and helping more people to reach their potential.

**Eligibility:** Suitable for voluntary and community organisations, constituted groups, registered charities, CIOs, CICs, community benefit societies, and parish/town councils.

[Find out more.](#)



### **Grants for Heritage – National Lottery Heritage Fund**

The National Lottery Heritage Fund provide different levels of funding to heritage of all shapes and sizes. Their grants range from £3,000 up to millions of pounds.

Current programmes include:

- National Lottery Grants for Heritage - £3,000 to £10,000; £10,000 to £250,000; £250,000 to £5 million. The impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic means the Fund will prioritise heritage projects that:
  - promote inclusion and involve a wider range of people (a mandatory outcome)
  - boost the local economy
  - encourage skills development and job creation
  - support wellbeing
  - create better places to live, work and visit
  - improve the resilience of organisations working in heritage

Full information on all National Lottery Heritage Fund programmes is available on their website.

[Welcome | The National Lottery Heritage Fund](#)

### **Nationwide Community Grant**

**Funding available:** Grants of up to £50,000. Applications open June 2021.

**Location:** Nationwide.

**Purpose:** Supporting housing and homelessness projects across the UK.

**Eligibility:** Organisation must be a charity, a Community Benefit Society or Cooperative registered with the Financial Conduct Authority, or a Community land Trust delivering housing projects that prevent people from losing their home.

[Find out more.](#)

### **The Screwfix Foundation**

**Funding available:** Grant of up to £5,000. Applications reviewed quarterly, next review in June 2022.

**Location:** Nationwide.

**Purpose:** Looking to support projects that relate to the repair, maintenance, improvement, or construction of homes and/or community buildings.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be a registered charity or not-for-profit organisation and must be helping those in need.

[Find out more.](#)

### **B&Q Foundation**

**Funding available:** Grant of up to £5,000. Funding will be distributed from August 2021.

**Location:** UK and Ireland. Previous projects funded by the B&Q Foundation have taken place in Norwich and in Hatfield.

**Purpose:** Funding for projects to provide, maintain, repair or improve housing or community space; or to support people experiencing bad housing or homelessness.

**Eligibility:** Organisation must be a registered charity and the funds must be used to help people in need (including by reason of financial hardship, sickness, disability, other disadvantage).

[Find out more.](#)



### **Help the Homeless**

**Funding available:** Grant of up to £5,000. Deadlines 15/06, 15/09, and 15/12.

**Location:** Nationwide.

**Purpose:** To help homeless people return to the community and enabling them to resume a normal life. This is funding for capital projects and applications can not be for running/core costs.

**Eligibility:** Organisations must be a registered UK charity with the Charity Commission. Charities must be small/medium-sized with an annual turnover of under £1 million and with 'unrestricted reserves' of under six months annual running costs. All applications must relate to projects that assist individuals in their return to mainstream society, rather than simply offering shelter or other forms of sustenance (self-help housing may therefore be eligible).

[Find out more.](#)

### **Garfield Weston Foundation**

**Funding available:** Regular grants below £100,000. Major grants over this can be applied for and are reviewed once a year.

**Location:** Nationwide.

**Purpose:** The Foundation awards grants for capital, project, and revenue costs for UK registered charities working in the areas of welfare, youth, community, arts, faith, environment, education, health and museums & heritage.

**Eligibility:** [Take their eligibility quiz.](#)

[Find out more.](#)

### **The Hive**

**Funding available:** Up to 12 days bespoke support, training and mentoring for groups looking to set-up a co-operative, existing co-operative with ambitions to grow or business looking to convert to co-operative or community ownership.

**Location:** Nationwide but particularly interested in applications from the East of England.

**Purpose:** The Hive has three pathways of support for start-up, existing co-op and business converting to a co-op. Examples might include providing access to better quality services which benefit local community that might not otherwise exist, delivering affordable quality community-owned housing or innovative community-owned renewable energy projects.

**Eligibility:** The co-operative must be based or planning to be based in the UK. It must be/will be a trading and sustainable business.

[Find out more.](#)

### **Home Building Fund**

**Funding available:** Loans of £250,000 to £250 million through development loans and infrastructure loans.

**Location:** Nationwide.

**Purpose:** Development loads are to meet the development costs of building homes for sale or rent, taken out over 5 years, to be drawn down to 31/03/2023. Infrastructure loans are to prepare the site for the infrastructure needed for housing to progress and land to be prepared, taken out over 20 years, and to be drawn down to 31/03/2025.

**Eligibility:** Private sector organisations may be eligible if:

- you are planning on building more than five homes
- you have already purchased a site in England that you have majority control of

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- your project may stall or progress much less quickly without this loan
- you are a UK registered corporate entity
- you have a clear route to getting planning consent when we make the loan offer.

[Find out more.](#)

### **Community Ownership Fund**

**Funding available:** The £150 million Community Ownership Fund will run for 4 years with the first round of bidding opening July 2021 and at least 8 bidding rounds. New details will be announced in spring 2022.

**Location:** United Kingdom

**Purpose:** Funding may support the purchase and/or renovation costs of community assets and amenities, subject to the full eligibility criteria outlined in the prospectus. Proposals will need to prove the value of the asset to local people and that the asset can run sustainably for the long-term benefit of the community.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for funding, applicants must demonstrate that the community asset they want to save fulfils the following criteria:

- There is a risk of loss without community intervention
- Community value
- Community use
- Long-term sustainability

Applications for funding will only be accepted from incorporated organisations which are set up to deliver charitable purpose, social purpose or public benefit.

[Find out more.](#)

### **LOCATION BASED FUNDING**

**Postcode Places Trust** – Postcode Places Trust supports smaller charities and good causes in the East of England to make a difference to their community for the benefit of people and planet. [Find out more.](#)

### **BEDFORDSHIRE**

#### **Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation**

**Funding Available:** Various grants are potentially suitable, with the majority under £10,000.

**Location:** Bedfordshire. Some grants are more specific in location, but all are Bedfordshire based.

**Purpose:** As an independent local grant maker, Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation support voluntary and community groups working for the benefit of people living within Luton and Bedfordshire. They award all their grants from the numerous funds they manage on behalf of statutory agencies, private donors, companies and local families.

**Eligibility:** Groups must be a registered charity or other non-profit making body, have a constitution or other governing document, and have a committee of at least three unrelated Trustees/Directors.

[Find out more.](#)

#### **Bedfordshire Rural Grants Scheme**

**Funding available:** Maximum grant of £20,000. Applications can be made at any time, although they will only be considered by the Committee three times a year (normally, in April, September and

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January). To ensure an application is considered applicants should ensure that it is submitted six weeks before the date of the meeting.

**Location:** Bedford Borough.

**Eligibility:** An application will not be accepted unless it has been signed by the Chairman or Clerk to the Parish Council stating it to be in the interests of their local inhabitants. Grants may only be made for capital projects.

[Find out more.](#)

### **Bedford Borough Community Chest**

**Funding available:** Grant funding of up to £1000.

**Location:** Bedford Borough.

**Purpose:** To help to improve the quality of life for residents of the Borough by funding organisations which can assist the council in the goals outlined in the Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy key themes of: economic development, regeneration & enterprise, environment & climate change, adult health & wellbeing, children & young people, safer communities, and sustainable communities (incl. housing & transport).

**Eligibility:** The organisation making an application must:

- Be a voluntary, charitable organisation or community group providing services and activities for Bedford Borough residents
- Be known to the council through partnership working or be able to demonstrate that it can develop a relationship with the council or has borough councillor representative(s) on its management committee
- Be a not-for-profit organisation
- Have a constitution, set of rules or memorandum and articles of association with clear aims and objectives which support the council in their goals
- Have a bank or building society account in the name of the organisation with at least two unrelated signatories
- Have an equal opportunities policy
- Assist the council in providing value for money for the residents of the Borough

[Find out more.](#)

## **CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

### **The Cambridge Building Society Community Fund**

**Funding Available:** Grants of between £2,500 and £10,000. Application deadlines Feb, May, Aug and Nov.

**Location:** Projects located within a 15-mile radius of The Cambridge's branch and store network.

**Purpose:** Offers grants to support local voluntary groups, community groups and organisations that are undertaking charitable work with a connection to homes or housing.

**Eligibility:** Projects located within a 15-mile radius of The Cambridge's branch and store network. Projects may include: enable access to housing and homes for all, tackle homelessness issues, support vulnerable people with their housing needs, give advice about housing, help vulnerable people into a home, support people to thrive in their homes.

[Find out more.](#)



## ESSEX

### Essex Community Foundation

**Funding available:** Variety of funding available.

**Location:** Organisation must be based in or working in Essex.

**Purpose:** Provide financial support for charity, voluntary, and community organisations.

**Eligibility:** A charity, voluntary, or community organisation in Essex. The organisation must have a minimum of three independent and unrelated trustees or committee members.

[Find out more.](#)

### The Tudwick Foundation

**Funding available:** Grants between £300 and £3,000 (larger grants may be considered).

**Location:** Essex and Suffolk.

**Purpose:** Funding prioritised for community projects where the greatest number of people will benefit, mainly voluntary organisations and community groups that are addressing unmet social needs. The Foundation actively encourages applications from relatively new organisations to help them become established.

**Eligibility:** Communities and charitable organisations in the UK, typically with an annual income below £500,000.

[Find out more.](#)

### Fowler Smith and Jones Trust

**Funding available:** Average grant awarded is £2,000 - £3,000. Occasionally, larger capital grants may be considered. Applications are considered three times a year in February, May, and September.

**Location:** Essex.

**Purpose:** Supporting charities in Essex. Grants fall into the following categories: arts, churches, community, medical, miscellaneous, and youth.

**Eligibility:** The Trust provides grants to institutions which are in the main UK based charities, and whose objectives comply with the Trust's criteria. Applications for core funding, project-based initiatives, refurbishment of premises and also equipment costs may all be considered for awards.

[Find out more.](#)

### Micro Grants

**Funding available:** Grants up to £500 for any one project.

**Location:** Within the administrative area of Essex County Council.

**Purpose:** Quick and easily accessible to help community projects at a grass roots level. These projects need to have outcomes that reduce social isolation, improve wellbeing, and support better connected communities. The micro-grants will also be able to be used to support any crowd funded projects that demonstrate real community support and engagement.

**Eligibility:** The following groups can apply: town/parish councils, formally constituted groups, community groups/associations, social enterprises, CICs, and Community Benefit Societies.

[Find out more.](#)



## HERTFORDSHIRE

Each individual member of Hertfordshire County Council has £10,000 a year funding which they can award for community projects in their area to promote social, economic, or environmental wellbeing. Applications open in May 2021, following the County Council elections. [Find out more.](#)

### **Hertsmere Borough Council's CIL Fund – Crowdfund Hertfordshire**

**Funding available:** Grants of up to £5,000.

**Location:** Groups in the Potters Bar and Bushey parish areas.

**Purpose:** Funding can be used to support a wide range of projects including those which create a lasting capital community asset.

**Eligibility:** The project must be run by a not-for-profit organisation and be for the benefit of those living/working in Hertfordshire. Projects must address equality and diversity and therefore must be inclusive and accessible to everyone. The project must have strong local support and be able to reach at least 25% of its target through crowdfunding for an Hertsmere Borough Council pledge to be made. The project must be completed within a year of the grant being awarded unless otherwise agreed.

[Find out more.](#)

### **Stevenage Community Trust**

**Funding available:** Grant amount variable. Applications are assessed quarterly.

**Location:** Stevenage and the surrounding villages of Aston, Benington, Cromer, Datchworth, Graveley, Knebworth, Little Wymondley, Old Knebworth, Walkern, Watton-at-Stone Weston, and Woolmer Green.

**Purpose:** Stevenage Community Trust has been providing financial support to charitable organisations and individuals in need since its creation in 1990.

**Eligibility:** Applications must be for charitable purposes. Organisations do not have to be registered charities but must be governed by a management committee or board of trustees and have a written constitution or governance document.

[Find out more.](#)

### **St Albans Community Project Fund**

**Funding available:** Grants of between £500 and £5,000 from a total fund of £41,000.

**Location:** St Albans City & District Council area.

**Purpose:** Aimed at smaller organisations for time-limited projects which meet community needs.

**Eligibility:** More information will be released when the fund opens in May 2021.

[Find out more.](#)

### **North Hertfordshire Community Grant**

**Funding available:** 3 grant pots with various funding.

**Location:** North Hertfordshire.

**Purpose:** Three main grants available: Community Grants, District Wide Community Grants, and Community Facility Capital Grants.

**Eligibility:** Properly constituted organisations to assist with projects which benefit the community and that match Council policy.

[Find out more.](#)



### **Dacorum Community Grants**

**Funding available:** Different pots with various funding. Grant applications close 31 May 2022.

**Location:** Dacorum Borough Council area.

**Purpose:** The Community Grant is designed to support community activities and improve the wellbeing of Dacorum residents. It is aimed at community groups and voluntary organisations within the borough who are looking for funding to deliver projects that will primarily benefit the people living in Dacorum.

**Eligibility:** Varies depending on funding pot. See below.

[Find out more.](#)

### **Hertfordshire Community Foundation**

**Funding available:** Up to £5000. The grants panel meets to consider applications throughout the year, approximately every two months.

**Location:** Hertfordshire.

**Purpose:** For projects addressing an identified need within Hertfordshire.

**Eligibility:** Projects that:

- Are meeting an identified need in the county - we encourage groups to reference evidence where available.
- Can demonstrate how the money requested will help them to make a positive difference.
- Are well thought through and costed appropriately.
- Are well connected to the communities they serve.
- Will be able to spend the funding requested within 12 months of the grant being awarded.

[Find out more.](#)

## **NORFOLK**

### **Weston Windfarm Community Fund**

The Fund has been established to support projects which will benefit the residents of the following parishes of Weston Longville, Morton on the Hill, Attlebridge and Hockering.

Applications can be made at any time when the Fund is open.

The purpose of the Fund is to support any type of activity that involves local people through small community organisations, and benefits their community. The activities must provide some measure of economic, environmental, educational, social or cultural benefit for people living in the area.

The Fund has been created by Temporis Wind, who will pay £9,000 annually into the fund while the Weston Windfarm is operational.

Awards from the fund will not typically exceed £5,000 though a larger award may be considered for a project with clear and significant benefit to the eligible area.

[Find out more](#)

## **SUFFOLK**

### **The Tudwick Foundation**

**Funding available:** Grants between £300 and £3,000 (larger grants may be considered).

**Location:** Essex and Suffolk.



**Purpose:** Funding prioritised for community projects where the greatest number of people will benefit, mainly voluntary organisations and community groups that are addressing unmet social needs. The Foundation actively encourages applications from relatively new organisations to help them become established.

**Eligibility:** Communities and charitable organisations in the UK, typically with an annual income below £500,000.

[Find out more.](#)

### **Transforming Suffolk Loan Fund**

**Funding available:** £1,000 to £50,000 loan at a term of 1-5 years.

**Location:** Suffolk.

**Purpose:** Loans available for the benefit of people living or working in Suffolk.

**Eligibility:** Loans are available for charitable, voluntary, and community groups. Investment in capital assets will only be accepted where the asset (e.g. building or equipment) is already owned or is going to be owned by the applying organisation. Organisations must demonstrate that they have the capacity to repay the loan.

[Find out more.](#)

### **COMMUNITY LED HOUSING SPECIFIC LOCAL AUTHORITY FUNDING**

All local authorities in the East of England have been made aware of Eastern Community Homes community led housing hub. A list of all local authorities that have pledged their support and signed up to Eastern Community Homes can be found here: [www.easterncommunityhomes.com/local-authorities](http://www.easterncommunityhomes.com/local-authorities).

#### **BEDFORDSHIRE:**

No funding currently available from local authorities.

#### **CAMBRIDGESHIRE:**

[Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Grant –](#)

**Funding available:** £5000 set-up grant

**Location:** Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

**Purpose:** The set-up grant of up to £5,000 is intended to provide steering groups or other appropriate community-based organisations with funding to pay for the professional fees and technical costs that are associated with the legal set-up for a local Community Land Trust (CLT) and contribute toward the costs of the basic community engagement activities that are essential to build local support and towards developing a business plan.

**Eligibility:** To be considered for a set-up grant the steering group/community-based organisation should ideally meet the following key criteria:

1. The applicant group/organisation should have either a bank account or the means to administer the grant funds on their behalf
2. The applicant group/organisation must be representative of the community, with an open democratic membership structure
3. The applicant group/organisation must be clear about the community that it has been established to serve, with a clear vision for the type of CLT they wish to set-up and a description of the project

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4. The applicant group/organisation's proposed project must contain an element of affordable housing
5. Any assets that are to be retained by the CLT in the long-term are expected to be permanently affordable for local people on local wages
6. The organisation must intend to provide evidence of meaningful public engagement and that the proposed project that requires funding has general community support
7. The project will need evidence of the backing of the wider community e.g. local planning authority

For more information contact, Jenna Brame, Rural and Community-Led Housing Development Officer, Cambridgeshire ACRE, at [jenna.brame@camsacre.org.uk](mailto:jenna.brame@camsacre.org.uk).

**East Cambridgeshire District Council Grant** – East Cambridgeshire District Council operate a start-up grant of £5000 for community led housing groups. For more information contact the Community Led Development Advisor at East Cambridgeshire DC, Emily Howard, at [Emily.Howard@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:Emily.Howard@eastcambs.gov.uk)

#### **ESSEX:**

**Uttlesford District Council Grant** – Uttlesford offers small grants to assist community groups who wish to deliver affordable housing. Community groups can apply for £2000 to assist them in scoping out ideas, draw up plans, and reach legal incorporation. Existing incorporated groups such as parish councils are also eligible for the funding if they are still working up their plans. [Find out more.](#)

#### **HERTFORDSHIRE:**

No funding currently available from local authorities.

#### **NORFOLK:**

**Great Yarmouth Borough Council Grant** – Great Yarmouth offers a start up grant of £5000 for new community led housing organisations for set up costs. This can include (but is not limited to) legal fees, website design, clerking, public meetings, and registration with relevant authorities. [Find out more.](#)

**Great Yarmouth Borough Council Loan** – Great Yarmouth also offers loans of up to £60,000 for community housing organisations. Eligible activities for the loan include legal fees, architect fees, business planning, project support, and other activities the organisation deem appropriate. These loans have repayment over a 5-year period and if a scheme is given planning consent and proceeds to build, will be subject to interest (3.6%). [Find out more.](#)

**Great Yarmouth Borough Council Land Purchase** – In exceptional circumstances Great Yarmouth Borough Council will consider purchasing a site where the community led housing organisation is established, will lose the site if not purchased quickly, and cannot do so without the help. The community led housing organisation will then have formal right of first refusal at the same cost the council purchased the land. [Find out more.](#)

#### **SUFFOLK:**

**Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils Grant** - The Councils have grant funding available to groups looking to set up a community led housing group. Funding can cover legal advice, planning advice,



and costs for surveys to identify local housing needs. In order to be eligible the organisation must not make a profit, have the support of the parish or town council, involve the local community, play a long-term role in ownership or stewardship, and have clear benefits to the local area. Find out more: [Strategic.Housing@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Strategic.Housing@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk).

## HOUSING RELATED FUNDING:

### Grant schemes for electric vehicle charging infrastructure – Office for Low Emission Vehicles

The government offers grants to support the wider use of electric and hybrid vehicles via the Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV). This includes:

- The Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme (EVHS) provides grant funding of up to 75% towards the cost of installing electric vehicle chargepoints at domestic properties across the UK.

**Update:** From April 2022, the EVHS will no longer be open to homeowners (including people with mortgages) who live in single-unit properties such as bungalows and detached, semi-detached or terraced housing. Installations in single-unit properties need to be completed by 31 March 2022 and a claim submitted to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) by 30 April 2022.

The scheme will remain open to:

- homeowners who live in flats
- people in rental accommodation (flats and single-use properties)
- The Workplace Charging Scheme (WCS) is a voucher-based scheme that provides support towards the up-front costs of the purchase and installation of electric vehicle charge-points, for eligible businesses, charities and public sector organisations.
- The On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) provides grant funding for local authorities towards the cost of installing on-street residential chargepoints for plug-in electric vehicles.

For more information visit the website below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-grants-for-low-emission-vehicles>

### Community Shares Booster – Power to Change

Delivered by the Community Shares Unit and funded by Power to Change, Community Shares Booster supports community businesses in the process of setting up and launching a community share offer that can demonstrate high levels of community impact, innovation and engagement. The programme provides:

- Development grants of up to £10,000 to prepare a community share offer; financial planning, governance support, marketing costs and being awarded the Community Shares Standard Mark
- Match equity investment – typically matching pound for pound up to £100,000 providing that the minimum share offer target is achieved
- Ongoing support and advice as an active investor in community businesses

[Community Shares Booster - Power to Change](#)

### Community Business ReBoost – Power to Change

Community Business ReBoost aims to support community businesses to raise community shares capital that can support their recovery, pivot or expand the business in response to Covid-19. The ReBoost fund provides grant funding and matched equity investment as follows:

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- Development grants between £3,000 and £5,000 to prepare a recovery community share offer and be awarded the Community Shares Standard Mark
- Match equity investment – typically matching pound for pound up to £25,000 providing that the minimum share offer target is achieved

Additional business development support may also be provided where required and will be prioritised to help community businesses operating in deprived neighbourhoods, or those led by and supporting communities experiencing racial inequity, and those led by and supporting disabled people.

[Community Business ReBoost - Power to Change](#)

### **Forestry England Woodland Partnership**

The Forestry England Woodland Partnership offers long-term leases with guaranteed income for public and private landowners to create new woodlands. The partnership scheme supports government plans for woodland creation, nature recovery and progress towards net zero targets. Forestry England are looking for sites of at least 50 hectares suitable for woodland creation for leases of between 60 and 120 years, and landowners will receive a guaranteed annual rent throughout the lease period. Forestry England will design, plant and manage every woodland created, ensuring each is resilient to a changing climate, supports wildlife, and provides wider ecosystem services.

All woodlands created through the partnership scheme will be open to the public, providing valuable health and wellbeing opportunities for communities.

Part of the Nature for Climate Fund to support the government's tree planting commitment, the Forestry England Woodland Partnership aims to create at least 2,000 hectares of predominantly broadleaf woodland over the next five years.

Applications are open all year round. Full details and brochures for public and private landowners are available on the Forestry England website.

<https://www.forestryengland.uk/woodland-creation>

### **England Woodland Creation Offer – Forestry Commission**

Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply to the England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) for support to create new woodland, including through natural colonisation, on areas as small as 1 hectare. EWCO opened for applications on 9 June 2021 and replaces the Woodland Carbon Fund, which closed for applications in March 2021.

The grant is administered by the Forestry Commission and is funded through the Nature for Climate Fund.

There are four types of payments available under EWCO:

- support for the capital items and activities to establish new woodland, at 100% of standard costs
- 10 years of annual Maintenance Payments to help establish the young trees once the capital works are complete
- contribution towards the actual cost of installing infrastructure to either enable the current and future management of the woodland, or to provide recreational access
- optional Additional Contributions where the location of the woodland and its design will deliver public benefits. You can apply for multiple Additional Contributions on the same land where it touches the right spatial layer and the design is compatible



EWCO is a criteria-based, competitive scheme, with funding offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

[England Woodland Creation Offer - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

#### **Recovery Loan Fund – Social Investment Business (SIB)**

The Recovery Loan Fund provides loans to UK charities and social enterprises who have been impacted by Covid 19 and need funds to help them to survive, recover and grow. It has been established by Social Investment Business (SIB) to make an existing Government guarantee scheme, the [Recovery Loan Scheme](#), more easily accessible to charities and social enterprises.

The Fund will lend to organisations that are improving people’s lives, or the environment they live in, across the UK. All funding purposes will be considered including refinancing of existing debt onto more patient terms.

The Fund closes to submissions on 20 May 2022. Applications will be reviewed on a first come, first served. Eligible organisations can apply for loans of £100k-£1.5m.

[Recovery Loan Fund \(sibgroup.org.uk\)](https://sibgroup.org.uk)