



GIVE LOCAL

Application guidance – 2025

Every year, we award 30 grants of **£1,500** to small local charities in partnership with Costco. Each grant is awarded in an area of the UK where Costco operates. These are: **Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Chester, Chingford, Coventry, Croydon, Derby, Edinburgh, Farnborough, Gateshead, Glasgow, Haydock, Hayes, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Milton Keynes, Manchester, Oldham, Reading, Rugby, Thurrock, Sheffield, Southampton, Stevenage, Sunbury, Watford and Wembley.**

Eligibility to apply for the grant:

- Individuals will **not** be considered for funding, and all applications should be made on behalf of an organisation.
- Organisations **may** apply for funds for core costs, to start a new programme, or for the expansion of an existing programme.
- Organisations with a charitable purpose, but who are not registered charities, will be considered, but may be subject to additional checks.
- Organisations with an average annual income of **£300,000** or less are eligible.
- Beneficiaries of the work must be positively impacted in one of these geographic areas. One grant will be awarded per location unless otherwise stated.

To qualify for the Give Local grant, you must operate in one of the aforementioned areas, and the following **exemptions must not** apply to your charity or your grant application:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start-up costs for new organisations• Medical research• Individuals• Cultural festivals (including Christmas-related activities)• The advancement of religion• Animal welfare• Other grant-making bodies• NHS Trusts• Loans or business finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universities• Sponsorship/marketing appeals/fundraising costs• Overseas projects/travel• Safety equipment for individual households• National or international charities• CCTV installation• Awareness campaigns without significant practical engagement |
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Your programme should align with our strategic goals:

United Way UK will support organisations that provide programmes and services that align with our strategic priorities. These priorities are long-term solutions addressing one of the following needs:

- **Education** – including, but not limited to, early childhood development, school readiness and success, out-of-school learning opportunities, soft skill development
- **Income stability** – including, but not limited to, job training, access to employment, support to obtain employment, and advancing financial literacy
- **Health** – including, but not limited to, mental health support, hunger prevention, and access to housing

Your application will be assessed in two stages. Stage one looks at the substance of your application. We review your application in the following categories: **Project, Budget, and Impact**. In stage two, we will carry out due diligence checks.

Stage one:

Project

The project description is very clear with strong evidence of planning and thought, or has been previously executed, so systems already exist to execute it effectively. The project is viable within the 3-month timeframe and is in response to the need in their area.

Budget

The budget outlines in detail how the money will be spent, including where funds will be going, prices, specific materials and quantities.

Impact

The project has the potential to have a profound impact on a group of people in their community and is clearly explained in detail. The wider impact of the grant on the community has been demonstrated.

Stage two:

Before making any grant payments, we will carry out due diligence. This process is a requirement for all successful applicants to ensure that grant money will be spent appropriately. It is used to confirm the legitimacy of the charities and to ensure you have appropriate systems in place to manage grant funds appropriately.

Good luck with your 2025 Give Local application. We look forward to reading about the fantastic work you do!