

Appendix A
Funding streams for rural communities
03RD July 2012

This review of rural funding streams was based upon the general category of ‘countryside and rural development’ and so does not focus upon funding for agriculture and farming. It should also be noted that there are a large number of funding organisations who, despite not having a specific rural community focus, will fund projects in rural areas providing they meet the funder’s criteria. Such organisations include WREN, Biffaward, Lottery funded programmes (other than already listed) and Sport England. The Central Funding Unit can provide more information on these funding streams upon request and following the provision of a project description.

Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE)

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund	To support within rural communities the provision of a new building; extending, renovating and converting an existing building; upgrading a building and improving accessibility.	Registered charities, voluntary groups/organisations in rural England.	Loans of up to £20,000 (larger loans may be considered)	At any time

Ashley Family Foundation

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
N/A	To support projects that are in line with the foundation’s objective of protecting rural communities and encouraging participation in the arts.	Charities, unincorporated organisations and community groups	No set upper limit but generally no more than £10,000	At any time

County & Land Association Charitable Trust

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
N/A	Funding to support the provision of facilities	No specific eligibility	Average grant	At any time

	for the disabled to take part in country sports and recreation and training in agriculture and horticulture. The scheme also promotes education in the countryside for disadvantaged children and young people	requirements beyond requesting applications from organisations running projects in England and Wales.	awarded is in the region of £2500 to be used for a specific project / item.	
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Department for Communities and Local Government

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Community Right to Build – Seed Corn Funding	To enable parish councils and community organisations to develop their plan for community developments such as building homes, shops, businesses or facilities and to submit a Community Right to Build Order.	Parish councils or 'community' organisations, that meet specific criteria	90% of costs incurred while preparing the development proposal and taking forward a Community Right to Build Order.	At any time

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Rural Community Broadband Fund	To enable rural communities to establish superfast broadband in the 10% hard to reach areas across England	Social enterprises, community interest companies, community trusts, charities, private businesses, other formally constituted groups and Local Authorities on behalf of local communities	No formal upper or lower limits to the size of a project. Up to 50% of total eligible costs to a maximum of £300 per premise	06 July 2012
Farming and Forestry Improvement Scheme	To support farming, forestry and horticultural businesses in England to	Farmers, foresters, contractors and horticulturalists are eligible	Grant rate of 40% in non-upland	17 July 2012 (round 2)

	become more effective at using resources	to apply	areas and 50% in upland areas. Maximum grant value per project is £25,000.	
Rural Development Programme for England 2007-13	England's mechanism for delivering funds allocated from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Projects should encompass at least one of the following themes: business efficiency; new markets and products; new businesses and enterprise in the rural economy; resource protection; conservation of the natural and built historic environment; access and recreation; rural community capacity.	Wide range of organisations, individuals and businesses depending upon the type of project.	Total value of fund to 2013 - £384m	Varies depending upon scheme
Catchment Restoration Fund	To ensure that water can be provided for society by reducing the pollution that comes from the way land is used and improving the landscape through which water flows	Lead applicants must be a charity or an organisation with charitable objectives. Local Authorities can still be involved but only as partners	Minimum grant of £50,000. No formal upper limit.	2012/13 deadline – 18 May 2012 2013/14 deadlines to be announced
Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme	To support capital expenditure incurred by English Local Authorities while meeting their responsibilities for investigating and remediating contaminated land	All Local Authorities	100% of the eligible costs of the project	2012/13 deadline – 11 May 2012 2013/14 deadlines to be announced

Department for Transport

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG)	BSOG is paid to all operators of local bus services for the general public and (since May 2002) to a wide range of community transport services. It reduces operators' costs, making more services available and helping to keep fares down	Open to organisations, private or non-profit making that operate public service vehicle services and/or community transport schemes.	% reimbursement of the fuel duty paid. % dependant upon type of fuel used.	At any time

D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
N/A	Funding for projects that fall into one of the following areas: The arts; health and medical welfare; Environmental protection or improvement (with a focus upon preservation of the countryside and its woodlands)	Registered Charities	Generally up to £5000	At any time

Forestry Commission

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
English Woodland Grant Scheme	Support for landowners in England to sustain and increase the public benefits derived from existing woodlands in England and to invest in the creation of new woodlands of a size, type and location that most effectively delivers public benefits	Owners, tenants or leaseholders of land	Six main grants offered. Amounts vary according to region and scheme.	Opens in Spring each year. Closes once fully subscribed.

National Lottery / Big Lottery

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Village SOS Active	Funding to encourage people to set up their own community enterprise in their village to tackle specific problems faced by villages and their residents.	<p>Communities that have a populations of 3000 or less.</p> <p>Lead organisations must be local to the community and one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voluntary and community groups - Organisations such as charities, village committees, associations, trusts etc - Parish, town or community councils 	Up to £50,000	12 September 2012
Local Food Programme	To support making locally grown food accessible and affordable to communities across England	Not-for-profit organisations including social enterprises	Between £2000 and £300,000	<p>Not currently accepting new applications. Sufficient applications to utilise the £50m grant funding available have been received.</p> <p>Awaiting</p>

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				confirmation of whether there will be another round.
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Natural England

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Paths for Communities	Funding to encourage and enable local communities to work with land owners to develop and enhance local public paths in ways that deliver wider benefit	Partnerships between local community organisations and landowners/managers.	Ranging from £5000 to £150,000	At any time
Nature Improvement Areas	To enable activities and projects that strive to achieve the shared vision of a coherent and resilient ecological network in up to 12 Nature Improvement Areas	Partnerships of at least two organisations (Local Authorities can be included within partnerships)	Total of £7.5m for up to 12 Nature Improvement Areas	2011 deadlines now passed
Heritage Management Plan Grants	To act as an incentive for landowners to prepare Heritage Management Plans to help implement sustainable management of land of outstanding scenic, historic or scientific interest	Typical grants range between £6000 and £12,000	Owners of land that is of outstanding scenic, historic or scientific interest	At any time

Plunkett Foundation

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
Village CORE Programme	To support rural communities of at least 300 people that are looking to set up and run a community owned rural shop	Groups planning to set up a rural shop	Advisory support in addition to a £40,000 funding package	At any time

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The Prince's Countryside Fund

Fund name	Fund objectives	Eligibility	Value	Deadline
N/A	To help rural areas to become more sustainable. The focus areas for the Fund are: projects to improve the sustainability of British farming in areas of deprivation; projects to improve the sustainability of rural communities and projects to reconnect people with the countryside.	Open to all organisations operating in the UK providing they can demonstrate the support of the community and evidence of consulting the community.	Maximum of £50,000 per project	First 2012 deadline – 13 th April Subsequent rounds to be announced.

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