

# Royal Countryside Fund

**New funding of £250,000 is available from The Royal Countryside Fund, supported by The National Lottery Community Fund, to deliver transformative, community-led initiatives in rural parts of Cumbria, unlocking the huge potential for positive change in this region.**

Organisations can apply for up to £30,000 over a period of 18 months to deliver activities along the themes of:

- Powering up Rural Communities
- Increasing Environmental Sustainability

The fund is looking to support projects that help to do one or more of the following four things. They should:

1. Help provide financial benefits to the locality.
2. Build a stronger sense of community and connectedness
3. Benefit the local environment, creating positive benefits for the community
4. Create an innovative and replicable approach addressing an unmet need within the rural area.

## Who can apply?

This funding is available to community organisations, not individuals or private businesses. To view full eligibility criteria, please read the guidance on our website.

Funding is available to cover direct costs such as staff, materials, equipment; organisational development to enable organisations to deliver the programme outcomes, such as business planning, testing new ways of working, staff training and development and core or fixed costs to support the day-to-day running of organisations, such as core salaries, utilities, equipment.

## How to apply

Applicants will need to send a short video and complete a simple 'Expression of Interest' form. These should highlight why their idea is needed in the area, how it will help the community, why it is innovative and what the long-term ambition is.

Please note, the deadline to submit a video and expression of interest is midday on **Thursday 12th September 2024**.

[Find out more and apply here](#)

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