



Funded by
UK Government



High Peak
Borough Council



East Midlands
Combined County
Authority

High Peak Arts & Events Grant

Application Deadline: Sunday 15th June 2025

All applications for the next round of the Arts & Events fund need to be submitted before midnight on the advised date.

Applications submitted after this date will not be considered in this round of funding.

Future rounds of funding may be released subject to any remaining funds.

Overview and Guidance

Grants for community-led arts, culture, heritage or creative activities/events.

The objective of this grant is to contribute to the delivery of the UKSPF Government priorities of Communities and Place, these are Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities, and Thriving Places. Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities aims to bring communities together.

The funding may be used to support any community-led arts, culture, heritage or creative activity/event which bring communities together. Activities or events should be community-led and result in arts, culture or heritage programmes which offer volunteering opportunities.

Grants are available up to **£3,000** per applicant/organisation or activity/event.

Applicants can apply for a fixed grant value of either £500, £1,500 or £3,000 depending on the size of the activity/event to be delivered:

£500 – For smaller activities and/or events expected to reach of around 150 participants.

£1,500 – For mid-sized activities and/or events expected to reach around 500 participants.

£3,000 – For large-scale activities and/or events expected to reach 1000+ participants

The grant intervention rate is 100% therefore no match funding is required, however, we will ask about any additional funding you may receive for the project.

All successful grant applicants must complete their projects by 31st January 2026 at the latest.

Applications will only be considered for community activities or events in the fields of arts, culture, heritage or similar creative areas which will take place in the High Peak Local Authority area that can be delivered between 14th July 2025 - 31st January 2026.

The activity/event must clearly demonstrate how it will provide additional benefit to any previous or ongoing work/activity. The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed activity/event would not be possible without this funding.

It should be noted that if applicants have received support from UKSPF (or Rural England Prosperity Fund – REPF) between April 2022 - March 2025, that any activity or event proposed for grant funding must be a new event or an additional activity to those previously funded.



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Previous recipients of UKSPF/REPF grant awards under the 2022-2025 tranche of funding are eligible to re-apply under this current grant scheme. However, priority will be given to organisations that have not previously received funding from this scheme.

Expenditure can be on either or both revenue and capital items but needs to be clearly related to the specific activity/event proposed.

Further Details

A total of £32,000 is available in this fund.

All grant funding will be paid on completion of the project via a claim process. Applicants must ensure that they have the required funds to cover the full costs of the project before applying to the fund.

Claims will need to evidence original quotes/invoices for works to be undertaken, payment to suppliers and evidence of the completed project, associated outcomes.

In exceptional circumstances staged or advance payments can be requested, however these are not guaranteed and will need to be requested in writing at the application stage.

Claims will not be paid against individual receipts (low-cost items such as stationary, decorations, disposable plates/cups, arts materials etc) only invoices from established organisations/businesses.

Claims are limited to a maximum of 10 invoices; however, we expect the majority of projects to be submitting around 3-5 per project.

VAT can only be included in your proposed costs if you can supply evidence at due diligence stage that your organisation cannot recover VAT from HMRC.

Applicants will be required to make their final claim submission, including evidence of meeting expected project outcomes by 31st January 2026. No further extensions will be granted beyond these dates for delivery and the claim submission.

Grants will be funded from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Who can apply?

Grants are available to Unincorporated and Incorporated legally constituted organisations who are located in the High Peak, and whose primary focus is on benefiting the community.

Eligible organisations include:

- **Company Limited by Guarantee**
- **Registered Charity.**
- **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).**
- **Co-operative**
- **Community Benefit Society**
- **Community Interest Company (CIC).**
- **Constituted voluntary or community organisation.**
- **Statutory body (including, town, parish, or community councils)**



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If you are not currently an eligible organisation and require support to become one, please email enquiries@enterprisesupportalliance.com or visit [Enterprise Support Alliance](#) where complimentary support is available.

All eligible organisations need to provide evidence of being financially stable (solvent) and comply with the [Minimal Financial Assistance rules](#) of the UK Subsidy Control requirements.

Organisations must also have a designated community or business account. We will not be able to pay out grant funds to bank accounts registered to an individual.

Who cannot apply?

We cannot accept applications from:

- private businesses run for profit
- individuals.
- organisations based outside High Peak.
- anyone who is applying for another organisation.
- organisations applying to more than one of High Peak Borough Council funds for the same project over the same period.

Project Activity

The objective of this grant is to contribute to the delivery of [the UKSPF Government priorities of Communities and Place](#), these are Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities, and Thriving Places.

Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities aims to bring communities together.

The funding may be used to support any community-led arts, culture, heritage or creative activity/event which bring communities together. Activities or events should be community-led and result in arts, culture or heritage programmes which offer volunteering opportunities.

It is expected that any activities or events also clearly align with one or more of the below aims of the [High Peak Borough Plan](#)

- Aim 1 - Supporting our communities to create a healthier and safer High Peak.
- Aim 3 - Protect and create jobs by supporting economic growth, development, and regeneration.
- Aim 4 - Protect and improve the environment including responding to the climate emergency.

All Arts, Heritage, Culture and Creative Activities/Events need to demonstrate how they can support/contribute to the following UKSPF outputs/outcomes:

1. Supporting a community-led arts, culture, heritage or creative activity or event
2. Creating new volunteering opportunities
3. Ensuring that a wider community-led arts, culture, heritage or creative programme continue to be developed/delivered



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The project must clearly demonstrate how the funded element will provide additional benefit to any previous or ongoing activity. Funding cannot be used to support ongoing costs.

The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed activity/event would not be possible without this funding.

Eligible items:

Grants funding can be used for revenue or capital items directly associated with the delivery of the activity/event for example:

- Equipment used for the event e.g., stage & audio-visual equipment hire
- Artist fees
- Workshops/activities
- Marquee hire

A maximum of ten items of expenditure (invoices) can be submitted.

Ineligible items include:

- Costs incurred prior to the Grant Agreement being finalised and signed.
- Costs that are funded already from other sources.
- Paid for lobbying, entertaining, petitioning or challenging decisions, which means using the Fund to lobby (via an external firm or in-house staff) in order to undertake activities intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, government or political activity including the receipt of UKSPF funding; or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action
- Payments for activities of a party political or exclusively religious nature
- VAT reclaimable from HMRC – (irrecoverable VAT is an eligible cost under the UKSPF)
- Gifts, or payments for gifts or donations
- Statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties
- Payments for works or activities which the lead local authority, project deliverer, end beneficiary, or any member of their partnership has a statutory duty to undertake, or that are fully funded by other sources
- Contingencies and contingent liabilities
- Dividends
- Bad debts, costs resulting from the deferral of payments to creditors, or winding up a company
- Expenses in respect of litigation, unfair dismissal or other compensation
- Vehicles
- Costs incurred by individuals in setting up and contributing towards private pension schemes
- Grants must be for the purposes of community-led events and/or activities and should not be used to fund profit making events and/or activities or any activity/event which takes place in a domestic property.

These are examples of eligible and ineligible costs only. Accepted eligible costs will be confirmed on award.



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Application Advice and Guidance

Enterprise Support Alliance has been appointed to help grow High Peak community organisations to develop and to advise on grant applications.

All applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposed projects with Enterprise Support Alliance prior to submitting any application, to ensure the organisation eligibility and project fit.

If you would like to discuss your project and receive any support with your application, please email enquiries@enterprisesupportalliance.com

Following any discussions with Enterprise Support Alliance applicants are required to complete the online application form by the advertised deadline for funding.

All successful project applicants must have completed their project, including defrayed expenditure by 31st January 2026. Final claim submissions, including evidence of meeting expected project outcomes is required by this date.

How to Apply

[Complete the online application form](#) by the advertised deadline for funding.

Evaluation

Applications will be assessed by Council Officers and, if supported, recommendations made to the High Peak UK Shared Prosperity Board for final decision.

Evaluation Criteria

All Applications will be assessed on their own merit, against the criteria below:

1. The impact this funding will have on the lead organisation/event.
2. The impact this activity/event will have on the community (including the number/range of community volunteers the activity/event will support and any wider impact the activity/event will deliver).
3. The amount/number of UKSPF outcomes the project will provide.
4. How the proposed project supports/links to High Peak Borough Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2027.
5. Value for money.
6. Previous applications

The UKSPF Board's decision is final, and applicants have no right to appeal.

If successful

Further information including accounts, terms of reference, insurance documents and operating policies will be required if your application is approved, as part of a due diligence check. A Grant Funding Agreement will then be sent, setting out the terms and conditions and required outputs/outcomes.



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Where the activity/event is to be conducted on a site or in a building, evidence of ownership or authorisation from the owner will be required along with the appropriate public liability insurance and compliance with any other requirements for events taking place in [public places](#).

Applicants should note that if successful in a grant award they will be required to procure any items required in compliance with UKSPF procurement guidelines, which are as follows:

Value of contract

Minimum procedure

£0.00 - £2,499.00

Direct award

£2,500.00 - £24,999.00

3 written quotes or prices sought from relevant suppliers of goods, works and / or services

Any items purchased not meeting these requirements will not be eligible for funding.

All eligible organisations need to provide evidence of not being insolvent and comply with the Minimal Financial Assistance rules of the UK Subsidy Control requirements.

Farm based enterprises will also need to comply with the [Concordat on the World Trade Organisation Agreement on Agriculture \(Domestic Support\) Regulations 2020](#) which requires the Council to report on aid granted to Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

Applicants should consider and identify other sources of funding prior to applying to this fund such as Lottery/Arts Council funding but should not duplicate funding from other sources.

For further information please contact UKSPF@highpeak.gov.uk