Funding Top Tips

- FROM OUR 2022 MEET THE FUNDERS SPEAKERS -



Benefact Trust

#1

Pick the right grant programme for your project

By applying to the most suitable grant programme for your project, you have a better chance of receiving funding sooner. Visit AllChurches' 'What We Fund' page to find out more about which programmes they are running and what they fund.

#2

Take your time

Take your time in tailoring your application to our funding criteria and our charity's objects, making sure you are eligible to apply, and providing all of the information we need up front. Read through the entire application form before you start filling it in, have all the practical information you need to hand, and think carefully about what fits best in each section.

#3

Make your project's objectives clear in your application

We usually receive over a hundred applications per month which is a lot to read through! Help us to clearly see what the impact of your project will be for those who will benefit from your project, and how it will change people's lives.



Asda Community Foundation

#1

Make sure your writing is clear

If applying the good old-fashioned way using a pen, then please make sure your writing is legible and clear! And whether applying digitally or not, make sure to check your spelling and punctuation, especially of names and emails.

#2

Check your spam

When making your first connection with a potential Grantee, check your spam box! Writing letters to make that first connection is very good, but if you list your contact details as an email address - then check your spam for their reply.

#3

Remember to say thanks

You are asking for help and possibly a significant donation. So, whatever the outcome, remember to say thank you for their help.



Cornwall Community Foundation

#1

Double check your application

We all make mistakes filling in application forms but the easier it is for our assessors to understand your project the quicker we are able to process your application. This applies to the project budget too. If your project budget doesn't completely add up then it can delay the application process whilst we make adjustments to your application.

#2

Have your documents ready

The list of supporting documents you need for your application can be found on our website. If we don't have these documents from you we may not be able to process your application in time to be considered by our grants panel.

#3

Know your need

We want to understand how you have identified that your project is needed and how many people will benefit from your project? The easier it is for our panellists to understand how you decided this project will address that need, the more likely they are to fund your application.



Cornwall Historic Churches Trust

#1

Timely maintenance

Timely maintenance really does produce long-term rewards. Putting off such work can lead to longer-term damage, so do not hesitate to get in touch with us and look at our grant applications.

#2

Keep up to date with the grants available

Look at our website (www.chct.info) for details of the grants available. Don't be afraid to contact either the grants secretary (grants@chct.info) or your area / Deanery rep for advice before you apply.

#3

Church Friend Membership

Remember that Church Friend membership of CHCT entitles you to higher grants!



Garfield Weston

#1

Make your message simple

#2

Be clear about what you do

#3

Have a well thought out funding plan

the Joseph @ Rank trust

#1

Read the Funder's Website

Read the Funder's website not once, but twice!

#2

Build relationships

Having established that the funder may consider your project, pick up the phone and start to build the relationship. Avoid sending 'info@' emails or relying on third party advice.

#3

Consider pre-existing funds

If you have rainy day funds or undesignated resources do not apply.



The National Lottery Community Fund

#1

Always check eligibility to apply

Plus the key themes and priorities of the funding programme– focus your time and efforts on funds/funders where there is the best chance of success.

#2

Research what the funder already invested in your area

If funders have already invested a lot in awards supporting those you currently work with, or in the locations where you deliver, they may not want to invest any more.

#3

Reapplying

If you've been unsuccessful try to get a clear understanding of the reason - is it something you can easily address before you reapply?



The National Churches Trust

#1

Read the relevant guidance before applying

This will save you a lot of time and effort in the long run.

#2

Be sure to carry out proactive local fundraising

This looks great to funders who can see that you are enthusiastic about your church repair project and willing to put in the work. Don't rely solely on grant funders to plug the gap.

#3

Describe how the project will engage your community

No matter how big or small your project is, we want to see you working towards welcoming your local community into the building. Describe how you will do this outside of worship.



Meet the Funders

Transformation Cornwall and Diocese of Truro