

Funding for Minibuses

This document is a collection of potential funding opportunities for those organisations in need of the use of a minibus.

The text on each potential funding body is compiled from extracts from their respective websites at the date stated in the document's filename.

Some of the funding opportunities listed below were closed at the date of the searches. If they are closed permanently then they have been omitted, but those that are likely to re-open later in the year have been included.

This document is not meant to be exhaustive, nor complete. It is a snapshot of the most relevant funding opportunities at that particular time.

Clothworkers Foundation

<http://tinyurl.com/lyvbe6u>

Their one-off grants are for the purchase of specific and pre-determined capital item(s), or service(s) for a particular project. "Capital" means tangible items or work; things that can be seen and used. This includes:

Buildings

For example purchase, construction, renovation, refurbishment, redecoration.

Fittings, fixtures, and equipment

For example office equipment, sports or gym equipment, digital or audiovisual equipment, camping equipment, garden equipment, specialist therapeutic (but not purely medical) equipment.

Soft or hard furnishings, bathroom/kitchen fittings and fixtures.

Please note that they do not fund equipment which will be purchased on an ad-hoc basis or which will be given to service users as part of your organisation's everyday operations.

Vehicles

For example minibus, car, caravan, people-carrier, 4X4.

Please note that it is rare for them to fully fund brand new vehicles

In the Main Grants Programme they tend to give grants of 50% or less of the project cost. The larger the project the larger our grant will be (but the smaller it will be as a percentage of the overall cost).

In the Small Grants Programme, where the maximum grant is £10k, they are more likely to fully fund projects.

Small Grants Max grant £10,000, average grant £7,000

Main Grants No max grant, average grant £25,000

Awards for All, England

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/england/index.html>

Awards for All, England offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 for projects that improve communities, and the lives of people within them. It is for voluntary and community groups, schools and health organisations, parish and town councils.

Awards for All has previously awarded grants **towards the cost of a minibus.**

They welcome applications from schools or other educational establishments such as academies, but we will not pay for activities or service that schools have a statutory responsibility to provide for example, curriculum based activities, or any activity taking place during curriculum time. They expect projects to take place before or after school, during lunchtime or in the holidays unless you can provide us with a good reason in your application why this is not possible.

Page 9 of the Guide for applicants (What will we pay for?):

The list 'What can't we fund?' refers to "existing activities and repeat or regular events,...".

This is not applicable for those projects whose annual income last year was less than £30,000. They are now eligible to apply for existing activities and repeat or regular events.

Percy Bilton Charity

<http://www.percy-bilton-charity.org/>

Only registered charities in the U.K. whose primary objectives are to assist one or more of the following groups. The Charity will consider capital funding for the following projects and schemes:

- **Disadvantaged/underprivileged young people (persons under 25)**
Supported housing schemes and educational and training projects to encourage disadvantaged young people who may be homeless and/or unemployed away from crime, substance/alcohol misuse and homelessness. Facilities for recreational activities and outdoor pursuits specifically for young people who are educationally or socially underprivileged or disadvantaged
- **People with disabilities (physical or learning disabilities or mental health problems)**
Residential, respite care, occupational and recreational establishments for children, young people and adults with physical or learning disabilities or enduring mental health problems
- **Older people (aged over 60)**
Day centres, nursing and residential homes, sheltered accommodation and respite care for the frail or sufferers from dementia or age related disorders. Projects to encourage older people to maintain their independence.

One off payments for capital expenditure of approximately £2,000 and over (the majority of grants fall within the range of £2,000 to £5,000)

Preference is given to specific items of furniture and equipment (excluding office items) which the Charity can fund in their entirety.

Please bear in mind that the Trustees prefer to use the Charity's funding to complete projects in order to maximise effectiveness and ensure grants are taken up as quickly as possible.

This means that minibuses, building and refurbishment works are only considered in the final stage of the fundraising appeal. Please apply once you have a shortfall of £15,000 or less.

In the case of major appeals and **minibuses please apply after 75% of the funding has been secured**, as offers are conditional upon the balance being raised and the project completed within one year. They also require grants to be taken up within 12 months of the offer and it is essential to ascertain that your project is likely to be completed within this time scale before applying.

Please note that **minibuses can only be considered if used to transport older and/or disabled people with mobility problems.**

Please include the following details:

- Please give details of provision made for insurance, tax and maintenance etc. They require confirmation that your organisation can meet future running costs.

- Specification of the minibus including make, model and number of seats.

True Colours Trust

<http://www.truecolourstrust.org.uk/small-grants-uk/>

The True Colours Trust is passionate about making a difference to the lives of children with special needs and their families and supporting people with life limiting and/or life threatening illnesses.

The Trustees are committed to supporting a large number of excellent local organisations and projects that work with disabled children and their families on a daily basis. This is done through the Trust's small grants programme. It provides grants of up to £10,000 to help smaller organisations develop and deliver programmes for children, their siblings and families. It is open to applications at any time. Grants in this category are usually one-off contributions rather than multi-year grants for on-going revenue costs.

The Trustees are particularly keen to support:

- Hydrotherapy pools
- Multi-sensory rooms
- **Mini buses**
- Young carers projects
- Sibling projects
- Bereavement support
- Specialised play equipment

Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation

<http://www.bernardsunley.org/index.html>

There are **two criteria** to fulfil before applying for a grant.

1. You must be a charity registered with the Charity Commission
2. You are applying specifically for assistance towards a capital project: new build, refurbishment, equipment or transport. Please note that they only fund capital projects. They do not fund running costs including salaries.

Their grants are divided into the following categories.

- Community
- Education
- Health
- Social Welfare

Under Health

Trustees focus on building projects for residential care housing, treatment centres and the provision of equipment to enhance medical treatment and care.

Types of application considered:

- Improvements to hospices and treatment clinics
- Residential care for the elderly and those with special needs
- New equipment not available through the NHS
- Research medical equipment
- **Specialist new transport**

There are three levels of grant:

- Small – up to and including £5,000
- Medium – £5,001 to £24,999
- Large – over £25,000

Last years annual report indicates that a typical grant towards a minibus was around £10,000

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund

<http://www.bailythomas.org.uk/applications/applicationguidelines>

The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund is a registered charity which was established primarily to aid the research into learning disability and to aid the care and relief of those affected by learning disability by making grants to voluntary organisations working in this field.

Learning Disabilities

Learning disabilities (intellectual disabilities), and autism are their priorities for funding. They consider projects for children or adults. They do not give grants for research into or care of people with mental illness, dyslexia, dyspraxia nor ADHD, if they do not also have learning disabilities (intellectual disabilities).

Funding is normally considered for capital and revenue costs and for both specific projects and for general running/core costs.

Grants are awarded for amounts from £250 and depend on a number of factors including the purpose, the total funding requirement and the potential sources of other funds including, in some cases, matching funding.

The following areas of work normally fall within the Fund's current policy providing they benefit the learning disabled:

- Capital building/renovation/refurbishment works for residential, nursing and respite care, and schools;
- Employment schemes including woodwork, crafts, printing and horticulture;
- Play schemes and play therapy schemes;
- Day and social activities centres including building costs and running costs;
- Support for families, including respite schemes;
- Independent living schemes;
- Support in the community schemes;
- Snoezelen rooms.

They do not normally fund minibuses **except those for residential and/or day care services for the learning disabled;**