

## PLATINUM JUBILEE VILLAGE HALLS FUND

### Grants for village halls in England between £7,500 and £75,000

#### CRITERIA

**Please check that your organisation and the project you propose fits the following 10 - points before you complete the online application.**

1. The aim of the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Improvement Grant Fund is to support the modernisation and improvement of village halls so that they are fit for purpose and can provide activities which seek to achieve one or more of the following outcomes for their communities:
  - improved health and/or wellbeing and/or reduction in rural loneliness,
  - positive impact on the local environment, contributes towards net zero,
  - support for the local rural economy,
  - promotion of community cohesion.
2. You can apply for a grant between £7,500 and £75,000 which will be 20% of your capital project costs including the VAT. You must be able to identify where the 80% is being sourced from. There is no upper limit for the total capital costs, but you can only receive a maximum grant of £75,000.

Do not include VAT on eligible capital works if you are able to reclaim the VAT, equipment and fittings, contingency and fees (planning, building regulations, legal costs).

See the FAQs for more information.

3. The Fund shall be available to support **capital improvements only**, where projects aim to:
  - Upgrade facilities
  - Extend facilities
  - Improve facilities
  - Purchase capital items

The Fund **shall not** be available for projects that solely seek to:

- Repair
- Maintain

## Examples

The following are examples of projects that would be considered **not eligible** to be funded (it is not an exhaustive list):

- Building projects which have already started.
  - New build village halls.
  - Work that is undertaken solely to ensure compliance with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) requirements.
  - Routine maintenance, defined as simple, small-scale activities (usually requiring only minimal skills or training) associated with regular and general (daily, weekly, monthly) upkeep of a building, or equipment, machine, plant, or system against normal wear and tear.
  - Improvements to car parks, parking areas, adjacent recreational areas, and landscaping.
  - Capital expenditure which is not to do with the physical improvement of the hall.
  - Architects, surveyors and specialist survey fees.
  - Costs for feasibility studies or planning applications or project managers' fees.
4. Grants will not be available where hall committees have received a grant from the Village Hall Improvement Grant Fund or the Platinum Jubilee Village Halls Fund in the 2023/24 financial year.
5. Your village hall must be a charity owned and managed by the community. The town or village in which it is situated must have a population of 10,000 or less.

The following legal entities **will be eligible** to apply for a grant from the Fund:

- Registered Charities
- Charitable Trusts
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations
- Community Associations which are registered Charities

- Multi-purpose Church Halls, Scout and Guide buildings are also eligible where they are open for the whole community, there is no alternative village hall in the vicinity, they are not single use and they are clearly advertised as multi- purpose.
- Charitable Companies
- Parish or Town Councils where they are the sole trustee of a charitable village hall.
- Parochial Church Councils where improvement works are being carried out to a church and where there is no village hall or other meeting place in the community. Capital works should be to enable the building to be used for a range of community activities.

The following legal entities **will not be eligible** to apply for a grant from the Fund:

- Community Interest Companies (CICs)
  - Companies - Industrial and Provident Societies, Co-Operatives or Community Associations where no charity registration is in place.
  - Sports Pavilions
  - School Halls
  - Parish Councils that are custodian trustees of the hall charity.
6. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that the proposed village hall is in a rural area with a population of less than 10,000 people.
  7. Projects must be able to demonstrate they have all the funding for their project in place 6 months from the date of offer and be able to complete the work by the end of March 2025.
  8. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have a freehold or leasehold interest in the village hall in place. If a leasehold interest, there must be at least 21 years left to run on the lease.
  9. If your project does not meet the eligibility thresholds please apply to the [small grants fund](#).
  10. If you have any queries check the FAQs or email [villagehallsfund@acre.org.uk](mailto:villagehallsfund@acre.org.uk). It is important you make contact with your [local hall adviser](#) as they will support your project applications.