

FACTSHEET – INCOME GENERATION

Varying your income streams and receiving funding from multiple sources will make your organisation financially sustainable and resilient to change. If you become over-reliant on one funder and the funding is suddenly cut, your services will be at risk. Sourcing income from different funders or generating your own income through trading will ensure that you are in a stronger financial position if you are faced with unexpected changes.

Sources of funding

The main sources of funding that you might want to consider are:

1. The National Lottery

The National Lottery has several funding pots suitable for all sizes of VCSE organisations including Awards for All (up to £20,000), Reaching Communities (over £20,000) and the Heritage Fund (£10,000 to £250,000).

2. Local Grants

Bury VCFA now administer local grants on behalf of funders such as Bury Council. These grants vary in sizes depending on the funder's requirements. In the past, local grants have ranged from £1,000 to £10,000 and are for organisations that operate in the borough of Bury.

3. Funding Grants

Many organisations now offer funding grants as part of their corporate social responsibility. These grants may be more competitive than local grant funding, but it is still worth putting in an application for projects that match the grant requirements. [To view the latest Bury VCFA grant funding bulletin, follow this link.](#)

4. Charitable Trusts or Foundations

Charitable Trusts or Foundations were set up by companies or individuals as a way of giving money to certain causes.

5. Support from Local Businesses

Businesses offer an alternative source of funding or support. They may offer a donation of cash, products or services in exchange for publicity.

6. Crowdfunding

This is another way to get donations from your supporters using websites like JustGiving or Crowdfunder UK. Most sites will charge an admin fee for taking donations. You will need a large support base and a good social media presence to be successful with crowdfunding.

7. Fundraising and Donations

Fundraising events are a great way to raise awareness of your organisation and generate funds. Community fundraising might include street parties or sponsored walks, film nights, fashion shows, bingo nights or sporting events.

8. Trading

Trading is a way of generating your own income through selling goods and services.

9. Loans

Loans can be used by VCSE organisations to help them 'top up' the amount of funding needed for large projects. For example, to purchase a building, provide new equipment, or start a social enterprise. Loans must be paid back and with interest.

10. Social Investment

A form of repayable finance available for VCSE organisations to help deliver social impact.



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