

# COVID-19 RESOURCES AND FOCUS SUPPORT

The impact of the current Covid-19 pandemic is unprecedented and it is uncertain at this time how long the impact will last. All sectors have been affected and already national, regional and local funding agencies have put in place funding to support organisations at this difficult time.

We have developed a brief overview of the funding opportunities available through the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England to organisations within the arts, culture and heritage sectors.

Should you require any assistance in applying for funding and / or supporting your organisation at this time we are ready and available to help. We are more than happy to discuss your needs and the options available and can provide the appropriate support in a way which suits your organisation. Our priority is making sure you are supported at this difficult time to come out of this much stronger and more resilient.

Some of the areas in which Focus can help are outlined below but more can be found on our website at the following link: [www.focus-consultants.com](http://www.focus-consultants.com)

### Operational Support / Project Development:

- **Business Planning** – review and update of existing business plan to respond to the Covid-19 crisis and develop a plan for re-opening with a strong and resilient team / offer
- **Governance Support** – review and strengthen Trustee Board and / or review and recommend improvements to governance / management structure to ensure organisations are best placed for moving forward.
- **Fundraising Strategies and Bid Support** – review / update funding strategies in light of the current and future changes as well as develop funding bids (where possible)
- **Audience Development** – review existing ADP and update / provide recommendations to drive visitor growth post-opening and moving forward
- **Strategy / Vision Development** – review / update strategic plans and / or reconsider future vision and aims to ensure organisations are best placed to move forward out of this crisis
- **Masterplanning / Options Analysis** – linked into the capital project support review / amend existing masterplans and options appraisal / feasibility studies based on the existing situation and consider what needs to be delivered to help ensure future sustainability.

### Capital Project Support / Delivery:

- Project and Programme Management including:
  - Cashflow Forecasting / Re-profiling
  - Cost Management
  - Value Management / Engineering
  - Risk Assessment
  - Project Audit
  - Procurement Management
  - Contract Administration / Employers Agent

Please do not hesitate to give us a call on 0115 976 50 50 or email [enquiries@focus-consultants.com](mailto:enquiries@focus-consultants.com) to find out further information.



## CREATE

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDING  
BUSINESS AND ORGANISATIONAL PLANNING  
RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT

## DELIVER

QUANTITY SURVEYING  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT  
BUILDING SURVEYING

## ASSESS

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS  
BUILDING PHYSICS  
ENERGY COMPLIANCE & PLANNING SUPPORT  
ON SITE TESTING

**LONDON**  
0203 096 9717

**NOTTINGHAM**  
0115 976 5050

**LEICESTER**  
0116 275 8315

**NEWARK**  
01636 233 117

## HERITAGE EMERGENCY FUND

The NLHF have announced a £50 million Heritage Emergency Fund to provide emergency funding for those most in need. This is short-term funding to support the immediate actions needed to stabilise operations and manage unforeseen risks. You can apply to us for a grant between £3,000 and £50,000 to cover unavoidable costs you will otherwise be unable to meet for up to four months.



### To apply for funding, you must be:

- A not-for-profit organisation
- A current or previous recipient of a grant directly from the NLHF
- An owner, manager or representative of heritage, or be able to show you have delivered participatory heritage activity.

### Applications will be prioritised from organisations that:

- have limited or no alternative access to other sources of support, for example, from Governments, other National Lottery distributors, other emergency funding from trusts and foundations
- have already tried other options to stop being at risk such as putting projects on hold, rephrasing milestones, repurposing other funding to support day-to-day operations, minimising costs but maximising the function of existing projects (value engineering)
- are in greater financial risk from COVID-19 due to a reliance on trading or community fundraising income streams
- are in greater financial risk due to limited reserves.

### NLHF will also prioritise where:

- an organisation is contributing to their outcomes around economic regeneration, inclusion and wellbeing, as defined in our Strategic Funding Framework
- an organisation is working within one or more of the 13 Areas of Focus identified in the Strategic Funding Framework
- heritage is most at risk.

### Application Process:

If you have a closed National Lottery Heritage Fund project (you have received your final payment), you can contact your local team to discuss your options before you apply.

If your National Lottery Heritage Fund project is still running, we recommend you speak to your investment manager before you start an application.

The application form will be available online from **Wednesday 15 April**.

## ACE FUNDING FOR ORGANISATIONS OUTSIDE OF THE NATIONAL PORTFOLIO

£50 million will be made available to organisations who are not in receipt of regular funding from ACE. This fund is to support organisations to get back on their feet, or to continue making work in the future that will mean they can contribute to delivering our new strategy, Let's Create.

Maximum grant available is **£35,000**.

There will be two rounds of this fund. You can apply to only **one** of these rounds.

- Round one opens for applications on **9 April 2020** and applicants will need to register on Grantium by **13 April** in order to make an application before the deadline of **12pm (midday) 16 April**.
- Round two opens for applications on **16 April 2020** and applicants will need to register on Grantium by **27 April** in order to make an application before the deadline of **30 April**.

Further information can be found here - <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/financial-support-organisations-outside-national-portfolio>



## ACE FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUALS

£20 million available to support artists, creative practitioners and freelancers to enable them to sustain themselves, and their work, in the coming months.

Maximum grant available is £2,500

There will be two rounds of this fund. You can apply to only **one** of these rounds.

- Round one opens for applications on **9 April 2020** and applicants will need to register on Grantium by **13 April** in order to make an application before the deadline of **12pm (midday) 16 April**.
- Round two opens for applications on **16 April 2020** and applicants will need to register on Grantium by **27 April** in order to make an application before the deadline of **30 April**.

Further information can be found here –

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/financial-support-artists-creative-practitioners-and-freelancers>



In addition, there are a number of online resources available to signpost organisations to different areas of guidance and support. Some useful links are provided below:

**Association of Independent Museums – guidance and resources to support members during the Covid-19 crisis.**

<https://www.aim-museums.co.uk/coronavirus-resources/>

**AMA – resources to support the arts, cultural and heritage sector through coronavirus.**

<https://www.a-m-a.co.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>

**The Heritage Alliance – latest guidance and advice on mitigating the effects of Covid-19 for organisations across the Heritage Sector.0**

<https://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/>

**Architectural Heritage Fund – information on support available to charities and social enterprises**

<http://ahfund.org.uk/>

**Charities Commission – guidance to help with running your charity during the Covid-19 outbreak.**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-the-charity-sector>

**Community Fund – updates for organisations funded through the National Lottery Community Fund**

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/about/coronavirus-updates>

*Please note all information provided was correct as of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020. All links will have information updated regularly.*