



National Lottery Heritage Fund projects

Judith Carruthers, Senior Engagement Manager
Gareth Johnson, Investment Manager

Midlands & East region

The National Lottery Heritage Fund is the largest funder of the UK's heritage.

Since 1994 we have awarded £1.1bn to 8,300 places of worship projects across the UK.



We fund projects that:

- Clearly focus on heritage in the UK
- Take into account all four Investment Principles
- Have a clear plan, with a defined start, middle & end
- Have not already started
- Can demonstrate the need for National Lottery investment



What is heritage?

Anything from our past that we value and want to pass on to future generations. For example:

- Histories of people, communities, places and events
- Cultural traditions
- Land and nature
- Historic buildings and monuments
- Objects, collections and archives
- Industrial, maritime and transport heritage

*Working for Nature,
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust*



Our Investment Principles

All projects that we fund must take all four investment principles into account.



**Saving
heritage**



**Inclusion, access
and participation**



**Organisational
sustainability**



**Protecting the
environment**

Examples of Project Activity

- Necessary repair works to masonry, rain-water goods systems or roofs.
- Running heritage learning activities and community events, and creating space for them by carrying out minor alterations to the fabric
- Discovery, conservation and learning about the creatures that live in the building, such as bats or birds of prey.
- Activities to help your group manage heritage more effectively, such as researching existing and new audiences, expanding your pool of volunteers, or trying new approaches to fundraising or income generation.
- Installing facilities such as toilets which can be shown to enable more inclusive use of the building.

National Lottery Heritage Grants



£10,000 to £250,000

Project Enquiry Form service available

Single-round application

No deadlines to apply

8-week assessment

Maximum 5 years

No mandatory match funding

Grant Payment terms 50% in advance,
30% in advance and 20% in arrears

National Lottery Heritage Grants



£250,000 to £10million

Mandatory Expression of Interest Form

Two-round application: Development and Delivery

Quarterly deadlines to apply
3-month assessment

Max 7 years: up to 2 years development and up to 5 years delivery

5% match funding for up to £1million and 10% match funding over £1million

Payment in arrears

Stamford All Saints Church: £219,635 (£299,635)

- Awarded Funding September 2025

Need Evidenced:

- 2024 QI: old radiator heaters decommissioned.
- Feasibility study.

Support Evidenced:

- Letters of support from community organisations included.
- Other sources of funding sought.



Resources

- 4-minute grant explainer films for both funding programmes
- Application guidance & copies of application questions
- Receiving a Grant / Terms of Grant information
- A range of [good practice guidance](#)
- Examples of [funded projects](#)
- Regular '[Helping You Apply £10,000 to £250,000](#)' webinars
- Optional [Project Enquiry Service](#) and Mandatory [Expression of Interest](#)
- [A video to help you apply for £10,000 to £250,000](#), providing on-demand access to Heritage Fund expertise and tips from past grantees.

Keep in touch!

Website Guidance and Application Portal

www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding

Email:

MidlandsandEast@heritagefund.org.uk

Sign up to our newsletter

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/email-signup>



Thank You

