



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL



ADVICE ON APPLYING FOR CHARITABLE FUNDING

Financial assistance is available from Councils to help pay for essential adaptations to the homes of elderly/disabled people through a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG). A statutory means test determines what if any grant funding can be made available to an applicant. Any shortfall to cover the cost of the works has to be met by the grant applicant themselves. Applications for a disabled child are not subject to a means test calculation.

The maximum amount of mandatory grant available is £30,000.

If you are making a grant application and you have been assessed as having to make a contribution towards the costs of the adaptations or the cost of the proposed work exceeds the £30,000 grant limit, one option would be to consider making an application for charitable funding to help fund the shortfall.

Most charities will require you to complete their own application form and each charity will have its own eligibility criteria/conditions. It is worth noting that charitable funding will usually cover sums of money between £500-£2,000 and is unlikely to pay out amounts over £5,000. The following charities may be able to consider an application from you:

National charities:

- The Royal British Legion
If you or your partner have a connection to the armed forces or participated in national service then you will be able to approach the British Legion for help. Make sure you have your service number ready!
Tel: 01242 523878 Email: info@britishlegion.org.uk
- SSAFA
SSAFA are also a charity for the armed forces and their families.
Tel: 0800 731 4880 Email: welfare@ssafa.org.uk
- Family Fund
The Family Fund helps families raising disabled children in the UK.
Tel: 01904 550055 Email: info@familyfund.org.uk
- Turn2Us
Turn2Us is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship to gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services.
Tel: 020 8834 9200 Email: info@turn2us.org.uk
- Masonic Charitable Foundation
The Masonic Charitable Foundation provides support to Masonic families to relieve a financial, health or family need.
Tel 0800 035 6090 Email: info@mcf.org.uk

Local charities:

- Barnwood Trust
Barnwood Trust is dedicated to supporting the people of Gloucestershire by providing help for those who are living with complex disabilities, including dementia.
Tel: 01452 614429/0845 504 0670 Email: info@barnwoodtrust.org
- GCHQ Benevolent Fund
Ex-workers from GCHQ can apply for assistance through their benevolent fund.



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Charities relating to medical condition:

- Motor Neurone Disease Association Tel: 01604 250505
- Multiple Sclerosis Society Tel: 020 8438 0700
- There are many other charities relating to specific medical conditions who help with financial support but would also provide information and advice.

Charities relating to previous employment:

- Teacher's Benevolent Fund
The NASUWT Benevolent Fund is available to members, former members and the dependants of members and former members and dependants of deceased members, provided a subscription has been paid to the Union.
- Unite Benevolent Fund
The Unite the union Benevolent Fund is the benevolent fund for Unite the union members and employees and their immediate dependents.
- There are many other professional institutions/unions that would consider making a donation so it would be worth researching what is available relating to your specific employment history.

Useful reference:

- The Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need 2016/17 by Rachel Cain & Jennifer Reynolds. This is the ultimate guidebook for charities working on the front-line, supporting those living in poverty and extreme circumstances.