



Community Fund Factsheet 2025/26

Aim

A £2M per year Community Fund has been established for Provinces/MetGL to apply for funds for charitable activities in support of UGLE's community engagement strategy. The Community Fund has replaced the Matched Funding programme (which provided matched funding to Provincial donations of up to £10,000 per Province/MetGL per year).

Purpose of Community Fund Grants

Community Fund Grants are designed to provide funding to support locally led registered charities in England, Wales, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands to deliver visible, impactful activities that bring people together, foster community spirit, and promote social inclusion and active participation. These grants will aim to strengthen local connections by supporting initiatives that encourage volunteering, civic involvement, and inclusive engagement opportunities.

Funded activities should be designed to create visible positive change within communities. Projects could also provide opportunities for Freemasons to offer their time, skills, and experience to help deliver activities, whether through volunteering, mentoring, or hands-on involvement, ensuring that local knowledge and talents contribute to meaningful community-led action. They should also offer positive PR opportunities for Freemasonry at a Provincial and National level.

Community Fund criteria

Applications to the Community Fund **will be assessed against the definition of community engagement, and specifically the degree to which projects demonstrate:**

- Meaningful social action within the local community
- Involvement of local community leaders and stakeholders
- Practical and visible support for tackling social issues of importance locally
- Support from the local Province//MetGL; preference could be given for example to applications where the Province/MetGL is willing to match fund any grant awarded or where there are volunteering opportunities for local Freemasons.