



# HS2 COMMUNITY & BUSINESS FUNDS: PHASE ONE ANNUAL REVIEW 2018/19



Working in  
partnership with

**HS2**



Funded by  
UK Government

# ABOUT THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT FUND AND BUSINESS & LOCAL ECONOMY FUND



## Phase One

In October 2014 the government announced two funding programmes to help offset the disruption of Phase One of HS2 on local communities and businesses – the Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF).

A combined total of £40 million has been made available for these two Funds over a period of 11 years. The funding is released during the construction period and for the first year of operational HS2 (Phase One) services. The Funds provide support for good quality bids and money will be available throughout this time period.

Both Funds award money from the same funding pot and so the amounts allocated from each Fund will depend on the number and quality of applications.

The Funds were launched in February 2017 and applications were accepted from 8th March 2017. The Funds' first Annual Report was published in March 2018.

The administration of these Funds is managed independently on behalf of High Speed 2 Ltd by the

national community charity Groundwork UK with oversight from an independent Chair of the Funds and an independent Panel.

## Phase 2a

HS2 Minister Nusrat Ghani announced on 25 January 2018 that an additional £5million is to be added to the CEF & BLEF funding pot for those disrupted during construction of the Phase 2a scheme from the West Midlands to Crewe. This brings the overall total of CEF & BLEF combined for Phase One and Phase 2a to £45m. Discussions are on going with regards to the extension of the Funds for Phase 2b of the scheme.

CEF & BLEF have been designed with all three Phases in mind.

As was the case for the Phase One funding, the additional £5m for Phase 2a **will be open for application and will be independently administered by the Grant Management Body after Royal Assent of the Phase 2a Bill and not before.** The Bill was deposited on 17th July 2017. Phase 2a communities and stakeholders will be notified of the launch date of CEF & BLEF for Phase 2a around the time of Royal Assent.

## ABOUT GROUNDWORK UK

Groundwork UK is the national body of Groundwork and works to support its local delivery through national relationships, resources and representation.

Groundwork UK was appointed as a result of a competitive tender to act as an independent Grant Management Body, and will see the charity managing the end to end delivery of the £40 million combined Funds for Phase One, leading on the promotion of the Funds, working with bidders to develop applications, receiving and assessing applications, being responsible for overseeing the payment of grants and monitoring the progress of successful grants.

Groundwork UK is a charity working locally and nationally to transform lives in the UK's most disadvantaged communities. We are passionate about creating a future where every neighbourhood is vibrant and green, every community is strong and able to shape its own destiny and no-one is held back by their background or circumstances.

# INTRODUCTION



## Review of the year from CEF & BLEF's Independent Chair

**This Annual Report provides highlights of our committed independent work to ensure communities disrupted by the construction of Phase One of High Speed 2 benefit from CEF & BLEF above compensation and mitigation.**

The second year of the Funds' operation saw an expected increase in applications and awards, reaching over £3 million distributed in total over the two-year period, supported by a culture of continuous learning. In addition, the introduction of the CEF & BLEF online interactive map in early 2018 provided the opportunity for stakeholders and the general public to gain monthly updates on the projects funded in their area which was positively welcomed.

In 2018/19 the Funds supported 49 projects in the Greater London, Central and West Midlands regions and across the Phase One line of route, and we awarded nearly £2,982,100 in total during that 12 month period. The variety of awarded projects in urban and rural areas was welcomed, including the

refurbishment of community play areas and community centres, support to improve health & wellbeing and skills & employment, the provision of business advice and support, and the backing of capital projects to benefit the wider community. I would like to thank Groundwork UK for their commitment and professionalism in independently administering the Funds to such a high standard and for proactively leading outreach activities in areas which have not yet received funding to date.

I was delighted to announce in autumn 2018 the first cohort of BLEF awards, giving an opportunity to demonstrate the possible ways in which business groups can collectively benefit from the Funds when working in partnership.

I have had the opportunity to visit a number of recipient projects over the last 12 months and to see the positive difference that the Funds are making along the line of route in conjunction with HS2 Minister Nusrat Ghani and senior representatives from High Speed 2 Ltd. I am grateful to all the projects we visited for their time to discuss their projects, and appreciate the support given to the

Funds by the Minister for HS2 and High Speed 2 Ltd. I have also continued to engage with MPs on a quarterly basis to share information on the Funds in relation to their constituencies.

I hope you enjoy reading about the recent good work of the Funds and finding out about the tangible benefits available to disrupted communities. Thank you for your interest in CEF & BLEF.

**Cathy Elliott**  
Independent Chair of CEF & BLEF  
March 2019

# INTRODUCTION



## Review of the year from the Chief Executive of Groundwork UK

**As the HS2 construction project gathers momentum, so too does our distribution of grant funds to support communities and local economies disrupted by the project. With £2,982,100 awarded last year we are beginning to see creativity rewarded and exciting projects coming to life along the length of Phase One of the construction of HS2. From village halls to youth centres to mobile museums, the projects funded are providing benefits to people of all ages and backgrounds from rural communities to inner cities. We have welcomed working in partnership with High Speed 2 Ltd and the Funds' independent Chair and Panel to achieve so much in 2018/19.**

Reading the applications and the case studies of completed projects, what strikes you is how important these initiatives are to maintaining

the fabric of local communities – providing spaces where people can meet, build their networks and deepen their attachment to the local area. As our country heads into uncharted political and economic territory, ensuring our communities are resilient and integrated will only become more important. This means giving more people the support, skills and resources to make change happen for themselves.

The same goes for our local economies. Building a stronger base on which local enterprise can thrive is the purpose of the BLEF and we have been working hard to reach out to organisations able to mobilise partnerships. This is beginning to bear fruit with four grants now awarded and a strong pipeline of ambitious applications.

Our national programme coordinators are always happy to advise on ideas and proposals and our locally-based enablers offer face to face support for grassroots organisations. We would like to thank all the passionate local leaders who

have made such a difference through their projects in the last year and look forward to supporting many more in the year ahead.

**Graham Duxbury**  
Chief Executive, Groundwork UK  
March 2019

# REVIEW OF 2018

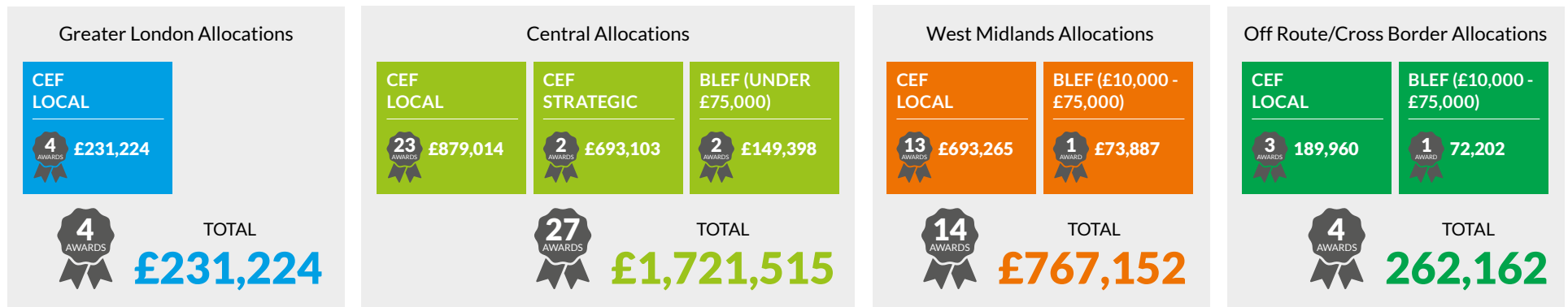


During 2018/19 the Funds supported a wide variety of projects in villages, towns and cities along the line of the Phase One route.

The average amount of funding during the year for awards under £75,000 was £48,701 and the average for awards over £75,000 was £346,552. Several small scale grassroots projects under

£10,000 were also funded in addition to the local community projects of around £45,000 - £75,000 and a growing number of large scale projects delivered in partnership across multiple communities.

## FUNDING BREAKDOWN - YEAR 2



# REVIEW OF 2018



The following table highlights the Cash and In Kind partnership funding contributions that the CEF & BLEF programme expects to leverage from projects funded in Year 2 based on information supplied by applicants.

(In Kind contributions include volunteer time and provision of resources). The combined leveraged funding of £3.6 million in value demonstrates how the Funds can act as a catalyst for further project funding or increase the impact of projects in communities.

## FUNDS LEVERAGED – YEAR 2

Grant Amount	
GREATER LONDON	CENTRAL
£231,224	£1,721,515
WEST MIDLANDS	OFF ROUTE/ CROSS BORDER
£767,152	£262,162
TOTAL	
<b>£2,982,053</b>	

Total Cash Match Funding	
GREATER LONDON	CENTRAL
£286,840	£2,104,392
WEST MIDLANDS	OFF ROUTE/ CROSS BORDER
£274,103	£671,800
TOTAL	
<b>£3,337,135</b>	

Total In-Kind Match Funding	
GREATER LONDON	CENTRAL
£0	£173,030
WEST MIDLANDS	OFF ROUTE/ CROSS BORDER
£91,259	£0
TOTAL	
<b>£264,289</b>	

# PROMOTION & OUTREACH >

Groundwork UK proactively led outreach activities in 2018/19 in areas with below average or no funding to date, including holding additional events, coordinated activities with the HS2 Community Engagement team and construction contractors and also via stakeholder communications from the Independent Chair. This proactive work intended to ensure those areas receive their fair share of funding now and in the future. We were pleased to see an increase in applications in 2018/19 from a number of those areas, and thank everyone involved for their efforts to promote the Funds.

Since January 2018 the Funds' Independent Chair has contacted Phase One line of route MPs on a quarterly basis to share information on the Funds' in relation to their constituencies. This has led to

invitations from some MPs to engage further with the Independent Chair and instances of proactive promotion of the Funds by those MPs to their constituencies which has increased applications from those areas. The Independent Chair also regularly contacted Local Authorities during 2018/19 and from autumn 2018 especially shared with them specific funding activity by Local Authority area due to improved award monitoring. This communication work aimed to raise awareness with stakeholders of funding activity levels at a local and regional level, supported by the Funds' public online interactive map of awards. Quarterly communications with stakeholders will continue into 2019/20.

We have also been working collaboratively with the Phase One construction contractors to ensure synergy with their Community Investment Programmes (CIP). It is possible that both schemes can work together to maximise benefits realised for communities.

## WEBSITE VISITS

### YEAR 1

12,261

SESSIONS

7,349

USERS

### YEAR 2

14,478

SESSIONS

8,468

USERS

# APPLICATION ACTIVITY & REGIONAL ALLOCATIONS



During the application and assessment process, Groundwork UK provides support to applicants via a phone and email helpline to support a pipeline of quality applications. If an application is rejected, the applicant is provided with feedback above & beyond typical funder practice in order to support applications with potential to re-apply in the future with a higher quality application.

**119** APPLICATIONS  
SUBMITTED  
IN YEAR 2

The Secretary of State announced regional allocations of funding in October 2016 with the support of the Funds' independent Chair. These allocations give certainty to disrupted communities by HS2 Phase One regions as well as an allocation of funding across the line of route. Groundwork UK regularly monitors the allocation of funding by regions and across the line of route to ensure a fair distribution of awards now and in the future, working with the Funds' independent Chair and Panel.

Region	No. of awards 2018/19	Amount Awarded
Greater London	4	£231,224
Central region	27	£1,721,515
West Midlands	14	£767,152
Off-route/cross border allocations	4	£262,162
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>£2,982,053</b>

Our regular stakeholder communications work throughout 2018/19 in partnership with High Speed 2 Ltd have aimed to raise awareness externally of funding activity at a local and regional level which was welcomed by Local Authorities and MPs. Our online interactive map also provided a publicly available monthly review of awarded projects along the line of route.

Our outreach activities were prioritised in 2018/19 in areas where below average funding levels were seen by Phase One regional allocations. Our priority in spring 2018 was a focus on promotional work

in the West Midlands area, and in winter 2018/19 we focused on parts of Greater London and the West Midlands to increase application levels. We worked in partnership with HS2's Community Engagement Team and the project's contractors to raise awareness of the Funds in those areas. Geographical monitoring of funding activity and our independent administration processes enable the Funds to be dynamic and flexible to ensure a fair distribution of funding along the line of route.



# CEF & BLEF IN ACTION



The next two pages give some examples of projects which have already been funded by CEF & BLEF.

## WEST MIDLANDS



### EMPOWR-U 'OWN-IT' FUNDING: £75,000

Empowr-U is a Community Interest Company based in Coventry.

The 'Own-It' project works with children and young people, aged 7-21 year-old and living in Tile Hill, Canley, Kenilworth and Burton Green and provides local youth provision in the heart of the local community.

The project delivers sessions in local schools, parks and across the local community and works to build leadership skills in young people by providing volunteering and learning opportunities and support young people to integrate with other communities and contribute to delivering their own projects and events.



## LONDON



### TRAINING LINK 'TRAINING LINK: DEVELOPING SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT' FUNDING: £74,235

Training Link is a Registered Charity located in the London Borough of Camden.

The 'Training Link: Developing Skills for Employment' project is a three-year programme of skills and vocational training for learners from a range of ages, educational experience and starting points.

Many of their learners are isolated BAME women aged 30+ with limited confidence, skills, finances and timetables needing to be around family caring constraints, which limits access to mainstream teaching institutions and employment options. The project will help to give attendees the skills they need to progress and gain new qualifications and experience.

*Peter Lush, Director at Training Link, said:*

"The first six months of the work by Training Link funded by the HS2 Community and Environment Fund has been successful.



"Over 40 learners have completed online vocational courses, most doing the Level 2 (GCSE equivalent) Food Safety & Hygiene course with some learners volunteering in community cafes as a way of gaining experience to help them find work. Our ESOL Level 1 class are now starting to prepare for their exams, in Reading, Writing and Speaking & Listening.

"Our employment adviser has seen several clients, mainly working on their CVs, and others use the sessions to develop their computer skills, and search for jobs under the direction of our IT Co-ordinator.

"The funding has been very important for Training Link. It has meant that we can continue to offer our services to local people in a deprived inner-city area, helping people find work."



## CENTRAL



### AMERSHAM MUSEUM LIMITED

'AMERSHAM'S MOBILE MUSEUM'

FUNDING: **£16,080**

The 'Mobile Museum' is a travelling exhibition that will share the story of life in Amersham and the surrounding area in the 20th Century, enabling people who do not or cannot visit the museum to have a rich and engaging museum experience from their home, school at an event or in a community setting.

CEF has funded the internal materials and equipment to create an immersive exhibition, created by local people, that travels around the community to events, schools and care homes. It will include a facility for securely displaying collection items, creative pieces made by community groups, and a space where new memories can be collected and recorded.

*Emily Toettcher, Curator at Amersham Museum, said:* "The Mobile Museum will enable us to reach out to people who have not or can not visit us. We will travel around the local area sharing the story of Amersham in the 20th century. We will visit schools, care homes, community groups, fetes and festivals in our vintage-style vehicle. We will share objects, images, documents, oral histories, and showcase work created by local people. We believe it will transform the number and range of people we reach and change people's perceptions of what local history is. We think this is a first!"

## BLEF



### INITIATIVE FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS CIC

'CONNECT DIGBETH'

FUNDING: **£73,887**

The Initiative for Social Entrepreneurs (iSE) is a Community Interest Company based in Digbeth in Birmingham.

The iSE project aims to target 50 social enterprises, small businesses and third sector organisations in the Digbeth Social Enterprise Quarter and support them to respond positively to the challenges and expected disruption of HS2 construction in the communities surrounding the Curzon Street station development. iSE will work closely with these social enterprises and third sector organisations through a community-based business advisor based at the established Digbeth Social Enterprise Hub on Moseley Road.

The approach will put in place structures of support that will ensure social enterprises and small community businesses can maintain activity through the HS2 construction phase and build sustainable networks that will continue to sustain and promote social enterprise development long after HS2 has become operational.

*Simon Veasey, Director of Business Development at Initiative for Social Entrepreneurs, said:*

"Through our Connect Digbeth project delivery, we will build sustainable networks that will provide a long-term legacy in the locality, further developing the vibrant culture of independent enterprise and community activity in Digbeth. Initial feedback from our network of social enterprises and local businesses has been very encouraging and recognises the positive action taken by HS2 through the construction phase."



## CEF STRATEGIC



### FOREST ENTERPRISE ENGLAND

'WENDOVER WOODS RECREATION DEVELOPMENT - VISITOR HUB'

FUNDING: **£450,000**

Wendover Woods is a 325 hectare Forestry Commission owned woodland near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire.

The Wendover Woods Recreational Development project will provide a hub for people to utilise when visiting the site. The new building will incorporate a café with 100 indoor covers and outdoor seating for 200 (open to all), an adaptable interpretation space and 23 toilets including fully accessible units.

This building is the core part of a proposed £4.45 million redevelopment for the site. The project aims to deliver important recreation and quality of life benefits for communities living along the HS2 Phase One route. It expects to increase the number of visitors that will access the site and seeks to improve their quality of experience. It anticipates that there will be 420,000 visitors to the site a year by 2020/21 which will bring £4.32 million into the rural economy (on and off site) per year.

*Joanne Mason from Forestry Commission England said:* "We were delighted to receive support from the HS2 Community and Environment Fund towards the re-development of much needed facilities at Wendover Forest. The new toilets, café and viewing area will all ensure that one of the most visited sites in Chilterns continues to give pleasure to the local communities situated along the route of the new railway. Your investment will help to ensure that future generations can enjoy this special public forest."

# TOP TIPS IN APPLYING



In order to submit a successful application, applicants must provide evidence against the four main areas of our assessment. It is important to read our guidance carefully to ensure you have the evidence required to meet our criteria. These four criteria are set out below:

## Need

Our application form asks why the project is needed for your community and intended beneficiaries.

'Need' can be evidenced in a number of different ways and below we have provided a few examples of how you could engage with your intended beneficiaries:

- > An online survey
- > Results of research
- > Relevant statistics
- > Links to relevant strategies and plans
- > Feedback from an event
- > Speaking to other local organisations e.g. youth clubs, schools, resident groups, businesses

Evidence should include why the project is needed and why the project is the best method to meet that need.

## Planning

We ask the applicant to confirm how they have planned their project and how they will manage it effectively throughout delivery.

'Planning' can be evidenced by providing a:

- > Project plan including dates, key milestones, who will be responsible
- > Risk register identifying key risks and how they will be reduced
- > Business plan and a related strategy
- > Plan of how you will monitor and evaluate your project including measuring your outputs and outcomes

## Disruption

We ask applicants to demonstrate the level of disruption from Phase One HS2 construction on the community or communities that will benefit from the project.

'Disruption' can be evidenced by:

- > Referencing the Environmental Statement for your area
- > Gaining information from your local HS2 Common Place website
- > Sharing the results of consultations
- > Providing economic or social impact analysis

# TOP TIPS IN APPLYING



## Sustainability

Finally we ask how the project will be sustained or leave a sustainable legacy.

'Sustainability' can be evidenced by explaining:

- > How the project will continue to provide benefits once completed
- > What physical elements will be provided and how they will be maintained
- > Future income generation plans, e.g. fundraising, partnership working, ways your project will be self-sustaining

## Applications over £75,000

Currently the success rate for Expressions of Interest for funding over £75,000 is 36%.

The main reasons why this is not 100% are:

- > Applicants not being able to demonstrate that the project meets the criteria for being sufficiently strategic in terms of impact, partnerships and meeting relevant strategic plans or strategies
- > Proposed projects benefiting a large number of people who are not disrupted by HS2. For example, a project has 50,000 beneficiaries in total and only 20% (10,000) of these are from areas disrupted by HS2

It is important to explain the relationships you have developed with strategic partners in order to identify the need for your project and ensure a successful delivery. Your project should bring benefits to multiple communities along the Phase One HS2 route so you should include evidence that people from outside the immediate location of the project site, but who are still disrupted by the construction of HS2, will visit or be involved or that your project will be delivered along the route.

The level of funding requested has to be proportionate to the benefit to disrupted communities. For example, rejected applications have requested around 90% of the cost, despite beneficiaries being disrupted by HS2 being less than 30%.

## Help and support

If you are in any doubt or need some further guidance, contact our team at Groundwork UK and they will be happy to help.

- > Application helpline 0121 237 5880
- > Email [HS2funds@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:HS2funds@groundwork.org.uk)

You can also find further help and support on completing your application and planning a successful project on the following websites.

- > <https://www.groundwork.org.uk/sites/projecttoolkit>
- > <https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/how-to/how-to-write-really-for-applying-for-a-grant>

# LOOKING BACK



In the last two years we have received a pleasing number of applications and awarded the expected level of funding for the programme, given that we are in the early years of the Funds and main works construction has not yet started in earnest. It is from this point onwards when we are likely to see an increase in applications and awards in-line with increased construction activity.

We are also pleased to see that applicants are taking the time to develop their applications and working in partnership, which is illustrated in the leverage figures earlier in this report.

\*Includes applications, which have been approved for funding, but applications are still finalising terms and conditions with Groundwork UK, and so are not yet publically announced.

## TOTAL AWARDS ANNOUNCED SINCE MARCH 2017 (YEAR 1 and YEAR 2)

Region	Number of awards	Amount Awarded	Total area allocation	% spent
Central	31	£1,818,589	£15,000,000	12%
West Midlands	14	£767,152	£7,500,000	10%
Greater London	6	£379,619	£7,500,000	5%
Cross Border/ Off Route	4	£262,162	£10,000,000	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>£3,227,522</b>	<b>£40,000,000</b>	<b>8%</b>

## TOTAL APPLICATIONS PROCESSED SINCE MARCH 2017 (YEAR 1 and YEAR 2)

Fund	Applications processed	Approvals	Success Rate (%)
CEF Local (£0-£75,000)	139	60*	43%
BLEF (£10,000-£75,000)	8	4	50%
CEF Strategic Stage 2 Applications	4	2	50%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>44%</b>

Fund	Applications processed	Approved to Stage 2	Success Rate (%)
CEF & BLEF Expressions of Interest	33	12	36%

# LOOKING AHEAD



**As we begin the 2019/20 period we will see a number of key developments to enhance the delivery of the Funds, working in partnership with High Speed 2 Ltd. Next year we will be working with Phase One construction contractors and their Community Investment Programme (CIP) to increase benefits to disrupted communities above compensation and mitigation. We also welcome the opportunity to support HS2's ongoing local engagement to promote the Funds with communities across the line of route.**

Due to some parts of the Phase One line of route receiving below average or no funding to date, we will be operating in 2019/20 geographical priorities for high value awards from £75,000 upwards, especially at the £250,000 to £1 million level to ensure that we are actively prioritising good projects

in these highlighted areas. Geographical priorities will be informed by regular independent geographical monitoring of the Funds' activities, working with the Funds' independent Chair and Panel. This approach will be supported by continued proactive outreach activities and stakeholder engagement work in those areas to increase the level of applications and awards and to ensure an even and fair distribution of funding along the line of route. During our independent assessment and award process all applications will still need to meet the four stated criteria as a mark of a quality CEF & BLEF application, and where applicable certain geographical areas will be prioritised during this process to ensure a fair distribution of funding.

We have developed our guidance and application process in 2018/19 based on our commitment to learn from stakeholders and the experience of applicants. Our culture welcomes input on ways in which we can improve the accessibility and understanding of the Funds, and we will continue

this learning approach into 2019/20. Based on positive feedback we will continue to develop the CEF & BLEF online interactive map to share publicly on a monthly basis the projects funded along the line of route.

During 2019/20 we will also prepare for the launch of CEF & BLEF for Phase 2a.

We look forward in 2019/20 to engaging with our growing number of stakeholders, and supporting many more projects which benefit communities, the environment, business and local economies along the Phase One line of route.

# FULL LIST OF GRANTS



## Full list of grants approved in year two

APPLICANT	FUNDED BY	AMOUNT APPROVED
The Adelaide Community Garden Club	CEF Local	£8,750
Alum Rock Community Forum	CEF Local	£9,700
Amersham Museum Limited	CEF Local	£16,080
Anawim Women Working Together	CEF Local	£73,115
Azad Kashmir Welfare Association	CEF Local	£74,100
Ballinger's Waggoner's Cricket Club	CEF Local	£9,672
Birmingham Civic Society	CEF Local	£44,500
Boddington Parish Council	CEF Local	£75,000
Buckinghamshire Business First	BLEF	£74,898
Chilterns Conservation Board	CEF Strategic	£243,103
Chilterns MS Centre Ltd	CEF Local	£74,855
City of Birmingham Basketball Club	CEF Local	£70,177
Coleshill Parish Council	CEF Local	£17,198
Colne Valley Park CIC	BLEF	£72,202
Community Impact Bucks	CEF Local	£9,655

APPLICANT	FUNDED BY	AMOUNT APPROVED
Compass Support Services	CEF Local	£75,000
Croughton Playing Field and Village Hall	CEF Local	£38,881
Empowr-U	CEF Local	£75,000
Forest Enterprise England	CEF Strategic	£450,000
Fitzrovia Youth in Action	CEF Local	£74,985
Friends of Bodymoor Heath Victory Hall	CEF Local	£75,000
Groundwork West Midlands in partnership with Solihull Community Housing	CEF Local	£60,323
Initiative for Social Entrepreneurs CIC	BLEF	£73,887
Kenilworth Town Council	BLEF	£74,500
Kings Bromley Parish Council	CEF Local	£50,000
Laureus Sport for Good Foundation	CEF Local	£50,000
The Lee Parish Council	CEF Local	£44,100
Long Itchington Parish Council	CEF Local	£74,500
Marston Street Lawrence Village Hall	CEF Local	£74,999

Continues >

# FULL LIST OF GRANTS



## Full list of grants approved in year two (continued)

APPLICANT	FUNDED BY	AMOUNT APPROVED
Norton Hall Children & Family Centre	CEF Local	£74,592
Padbury Pre-School	CEF Local	£1,000
Quainton Parish Council	CEF Local	£9,700
Richings Park Sports Club Ltd	CEF Local	£39,960
Road Farm Countryways CIC	CEF Local	£74,950
Saltley Community Association	CEF Local	£41,008
Samuel Lithgow Youth Centre	CEF Local	£73,254
The Saye and Sele Foundation	CEF Local	£29,850
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	CEF Local	£40,000
Southam United Bowling Club	CEF Local	£15,868
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd	CEF Local	£75,000
Tile Cross Academy	CEF Local	£8,750
Training Link	CEF Local	£74,235
Twyford Village Hall	CEF Local	£9,500
Upcycle Birmingham Ltd	CEF Local	£70,750

APPLICANT	FUNDED BY	AMOUNT APPROVED
Water Orton Parish Council	CEF Local	£9,216
Water Orton War Memorial Project Team	CEF Local	£10,000
Wendover Parish Council	CEF Local	£74,990
Wendover Swimming Charitable Incorporated Organisation	CEF Local	£74,000
Woodhouse Farm & Gardens CIC	CEF Local	£10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£2,982,053</b>



# GOVERNANCE OF THE FUNDS



**Funding decisions for CEF Local are made by an internal review panel for applications under £75,000, which is comprised of Groundwork UK and representatives from HS2.**

An independent grants panel for CEF Strategic and BLEF applications over £75,000 is made up of four panel members, who were appointed in December 2016 following an open recruitment process over three months, involving HS2 and DfT.

The four independent members are Lisa Smart, John Roseveare, Talbinder Kaur and Sara Turnbull. They have experience in the delivery of successful community-led environmental projects, a track record in providing advice and support to small and medium-size businesses and experience of managing local government or third sector grant programmes.

These four individuals were recruited to sit alongside Cathy Elliott, who has been the Independent Chair of the Funds since January 2016. Peter Miller, Director of Environment & Town Planning for HS2 joined the panel as HS2's representative in early 2017.

A Department for Transport audit of the Funds held in December 2017 concluded that there were adequate and proportionate controls and procedures in place to ensure that:

- Communities and businesses were adequately aware that grants are available.
- Grants were awarded to organisations that are eligible and for compatible objectives.
- Awards were used for the purposes intended.
- Awards were correctly paid to the correct organisation, business or people.

“The Funds are now up and running and having a real and positive impact on communities along the HS2 route. I look forward to seeing the impact grow in the years to come.”

*Lisa Smart, Independent Panel Member*

“The improvements to the football facilities and programmes we saw in Camden and Fitzrovia were really impressive - in particular the mentoring and empowering work that is being done in the community through football.”

*Sara Turnbull, Independent Panel Member*



[www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds)

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Company Registration Number: 1900511    Charity Registration Number: 291558