

WAKEFIELD FIRST

WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR CHARITIES?

On Wednesday 8th April the Chancellor set out an extra £750 million coronavirus funding for frontline charities

Charities across the UK will receive a £750 million package of support to ensure they can **continue their vital work** during the coronavirus outbreak, Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced.

- **£750 million pot for frontline charities across the UK** – including **hospices and those supporting domestic abuse victims**
- **£360 million direct from government departments** and **£370 million for smaller charities**, including through a grant to the **National Lottery Community Fund**
- **government will match donations to the National Emergencies Trust as part of the BBC's Big Night In fundraiser** later this month – **pledging a minimum of £20 million**

Tens of thousands of charities providing vital services will benefit from direct cash grants to ensure they can meet **increased demand** as a result of the virus as well as **continuing their day-to-day activities** supporting those in need.

As part of a UK-wide package of support, £360 million will be directly allocated by government departments to charities providing key services and supporting vulnerable people during the crisis.

As well as this, £370 million for small and medium-sized charities, including through a grant to the National Lottery Community Fund for those in England, will support those organisations at the heart of local communities which are making a big difference during the outbreak, including those delivering food, essential medicines and providing financial advice.

The Chancellor also announced the **Government will match fund whatever the public decides to donate to the BBC's Big Night In charity appeal on 23 April**, starting with a contribution of at least **£20 million** to the National Emergencies Trust appeal.

This announcement builds on previous announcements by the Chancellor to support charities and businesses, **including deferring their VAT bills, paying no business rates for their shops next year, and furloughing staff where possible with the Government paying 80% of their wages.**

Charities providing vital services and helping vulnerable people through the current crisis **will benefit from the £360 million** allocated by government departments. These will include:

- **hospices** to help increase capacity and give stability to the sector
- **St Johns Ambulance** to support the NHS
- **victims charities**, including domestic abuse, to help with potential increase in demand for charities providing these services
- **vulnerable children charities**, so they can continue delivering services on behalf of local authorities
- Citizens Advice to increase the number of staff providing advice during this difficult time

Departments will now work at pace to identify priority recipients, with the aim for charities to receive money in the coming weeks. The application system for the **National Lottery Community Fund grant pot** is expected to be operational within a **similar period of time**.

Where charitable services are devolved the **UK Government** has applied the **Barnett formula in the normal way**. They **expect the devolved administrations to receive £60 million through the charities pot**, and **further significant Barnett allocations**, dependent on the **final proposals funded, through the direct grant pot**. The Government encourage the devolved administrations to use this funding to support charities.

For more information visit the [Government website](#).