



The TRU Community Fund 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the TRU Community Fund?

The TRU Community Fund is a pot of funding that was established in 2024 by the [Transpennine Route Upgrade \(TRU\)](#), to give back to local communities while it undertakes major railway upgrades across the 70-mile stretch between Manchester, Huddersfield, Leeds and York.

How much funding is available?

For the TRU Community Fund 2025, a total of £250,000 is available in grants of £1,000, £5,000, £10,000 and £20,000.

How many grants are available?

Approximately 75 grants are available, depending on the number of applications received and the specific grants applied for.

What is the purpose of the TRU Community Fund?

The fund aims to support projects that help create or enhance indoor or outdoor community-focused facilities. The fund aligns with key objectives of the TRU Sustainable Development Strategy, '[Our Guiding Compass](#)'. This aims to use TRU as a catalyst for regeneration, by enhancing and protecting community spaces and places along the Transpennine railway line.

What kind of projects are likely to be funded?

Successful projects will align with the key principles of TRU's Sustainable Development Strategy, which includes, but is not limited to:

- Developing community support facilities and green spaces.
- Improving local environments and place-making.
- Supporting vulnerable people, including people who are homeless, disabled people and older people.
- Enhancing mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention.
- Promoting skills, education and employment.
- Fostering arts, recreation and cultural heritage.
- Advancing equality, diversity and inclusion.

Examples of projects which were funded by the TRU Community Fund 2024 include:

- Renovation and refurbishment of community facilities, including decoration, furnishings and furniture upgrades.
- Restoration and improvement of outdoor spaces such as play areas, woodlands and wildlife ponds.
- Creation and enhancement of community gardens and allotments.
- Biodiversity improvements and management of overgrown vegetation.
- Access improvements to community grounds and facilities.



- Youth-led programmes focused on green space restoration and social action.

Who is eligible to apply?

A group or organisation that has a clear social purpose can apply for the funding. This includes:

- Registered charities and CICs
- Community groups, centres and organisations
- Schools
- Not-for-profit nurseries and family centres
- Universities, as long as they are linked to a registered charitable organisation or community group with a clear social purpose.

To be eligible for the funding, both the organisation and the proposed project must be within 5 miles of the Transpennine Route and within 5 miles of the Shipley Traincare Centre (a key TRU worksite). Applicants can check that they are within the 5-mile radius using this [map](#).

Please note that if you are not eligible and you still choose to submit an application, your application will not be considered.

When do applications open?

Applications will open on 6th October and close on 27th October 2025. If we receive a large number of applications, we may be required to close the application window earlier than 27th October, so we would encourage you to apply as soon as applications open.

How do I apply?

Before applying, you will need to [make an account](#) on the online platform, Neighbourly (this takes approximately 5 minutes). Once applications open, you can then apply for the funding on the [TRU Community Fund campaign page](#).

What is Neighbourly?

Neighbourly is managing the distribution of funding on behalf of TRU to ensure impartiality and good value for money. Neighbourly is an award-winning giving platform and a free tool for charities and community organisations. It helps businesses make a positive impact in their communities by donating volunteer time, money and surplus products to local causes, all in one place.

Do I need to be registered with Neighbourly to apply for a grant?

Yes. All applications must be submitted via the Neighbourly platform. Please ensure your cause is registered on Neighbourly before applying.

How should I register my organisation on Neighbourly?

When you register, you must create a profile for your organisation itself, not for a specific project you are seeking funding for. This profile will serve as the hub for all your applications and updates.



How many applications can my organisation submit?

Only one application can be submitted per Neighbourly page. However, if your organisation has multiple, distinct branches (e.g. different physical locations or independent community groups under a larger umbrella), you can create a separate Neighbourly page for each branch. This allows each individual branch to apply for its own grant.

Can I create multiple Neighbourly pages for the same project?

No. Please do not create multiple pages for a single project. Doing so will make your application ineligible and it will not be successful.

Can I preview the questions first before making an application?

Yes. You will be able to preview all questions before you start your application.

Is co-funding allowed as part of the TRU Community Fund?

Yes. A grant from the TRU Community Fund can be used for all, or partial, funds of a project. If your project is going to be partially funded, we would need to know where the rest of the funds will come from (i.e. from a third party or from within your own organisation). You will be able to disclose this when you submit your application.

Can I apply for the TRU Community Fund 2025, if I received funding in 2024?

Yes. Organisations that were previously successful in the TRU Community Fund 2024 can re-apply to this year's funding.

When will I hear if my application is successful?

Applicants will be contacted via email by 30th November to be told if their application has been successful or not.

If I am successful, when will I receive the funding?

The funding will be paid to successful applicants between 24th November and 19th December 2025.

Who should I contact if I have any further questions about the TRU Community Fund?

Any questions about the TRU Community Fund should be directed to Neighbourly at community@neighbourly.com. The [Neighbourly FAQs page](#) also provides more information about creating an account with Neighbourly and the process for submitting an application online.