

England, Midlands & East: delegated decisions

March 2025

16/05/2025



[See all updates](#)

Schedule of decisions under delegated powers for England, Midlands & East at The National Lottery Heritage Fund in March 2025.

[Funding decisions](#)

3 March

National Lottery Heritage Grants £10,000 to £250,000

80s Remixed: The Alternative Decade

Applicant: Social Gallery Community Interest Company

Project description: This project consists of three stages, community memories collection in co-designed workshops, delivering a workshops programme and ending with an exhibition in two galleries at Leicester Museum & Art Gallery.

Decision: Reject

Severn Treescapes: Dead Wood Society

Applicant: Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

Project description: This project aims to undertake data analysis, mapping and landowner engagement to progress plans for boosting the prevalence and resilience of traditional orchards, wood pasture and wood-rot habitats.

Decision: Award grant of £236,063 (89%)

6 March

National Lottery Heritage Grants £10,000 to £250,000

Buxton Opera House: Understanding the Building Before Sensitive Restoration

Applicant: High Peak Borough Council

Project description: This resilience project will focus on organisational sustainability and longer term resilience of the Opera House.

Decision: Award grant of £174,020 (91%)

13 March

National Lottery Heritage Grants £10,000 to £250,000

Restoration of the Historic Indoor Spring Water Pool at New Bath Hotel and Spa

Applicant: WH 459 LIMITED

Project description: This project will restore the indoor swimming pool at The New Bath Hotel and Spa in Matlock, Bath.

Decision: Reject

Building Bridges: Empowering Students Through Cultural Heritage and Social Media Engagement

Applicant: Faith Brynels Insights CIC

Project description: This project will create workshops for students that will allow them to gain skills and knowledge in storytelling, oral history collection and using social media to share local heritage stories.

Decision: Reject

Valuing Heritage Apples: creating a Coventry Pomona and Living Museum Orchards

Applicant: Coventry University

Project description: This project aims to document and preserve local varieties of apple in Coventry and Warwickshire by creating two 'museum orchards' and an online Pomona (a term meaning a survey of fruit varieties).

Decision: Reject

Green Talent

Applicant: The Froglife Trust

Project description: This project will develop a new model for recruiting diverse communities for paid traineeships, with a view to supporting increased diversity within the sector's workforce. A range of habitat improvements for amphibians and reptiles will also support the recovery of habitats within urban areas.

Decision: Award grant of £242,124 (79%)

The Witches of Essex Community Heritage Project

Applicant: Black Dog Theatre Creation

Project description: The stories of people who were accused of witchcraft in Essex will be explored, especially in St. Osyth, where a series of witch accusations spread in the 1580s.

Decision: Award grant of £12,720 (89%)

Folk Crafts and Rhythms

Applicant: Crane Creatives Coast CIC

Project description: This project will run workshops over five days at The Newarke Houses Museum that will focus on Eastern European traditional crafts, music and dance, sharing new skills and knowledge with participants.

Decision: Defer

Our stories: Bridging Heritage and Literature Through Language

Applicant: Aspirants Outreach C.I.C

Project description: This project will engage with multi-lingual communities, exploring cultural traditions and narratives in relation to experiences of diaspora and integration.

Decision: Reject

St. Katherine's Church, Teversal: Raising the Roof

Applicant: St. Katherine's Church, Teversal.

Project description: Through the repair and recovery of St Katherine's chancel roof, the project targets the renewal of a beautiful heritage church building, enabling it to continue and expand its role as a key venue and source of inspiration for the village community and beyond.

Decision: Reject

Hobson's Conduit Head restoration project

Applicant: Hobson's Conduit Trust

Project description: The project will restore the Hobson's Conduit Head, a Grade II* listed stone building and Scheduled Ancient Monument dating from 1614.

Decision: Reject

Heritage At The Heart: St. Michaels and All Angels

Applicant: St Michael and All Angels Ruin Preservation and Enhancement Trust

Project description: The project will carry out urgent repairs and conservation of the ruins of this Grade II listed historic building and Scheduled Ancient Monument, to ensure stability and safety and prevent loss of fabric.

Decision: Award grant of £147,344 (86%)

Saving Ockbrook's Heritage

Applicant: Over The Wall

Project description: This will carry out an options appraisal and heritage assessment of a listed school building at The Settlement in Ockbrook to understand the condition of the building and work out how it can be transformed into a useable facility with community spaces and a heritage area celebrating the past and present.

Decision: Award grant of £128,528 (100%)

Wilding Chesterfield: aiding nature's recovery in our urban spaces

Applicant: Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Project description: This project will enable Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to work with the local council, wildlife specialist groups, climate and environmental action groups and local communities living in the deprived area of Chesterfield to better understand urban species and their habitats – street by street, by making nature a priority to people where they live.

Decision: Award grant of £245,260 (89%)

Old Songs Sung in Bedfordshire

Applicant: Invisible Folk Ltd

Project description: This will make people aware of the musical heritage of Bedfordshire and the role it has played in people's lives.

Decision: Reject

Hall Marks: The Long Shadows of Norfolk's Lost Country Houses

Applicant: Norfolk County Council

Project description: This digital archives project seeks to improve access to the county's collections on country house estates and historic landscape management.

Decision: Award grant of £249,977 (98%)

Great Yarmouth: The People's History

Applicant: Creative Horizons East C.I.C.

Project description: This project will produce four short videos showing the residents talking about the town's history and presenting unseen collections. This will support the greater use of technology to make heritage more accessible. An exhibition will be created to support the videos.

Decision: Award grant of £10,060 (100%)

Moving the Museum of Cambridge to the Guildhall: opening a new chapter in Cambridgeshire's history

Applicant: Museum of Cambridge

Project description: This will explore the options and feasibility of a potential relocation of the Museum from its current site to the redeveloped Guildhall on Cambridge's historic market square.

Decision: Reject

100 Years, 100 Murals: Stoke on Trent's Centenary

Applicant: Stoke-on-Trent City Centre Bid

Project description: This project will create 100 murals celebrating the unsung heroes who have shaped Stoke-on-Trent, with a focus on contributions from women and underrepresented communities.

Decision: Reject

Restoration work at St Mary and St Botolph Church, Whitton, Ipswich

Applicant: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary and St. Botolph's, Whitton, Ipswich.

Project description: This project will carry out essential repairs to St Mary and St Botolph Church, Whitton, Ipswich, a Grade II listed 13th-century flint building with later Victorian extensions.

Decision: Reject

Legacy of Youth Work: Past Meets Present

Applicant: Mitalee Youth Association

Project description: This oral history project will focus on the heritage of youth work and its impact on the local area and young people, particularly those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Decision: Reject

Outside the Exhibit

Applicant: BEEE Creative CIO

Project description: This project will engage underserved communities in deprived areas of Hertfordshire with cultural activities that celebrate the history and place-making role of green spaces within local communities.

Decision: Award grant of £242,584 (100%)

Heritage Heroes: The Allotmenters

Applicant: Focus Charity

Project description: This project will work with volunteers in Leicester to create a digital and physical archive of the heritage of Leicester's allotments.

Decision: Reject

The Ipswich Heritage Harbour Project, Phase One: Mobilisation and Testing

Applicant: Ipswich Maritime Trust

Project description: This project is intended to promote Ipswich's maritime heritage as part of a wider vision for the Heritage Harbour.

Decision: Award grant of £134,595 (79%)

Neighbourhood Wildlife Corridor: Boston & Beyond

Applicant: The Froglife Trust

Project description: This project will create and restore ponds across several sites within the vicinity of Boston, Lincolnshire to provide improved habitats suitable for amphibian and reptile species.

Decision: Award grant of £249,999 (91%)

Telling Our Own Stories 2: Supporting Communities to Reclaim Warwickshire's Diverse Heritage

Applicant: Warwickshire County Council

Project description: This project aims to support underserved communities in Warwickshire to manage and care for their own archival collections and to capture oral histories.

Decision: Award grant of £91,000 (90%)

The Sherwood Forest Nightjar Project – Understand Them To Save Them

Applicant: Birklands Ringing Group

Project description: This project will remotely track the Sherwood Forest Nightjar population using VHF triangulation technology to better understand their behaviour and undertake habitat improvements such as expanding scrub areas to create connective foraging habitats.

Decision: Reject

24 March

Grant increase

Wirksworth Reaches Out

Applicant: Wirksworth Heritage Centre

Project description: This project will enable the Wirksworth Heritage Centre to deliver a programme of exhibitions on local heritage, employ staff, contribute to overheads, and generally develop the Centre's offer.

Decision: Award grant percentage increase from 90% to 100%

27 March

Grant increase

St Laurence Bell Tower and Lychgate Heritage Preservation Project

Applicant: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish Church of Blackmore St Laurence

Project description: This project will repair the bell tower and lychgate of this Grade I Listed Essex church and provide inclusive activities for the community.

Decision: Award grant increase of £135,033 to make a total grant of £366,753 (74%)

28 March

Grant increase

The George Community Pub, Wickham Market

Applicant: The George Community Pub (Wickham Market) Ltd

Project description: The project will restore back into use a fire damaged pub, located in a large village close to the Suffolk coast. The building was known to have operated as an inn since the 1650s and may date even earlier. It would be managed as a community pub offering community activities, spaces and interpretation alongside use as a public house.?

Decision: Award grant increase of £200,000 to make a total grant of £1,733,324 (65%)?