



idox



One company. Infinite possibilities

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government

Europe's leading funding information solution...

Bringing you 8,000+ real-time funding opportunities:
www.idoxgrantfinder.co.uk/localgov

YOUR FUNDING JOURNEY

SIMPLIFYING THE FUNDING PROCESS...

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government

recognises that securing external funding for almost any project is like completing a large jigsaw puzzle.

How do you find the right funding programme? How can you present your project in the best possible way to ensure the right fit?

● **The vision**

From the outset, you need more than a clear vision of your project. For success, it needs to be presented as a considered, rounded proposition – with its purpose, methods, costs and benefits expressed with clarity.

● **Identifying funding**

What type of funding do you require? And, having determined this, where do you go in your quest for funding sources?

Imagine the benefit of advance notification of new funding pots being introduced!

Undoubtedly, there is a vast range of opportunities available – many thousands, in fact. But is support most likely to come from local, regional, national or European sources – or a combination of these?

The funding scene is something of a quick-sand of ever-changing criteria and opportunities. Where can you gain access to constantly updated information at the tap of a keyboard?

There are a number of key factors that can influence the success of your project – among them timing, location, purpose and benefit. But don't think just in cash terms. Think more in project terms – which is what funders invariably seek.

● Modelling your project

To increase the probability of success, the preparation of your project and bid should be carried out in a way a funder expects. Many providers, for example, focus much more on the anticipated results and outcomes of a project, rather than the means of achieving them.

Where can you find the wealth of knowledge and experience to do this most effectively? Your time and resources will undoubtedly be finite. You certainly need to know that your bid will not fail on a technicality. You need to be sure that it is presented in a way that is empathetic to the provider's expectations.

● Putting together your application

Whatever your project – and however unique it is - the chances are that others have trodden the same or a similar route before you.

How can you short-cut your learning curve? Imagine the benefits of having a highly-experienced industry leader providing you with valuable feedback on the experience of others. And, crucially, assisting you with putting together winning bids.

Moving your project from a vision to a reality...



**READY FOR YOUR
FUNDING JOURNEY?**



GRANTFINDER 4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government is by far Europe's largest and most comprehensively supported funding platform of its type. Over the last thirty years, we have helped our clients to secure millions of pounds' worth of funding support.

These benefits are recognised by a wide cross-section of UK local authorities – for projects ranging from modest community ones through to major, multi-level European initiatives.

The nature of the projects for which support has been secured is even more varied – covering community projects, European partnerships, business start-up and so much more.

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government is the UK's first grants and policy information service tailored specifically for local authorities and their clients featuring over 8,000 continuously updated opportunities. These resources include, amongst others, local, regional and national government within the UK, European funding, private initiatives, charitable trusts and corporate sponsorship.

Whilst **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government** is delivered as an online service, you will quickly discover that our service does not end at the screen.

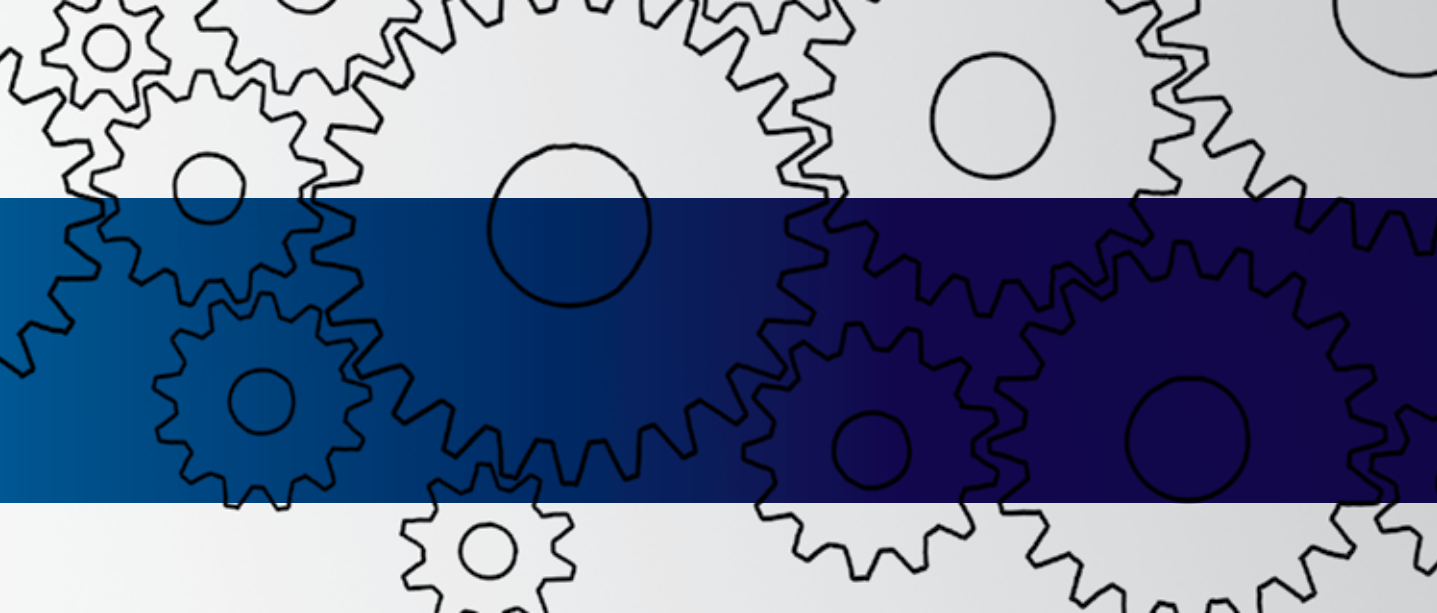
We are a very open, responsive organisation who understands the value of 'real people' - through dedicated account management support, implementation training, and a specialist Research help desk.

“

Over the past 12 years, **GRANTfinder** has enabled the Funding Officer to work with groups to attract a staggering total of £5,954,454 into the communities of Amber Valley. Whether it is a few hundred pounds that can make the difference to a group or £500,000, **GRANTfinder** has provided the vital information required.

We believe the **GRANTfinder** product to be the best way of providing the most accurate information to our clients. ”

**Wendy Burridge, Funding Officer,
Amber Valley Borough
Council**



Even if you have bid for funding in the past, **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government** will speed up and facilitate funding searches, saving you administration time and cost. Importantly, it will also give you a fast-track route to the very latest information on new funding initiatives – perhaps opening doors to schemes of which you were unaware or had not previously considered.

Although there is a huge volume of resource and information available within **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government**, it is presented to you in a truly user-friendly fashion.



This is because:

- it is jargon-free and presented in plain English;
- the search process is carefully considered to meet your needs; and
- the platform itself is interactive.

“ East Sussex County Council has subscribed to **GRANTfinder** since 1997. This product has enabled the funding team to carry out a large number of searches.

The system is up-to-date and reliable, and friendly staff are always at hand should support be required.

Whilst we have been approached over the years by other service providers, we have always found **GRANTfinder** to be the best out there, in terms of efficiency and value for money. ”

Veronique Poutrell, External Funding Manager, East Sussex County Council



OUR ONGOING COMMITMENT TO YOU

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government's investment in research gives us the most experienced and best-informed team in the business. Our resource, yes – but yours also.

Our large and dedicated research team has a collective pool of knowledge of the funding environment that is unmatched. Each researcher is also a respected regular contributor to articles and blogs on specialist subjects within the funding environment, often reflecting topical developments.

Subscription to **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government** gives you access to them all...

Our Research Team has built a reputation of authority through a total commitment to the intelligence gathering and reprocessing of information – information, of course, that is only as good as its relevance, accuracy and topicality.

As a direct result, the information we provide via the web is updated in real time. As soon our research team sources a new scheme or updates a deadline, the information will be there for you at the touch of a button.

In the rare circumstance of the worst happening and an initial search identifying that there is no support currently available, the system empowers you to register the data on an auto update facility. This will maintain a watching brief on the subject and alert you to new schemes that meet your criteria.

“**GRANTfinder** is a very useful tool for us to help direct the arts and community organisations, groups and artists with whom we work towards sources of funding.

This is particularly valuable in a climate where funding is much reduced and is confirmed by the responses we receive from those for whom we have provided this service, who say that they have found it very valuable.

The information we can get in “one hit” from **GRANTfinder** would take much more time and effort to source without the service. ”

Julie Hewitt, Norfolk Arts and Events Service, Norfolk County Council



We recognise the huge diversity of the funding environment and that you may wish to talk to us about specific aspects of your search. For this reason, our established Help Desk is open and available to subscribers.

2 If your call comes in after hours, or it is necessary to call you back for any other reason, you will find that we are proactive and will return the call on the next working day. Guaranteed.

There are two things that our Help Desk is not.

1 It is not accessed via a premium rate tariff - but via the standard telephone rate. And it is not a series of recorded voice options. Instead, you will talk directly to an experienced member of staff who has specialist knowledge of your particular funding needs.



SEARCHING GRANTFINDER

GRANTfinder has, since 1985, continuously evolved to reflect our long experience in the business of helping organisations to obtain the support they seek.

Despite the fact that **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government** contains details of more than 8,000 funding initiatives and thousands of policy items, it is not a daunting task for you to navigate the site, run a search and refine the options down to those that relate directly to your project.

You only need to search a handful of criteria. Key in your project details in three easy steps, hit the search button and the system will respond with results that match your needs. The defining criteria are:

● **Applicants** - By involving other organisations in your bid, the chances of funding success may be increased. Often favoured are partnerships between the public, private and voluntary sectors. To place your project within its appropriate sector, **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government** gives you a combination of sector definitions and drop-down sub sections.

● **Location** - Parts of the UK may be more favourable for your project than others. For example, some may be classified as requiring particular assistance – and the nature of funding support could vary accordingly. Definition can be as specific as postcode.

● **Purpose** - Self-evident, but it is worth noting that funding partners are often looking for tangible outputs, rather than the project alone. The human factor is key here – such as job creation and retention, community impact, research & development and energy efficiency.

● **Results** - At this stage, the search process will list funding programmes alphabetically. Presented at two levels of detail, the first – a thumbnail summary – enables you to make an early elimination of any schemes that are of no interest. The second level is a detailed report - ideal for emailing to colleagues and partners.

Hyperlinks to email and websites are provided at the second report level, offering you a direct line of communication to each funding provider.



● **Filter options** - Search results can be filtered further according to:

- funding amount;
- funding type, eg grant, loan;
- funding source, eg Government, Lottery, Charitable and Corporate;
- geographical scope, eg local, regional, national and European; and
- status of the programme, ie whether new, updated or currently open to application.

● **Additional search options** -

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government's

search mechanism does not simply relate to identifying funding opportunities for up-and-coming projects. It is designed to support anyone working in the external funding environment by enabling them to keep a finger on the market pulse at all times. For example, perhaps you may hear mention in passing of a previously unheard-of programme.

GRANTfinder 4 Local Government's

organisation and text searches allow you to search the repository for a particular programme or provider, without a project in mind.

In the same way, the editable update bulletin, listing the most recent changes to the site, opens a further window on the latest funding opportunities.

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One of Broadland's key ways of working with the community is through grant funding and the **GRANTfinder** system gives us another channel through which even more projects become a reality. Over the years, this resource has helped to bring in a considerable amount of money to ensure community projects have moved from aspiration to completion. ”

Sally Hoare, Partnership and Funding Officer, Broadland DC

**KEEP YOUR FINGER ON THE
FUNDING PULSE**



INTRODUCING POLICYFINDER

Complementary to the **GRANTfinder** platform is **POLICYfinder** - the ultimate one-stop-shop of European and UK policy information.

POLICYfinder enables you to search across thousands of policy documents published by Government and other major funders in the public, private and voluntary and community sectors, covering documents on a variety of subjects ranging from Education and Business Development to Regeneration and Housing.

Key benefits:

- Helps to strengthen funding applications, forward plan and keep track of major funders' policy.
- Provides up-to-the minute, comprehensive policy information in key areas of interest.
- Convenient one-stop-shop of all major EU and UK policy information updating staff immediately on the changing policy landscape.

- Data updated in real time - as soon as we know about a new policy announcement or change, so do you.
- Extensive coverage of White Papers, Reviews, Consultations and Bills, available to view in a comprehensive extract.
- Links to funding schemes and programmes – helping you to understand how policy and legislation changes affect funding.
- A Policy News Alert service which can be tailored to your areas and locations of interest alongside your frequency preference.

“Dorset County Council has been using **GRANTfinder** for over six years. The benefit of this service is that officers throughout the authority have an efficient way of accessing relevant information on funding opportunities.”

Chris Scally, External Funding and Development Manager, Dorset County Council



TRAINING AND BID CONSULTANCY

Idox Information Solutions provides CPD-accredited face-to-face and online training courses as follows:

● **Get Grant Ready – Beginners’ Course in Funding Applications**

Designed specifically for people in the not-for-profit sector who are new to grant funding, or who have little experience of applying for grants. It aims to equip you with the knowledge needed to maximise your chances of grant success - from identifying suitable sources of funding to understanding what funders are looking for and making successful applications.

● **Bid Writing Workshops**

This hands-on workshop provides delegates with practical bid writing techniques, enabling them to produce focused proposals, increase their success rates and win new resources for their organisation.

It is ideal for staff from public and not-for-profit organisations who are expected to write funding applications as part of their job role.

● **Applying for and Managing European Funding**

An ideal initiation for anyone who is new to the workings of the EC and who is considering applying for the first time for funding direct from Europe. We also run a number of follow-on courses for those

delegates who are already at the stage of managing a European funding programme.

“
Excellent range of topics, insights and best practice. Lots of useful templates contained in the pack that I will use and refer to. Good practical examples and activities.”

● **Bid Consultancy**

Whether checking your application in the guise of a ‘critical friend’ or writing the entire bid on your behalf, our service ensures your application is focused on funder objectives and that your message is clear and consistent.

Matthew Brown, Bid Development Officer, Essex County Council

A TANGIBLE RETURN ON INVESTMENT

“

We have had **GRANTfinder** for the last few years and have noticed an immediate benefit. We have been able to gain access to up-to-date information as well as follow the development of funding programmes from announcement to launch.”

Andy Bleaden, Funding and Programmes Manager, Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council



“

We have subscribed to **GRANTfinder** since 1997. Whilst we have been approached over the years by other service providers, we have always found **GRANTfinder** to be the best out there, in terms of efficiency and value for money.”

Veronique Poutrell, External Funding Manager, East Sussex County Council

“

We have offered comprehensive support to the voluntary and community sector, as well as to the public and private sector locally to a lesser extent. **GRANTfinder** has given us tools to enable the quick and easy identification of funding opportunities as well as the support needed to develop these applications.”

Matt Stockwell, Senior Regeneration Officer, Wigan Council



“ The Council has found **GRANTfinder** to be a useful service, complementing much of our community economic development activities by identifying sources of match funding that enable projects to move forward. I would have no hesitation whatsoever in recommending **GRANTfinder** to other local authorities. ”

Kenny Macinnes, Economic Adviser, Highland Council

“ Over 80 employees across all departments are now using **GRANTfinder** to find additional funding for community schemes. As the **GRANTfinder** lead officer for the Council, I can report with confidence on the quality of the service provided by the **GRANTfinder** team and the reliability of the information provided. ”

Sue Douglas, Senior Economic Development Officer, Derbyshire County Council



“ We find Idox’s services to be invaluable in our work supporting voluntary and community sector groups. The Community Partnerships Unit are all active users of th **GRANTfinder** service and find the grant alert system particularly helpful as it means we can stay up to date on funding opportunities without having to run repeat searches on the database. ”

Stephen Frost, Principal Community Investment Officer, LB of Hounslow

ABOUT IDOX INFORMATION SOLUTIONS

Idox Information Solutions is part of Idox plc - a leading specialist in online solutions for private, public and voluntary sector organisations.

Our business employs 80 people with operational bases in the UK, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and the US.

We are Europe's leading provider of grants and policy information and have been providing support to UK local authorities since 1985.

Our strengths include:

- A unique Research team with many decades of funding experience, dedicated to searching for new funding opportunities all day and every day.
- Content on the site updated in real time - as soon as we know about a funding opportunity, so do you!
- Personal support from our Research Help Desk and Customer Service teams to ensure maximum return on investment.

- Industry-leading copywriting expertise - we take often complex funding guidelines and policy papers and present them in an easily digestible format.
- A user-friendly funding platform which makes searching easy for our enquirers.
- Simple reporting capabilities that allow you to analyse how your organisation is using the service.
- An auto-update facility - a 'tap on the shoulder' which alerts you to the launch of new funding opportunities.





- More Information -

See the full potential of **GRANTfinder 4 Local Government** for yourself by arranging a free demonstration with one of our dedicated team today.

Please contact us by:

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