

B&Q Foundation

Grant FAQs and Guidance

What types of charities and projects does the B&Q Foundation fund?

We help charities who are supporting people in need in the UK – those experiencing homelessness, in financial hardship, impacted by health, disability, or other disadvantage or distress.

We believe that everyone needs a place to feel at home. So, we are looking to fund projects that decorate, renovate, or create spaces where people can feel at home and have a sense of belonging. This can be both indoor and outdoor.

To see some of the projects that we've supported previously, [please see our case studies](#).

What the B&Q Foundation does not support?

- Contributions to general appeals or circulars
- Religious activity which is not for wider public benefit
- Public bodies to carry out their statutory obligations
- Activities that solely support animal welfare
- Activities that have already taken place
- Privately owned and profit-distributing companies or limited partnerships
- Projects to improve office facilities unless they are for dual purpose where beneficiaries make use of the space

I have applied and been successful before, can I apply again?

We're keen for charities who have been successful to apply to us again. However, we do ask that the project that you previously received funding for has been completed and you have provided feedback. Due to the volume of applications, please do not reply within a year of receiving funding.

I was unsuccessful last time, can I apply again?

Yes, however you will need to apply with a new project proposal.

What timeframe do I need to deliver my funded project in?

We want to make sure that our funds are making a difference as quickly as possible, so we do ask for projects to be delivered within 6 months of receiving the grant. We

open applications four times a year, so make sure you apply closest to when you want to undertake the work.

How do I know if my application has been successful or unsuccessful?

You will receive an email from Neighbourly to let you know. This is usually within 8 weeks of having made your application.

How are applications reviewed and awarded?

Applications are reviewed and awarded based on the strength of application. We look specifically at the below three areas:

- How much the charity and this project is reaching and helping those most in need
- How much the project is improving a space where people can feel at home – creating somewhere that is comfortable, safe, and welcoming
- The difference that the project will make – e.g. no. of people reached, longevity, impact

How do I get a copy of my application?

You can email Neighbourly at any time to receive a copy bandq@neighbourly.com.

How much money can I apply for?

We award grants of up to £10,000 for building or indoor projects, and up to £5,000 for garden projects.

We want to provide funding that covers the full cost for the completion of the project, so please include an estimated value of staff time required.

Can I apply for a grant to cover a project alongside funding from other sources?

Yes, you will be asked to provide details about where the other funds will come from as part of the application process. Please note that we will prioritise grants where there is funding over 25% of the project.

Where do I need to be based to apply for a grant?

You can apply for a grant if you are based in the UK and Northern Ireland, we are unable to support projects in the Republic of Ireland or The Channel Islands.

Who is Neighbourly and what is their role?

Neighbourly is the platform and delivery partner working with the B&Q Foundation to help manage the end to end grant application, awarding and impact measurement process. Neighbourly is a multi-award winning giving platform used by thousands of local Good Causes across the UK and Ireland to seek help from businesses in the form of funding, volunteer time and surplus products. The profile you create on the Neighbourly platform as part of the B&Q Foundation application process can also be used to access other types of support.

Other hints and tips on how to write a strong application for a grant from the B&Q Foundation

- Provide as much information as possible about why your organisation is looking for this funding and how this will benefit both your beneficiaries and the charity. Using specific examples of who will be helped can really bring applications to life and help the B&Q Foundation to understand the need in your community.
- Demonstrate how your project to be funded is a standalone project which reaches beyond the core running costs of your organisation. You'll be required to feedback on the impact and outcomes of the project separately to those of your Charity as a whole.
- Refer back to the core aims of the Foundation when writing your application and demonstrate the strong link to how your project will help to create better, safer places for the people in your communities who need them most.