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Bentley Advancing Life Chances Small Grants Policy

November 2022



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The aim of the Bentley Advancing Life Chances Small Grants programme is to support charitable organisations in 19 locations across the UK that support people and planet to thrive.

Strategy

Through undertaking research and working with stakeholders, Bentley has developed its Advancing Life Chances strategy. To us, advancing life chances means helping to contribute to levelling the playing field, especially for those that are vulnerable, disadvantaged or under-represented. In practice, this means improving *Access* to equal and equitable opportunities for all; *Empowering* people to take control of their own life, having the freedom to choose and decide what is best for them; improving the *Quality of Life* of those that live and work in our key communities in the UK so they can enjoy a fulfilled life; and taking the steps required today to build a *Better Future* for our communities and our planet.

Our four pillars – Access, Empowerment, Quality of Life, Better Future – bring the Advancing Life Chances strategy to life and guide our decision-making on the programmes and projects we support envisioning short, medium, and long-term results. Through these we aim to contribute to tackling the most pressing social issues affecting people and communities across our operating areas.

Priorities

In working to advance life chances, our priority is to support organisations working with vulnerable people, disadvantaged and under-represented communities. The programme's areas of focus are below:

Pillar	Focus areas	Description
Access	Remove the barriers and improve access to services, education and employability.	Organisations or projects that remove real or perceived barriers, preventing people from accessing opportunities and services to advance in life.
Empowerment	Development of the life skills that enable people to be more self-confident, successful and thrive in life.	Organisations or projects that help people to develop the skills to drive their success, unlock opportunities and enable them to reach new heights where they are more confident, independent and determined to fulfil their potential.



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Quality of Life	Provide support to live a healthier life both physically and mentally.	Organisations or projects that support initiatives which aim to improve people's physical and mental wellbeing, so they are better able to live and participate in comfortable, fulfilled, and enjoyable lives.
Better Future	Safeguarding the environment, improving nature-deprived areas, drive improvement to "place" and boosting community spirit.	Organisations or projects that are innovative and develop initiatives for the long-term that drive and build a sustainable future for people and the planet.

Funding

The Bentley Advancing Life Chances Small Grants programme will award grants of up to £500. The minimum grant size is £150. Applications below this will not be considered.

Organisations must wait a year after being awarded a grant before submitting another application. Organisations with multiple locations can submit applications for more than one site each round. The sites themselves, however, must wait one year before becoming eligible.

Community Reach

The programme is aimed at supporting communities in 19 locations across the UK. This localised approach has been selected to maximise the impact of the programme, allowing grants to improve outcomes for communities in multiple and intersecting ways and amplifying the impact in each area.

The locations selected are those where Bentley has a presence in the community. They are made up of the 18 Bentley retailer partner locations across the UK as well as the HQ and Manufacturing Site in Crewe. To be eligible, organisation must be located within a 20-mile radius of the Bentley sites in the locations listed below.

Location	Bentley Site / Retail Partners	Postcode
Crewe	Home of Bentley Motors (HQ & Manufacturing Site)	CW1 3PL
Belfast	Bentley Belfast	BT12 6LR
Reading	Bentley Berkshire	RG8 7AN
Birmingham	Bentley Birmingham	B24 9HF



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Bristol	Bentley Bristol	BS10 7TT
Huntingdon	Bentley Cambridge	PE28 9RB
Edinburgh	Bentley Edinburgh	EH15 3HR
Chelmsford	Bentley Essex	CM2 6PN
Glasgow	Bentley Glasgow	ML3 0AY
Southampton	Bentley Hampshire	SO43 7JF
Hatfield	Bentley Hatfield	AL10 9WN
Leeds	Bentley Leeds	LS12 6BY
Leicester	Bentley Leicester	LE7 1PF
Knutsford	Bentley Manchester	WA16 8GT
Newcastle Upon Tyne	Bentley Newcastle	NE28 9ND
Byfleet	Bentley Surrey	KT14 7JU
Pulborough	Bentley Sussex	RH20 1AR
Tunbridge Wells	Bentley Tunbridge Wells	TN2 3UY
London	Jack Barclay	W1J 6AE

Eligibility

The Bentley Advancing Life Chances Small Grants programme will support charities and not-for-profit organisations with charitable purposes that are based within a 20-mile radius of the specified Bentley locations.

Eligible organisations include:

- Registered charities, including charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs).
- Constituted organisations and non-registered charities.
- Community interest companies (CICs) and community benefit organisations (where there is a minimum of three unrelated directors).
- Churches and other religious organisations (so long as the funded activity is not deemed to be proselytising).



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Organisations should also meet the following criteria:

- Have been running community activities for a minimum of 12 months in the local area.
- Have appropriate insurance in place for activities, staff, and volunteers.
- Have appropriate information, governance, policies, and procedures (such as Data Protection, Confidentiality, and Information Security) that are sufficiently robust for your organisation and activities and comply with all current legislation.
- Have safeguarding policies and procedures (including DBS checks for staff, volunteers and trustees) that are appropriate for your organisation and activities and comply with all current legislation.
- Have Health & Safety Policies, Risk Assessments and Procedures that are appropriate for your organisation and activities and comply with all current legislation.
- Have Equal Opportunities Policies and Procedures that are appropriate for your organisation and activities and comply with all current legislation.

What we don't fund

- Organisations that don't meet the geographic criteria.
- Individuals.
- Statutory bodies such as city and county councils or health institutions.
- Organisations registered outside of the UK.
- Grants that are solely for the provision of bursaries to individuals or families.
- Projects or activities that have already been completed or will be prior to receipt of a grant offer and signed terms and conditions.
- Applications seeking a contribution towards major capital building work, infrastructure, or capital refurbishment work.
- Activities solely for political or religious promotion.
- Activities solely for the benefit of animals.
- Salary costs are ineligible, however sessional work fees will be considered.
- Any costs incurred when putting together the application.



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- Third party fundraising.
- Sponsorship or advertising.
- Activities or projects that discriminate on basis of race, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion or national origin.

Reporting

All organisations who engage with the programme agree to report on the outputs and outcomes of the Bentley Advancing Life Chances small grant and its supported community activity.

Version: November 2022