

Social Investment Offering

Francis Scott Trust Social Investment funding opportunities

The Francis Scott Trust has awarded over £44 million in grants since inception in 1963. To increase the impact of the endowment, the Trust offers Social Investment in the form of repayable finance available to charities and social enterprises. This aims to redress the relative scarcity of genuinely long-term finance available in the region. It provides organisations the opportunity to obtain the scale required to ensure greater financial resilience, thereby promoting sustainability in the sector. Features of the programme include:

- Loan facility or loan/grant hybrid that facilitates material change in impact from charitable activities
- Partnership with Francis Scott Trust to ensure social impact monitored and met, loan repaid
- Charitable purpose and geographic focus broader than Trust grant giving policy – potentially increasing impact of endowment across new counties and organisations beyond Cumbria and North Lancashire
- Loan value from £50,000 to £300,000, duration 5 to 10 years.

Francis Scott Trust wants to improve access to social investment by helping prepare applications via two initiatives:

- Step Change:** Grant of up to £4,000 to fund external help to refine and progress social investment ideas
- Reach Fund:** Francis Scott Trust is an Access Point for the Reach Fund, a grant programme helping charities and social enterprises advance investment ideas. We sponsor applications for grant support of up to £15,000 to get an application for Social Investment ready for submission. This can cover external help with the project itself or fund support with operations to free up management time to work on an application.

Charities or social enterprises interested in growing impact via partnering with a trusted local funder, please call 01539 742 608. If you can collaborate with us helping charities plan for growth via the Step Change programme, please email craig@fcsct.org.uk.

There is a lack of genuinely patient capital in the region that means charities are being held back from bringing great services to more beneficiaries. With your support the Francis Scott Trust aims to change that.
