



# Unity Impact Grant Application

Unity Impact Grant Application Guidance 2025





# Contents

Introduction	03
1. Grants Available	04
2. Eligibility Criteria	05
3. What the grant can be used for	06
• Project funding / Direct funding	
• Restricted operational and overheads / Indirect funding	
• Restricted capital expenditure / capital funding	
4. Impact criteria and assessment	07
• Clear definition of beneficiary group / customers	
• Evidence of impact need	
• Impact evidence	
• Sustainable practices	
5. How to access the grant application form	08
6. Conclusion and application access	10

# Introduction

**The 2025 Unity Impact Grant programme will provide ten grants of £5,000 to Unity Customers delivering positive impact in their communities.**

The programme is open to customers of Unity Trust Bank who have banked with us for at least one year. The grants can be used for projects, operational or capital spend. The grant must be used to enable the awardee to continue delivering positive social, environment or economic impact in their local communities.

You can access the Unity Impact Grant application form from **0:00 hours on Monday 1st September 2025**, either via your Online Banking account or by [clicking here](#). This guide provides details of:

1. Grants available
2. Eligibility criteria
3. What the grant can be used for
4. Impact criteria and assessment
5. Accessing the application form
6. Application form guidance



Thank you for your interest in the Unity Impact Grants programme, please continue with this guidance to understand if you are eligible.

# 1. Grants Available

**In 2025, Unity has established a total funding pot of £50,000 for our Unity Impact Grants (UIG).**

There are 10 grants of up to £5,000 each which can be used for projects, operational or capital funding but not unrestricted funding. The grant must be used to enable the awardee to maximise the impact they are creating in their local communities.

**This year's grants will be split regionally, with 3 grants for each of our 3 regions:**



## **Region 1**

Scotland, North East and North West



## **Region 2**

Wales, East Midlands and West Midlands



## **Region 3**

London, South East and South West



The last of the 10 grants being awarded is a UK-wide grant of £5,000, which will be available for a customer that has specific sustainable projects which require funding.

## 2. Eligibility Criteria

- You must have been a Unity customer for at least **1 year prior to 1st September 2025**.
  - Applications can be made by individuals who are not Key Contacts or Signatories on their Unity account, but in doing so must attest on the application that they have the permission to act the customer's behalf, and will receive all correspondence in respect to this application.
  - You can be a lending customer, transactional banking customer or deposits-only customer but you must have an **'active'** account with Unity, with transactions within the last 12 months.
  - Your organisational incorporation should be within the recognised VCSE (Volunteer, Community, Social Enterprise) sector and therefore **one of the following**:
    - **Charity Commission (or nationally relevant equivalent) registered.**
    - **A Community Interest Company (CIC) (incorporation can be by shares or guarantee if the organisation is on the CIC register).**
    - **Companies Limited by Guarantee with a clear asset lock, mission lock and profit lock**
    - **Registered with the FCA Mutuals list as a co-operative or mutual with clear social, environmental or community purpose.**
    - **Part of a registered Trade Union.**
  - **Local Councils** will also be eligible to apply this year – a grant could be awarded to allow them to deliver a special project, not already funded by precepts or public monies.
  - The £5,000 grant must be no more than 30% of your organisation's previous year's income (e.g. your income must be greater than £15,000 in the previous period).
  - The organisation must be based in the UK and must deliver impact in the UK. For clarity, the organisation must be **registered and operating** in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales.
  - Where applications are received from national charities (with a regional presence), the region where the money will be spent must be selected, as opposed to the region where the head office is based (if this differs) e.g. Head office in London, project in Newcastle, so 'Region 1' (for North East) must be selected.
  - Unity will not fund **pre-dated matched funding requirements**.
  - Your organisation should be the direct delivery agent of the social, economic, environmental or community good that the application is for. For example, a Unity Impact Grant will fund the following:
    - A charity responsible for the maintenance and / or providing access to green spaces to protect biodiversity and promote wellbeing.
    - A CIC specialising in mental health support services directly to young people.
    - A housing association delivering employment and therapeutic services to vulnerable tenants.
- The Unity Impact Grants programme will not fund (for example but not limited to):
- Charities providing grants to other organisations delivering services.
  - A CIC which subcontracts its service provision to a third party to deliver services to vulnerable groups.



## 3. What the grant can be used for

**Unity aims for our grants to be as flexible as possible for the successful applicants.**

We also aim to ensure that our funds are providing the greatest possible benefit to the successful customer and their communities and will therefore require grants to be spent in the following:

### **Project funding / Direct funding**

UIG funding can contribute to delivery costs of projects, services or products delivered by the organisation.

### **Restricted operational and overheads / Indirect funding**

UIG funding can contribute to indirect / operational costs associated with but not directly contributing to services. This could include (but is not limited to) back-office functions, communications, business development, office costs and refurbishments. The use of funds must be specifically defined.

### **Restricted capital expenditure / capital funding**

UIG funding can be used to contribute towards the cost of purchasing, maintaining or improving capital assets. The fund usage must be specifically defined with clear justification for how the capital expenditure supports the impact delivered by the organisation.

The grant should not be used for any overseas purposes.

## 4. Impact criteria and assessment

**Unity is a ‘double bottom line bank’ supporting customers who deliver sustainable and inclusive growth where it matters.**

Unity Impact Grants is open to all outcomes supporting positive social, economic, environmental and community impact. Key factors for the successful grant recipients will be how well the impact that will be supported by the grant is articulated and evidenced across the criteria below:



For ideas and support on how to explain your impact, see the [\*\*Unity Impact Toolkit\*\*](#) for advice and tools to talk about your impact.

### **Clear definition of beneficiary group / customers**

The successful applicant will have a clearly defined beneficiary group with a clear articulation of the disadvantage, vulnerability or exclusion faced and how their organisation supports this group.

### **Evidence of impact need**

Whether it is nature restoration in environmentally depleted areas, specialist care services to a particular user group, affordable housing or education for marginalised young people, the successful organisation will have a clear articulation of the environmental, economic or societal need for their organisation. Must align with one of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **Impact evidence**

Demonstration of quality monitoring & evaluation (M&E), impact management or customer quality assurance to ensure the work the organisation delivers contributes to meaningful and sustained change.

### **Sustainable practices**

Organisations that demonstrate sustainable practices, a commitment to reducing their environmental and carbon footprint and can evidence responsible environmental practices will receive additional scoring.

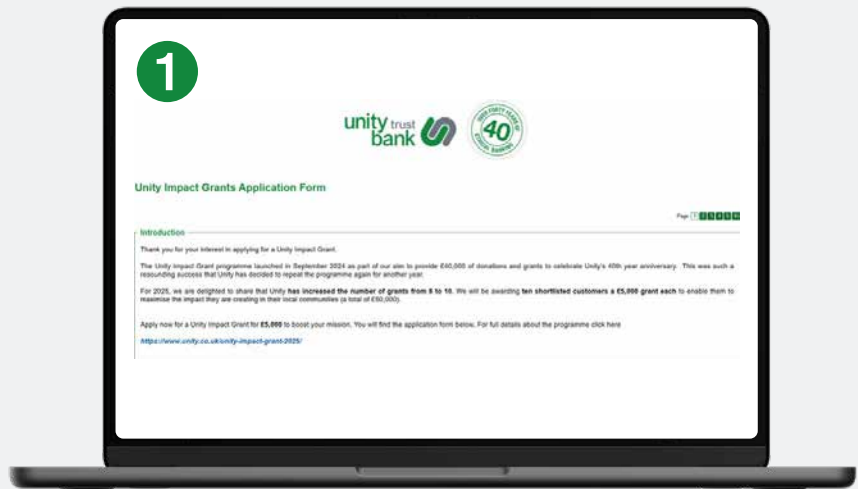
Unity expects this to be a highly subscribed programme, therefore we cannot provide feedback to all candidates. We expect to respond by the end of November with all applicants informed by close of business on **Friday 28th November 2025**.

## 5. How to access the grant application form

Applications must be made via the link available for customers within Unity's Online Banking page, or by [clicking here](#).

The application form will take you through a series of questions confirming your eligibility, the use of funds and proposed impact.

Figure 1: Screenshot of landing page for Unity Impact Grant application



Once you have reviewed the details of the Unity Impact Grant, page 3 asks you to **confirm your eligibility** for application:

Figure 2: Confirming eligibility for the Unity Impact Grant

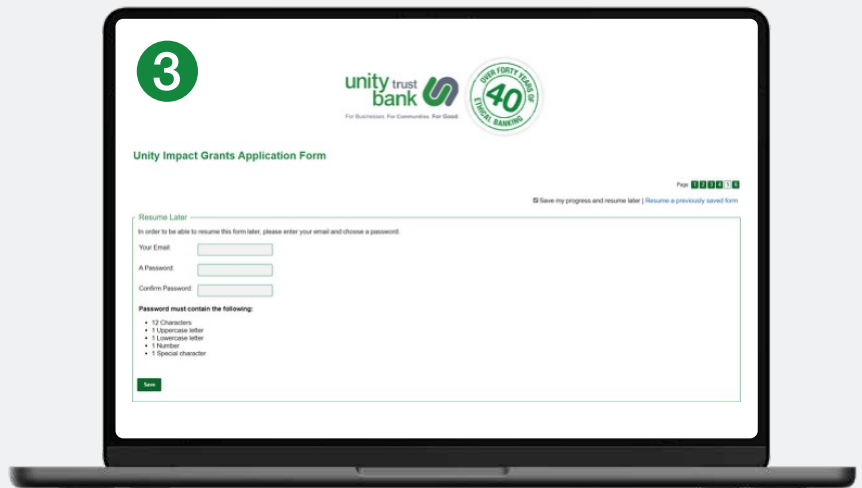
### Following your confirmation of eligibility

your application will support Unity to assess your suitability for a Unity Impact Grant. There is an opportunity to upload supporting materials for your application. Please note, clarity of grant budgeting and evidence of impact will be taken into consideration in the award of the grants.

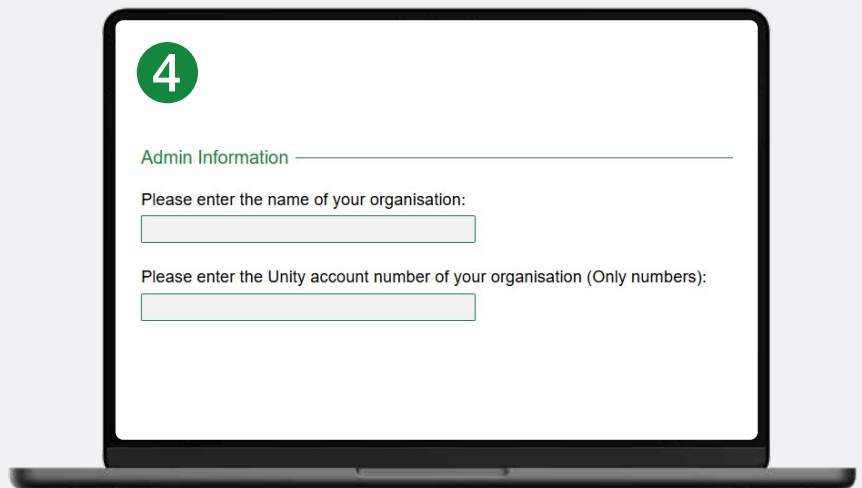


At any point during your application, you can **'save and resume'** later by clicking 'save my progress and resume later'. Set your own password and email address to use this function:

Figure 3: Save and resume function for applications

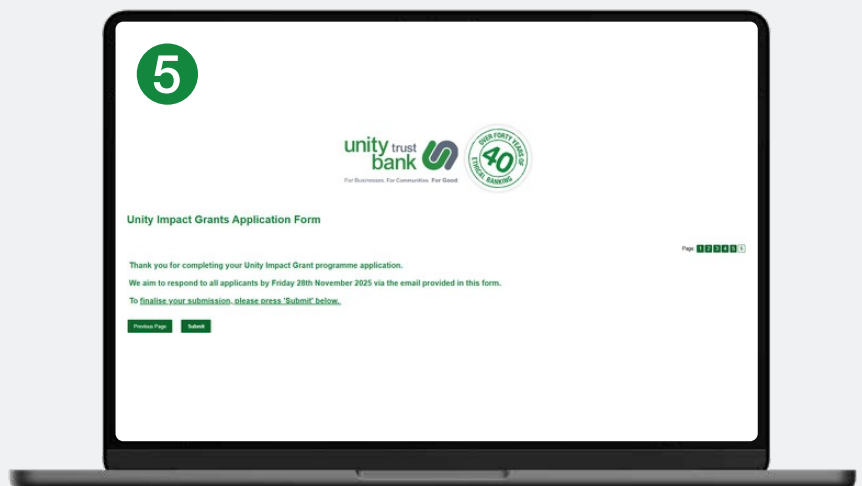
A laptop screen displaying the 'Unity Impact Grants Application Form' at step 3. The page features the Unity Trust Bank logo and a '40th Anniversary' seal. A 'Resume Later' section is highlighted, containing fields for 'Your Email', 'A Password', and 'Confirm Password'. Below these fields, a list of password requirements is shown: 12 Characters, 1 Uppercase letter, 1 Lowercase letter, 1 Number, and 1 Special character. A 'Save' button is located at the bottom of the form. A progress bar at the top right shows 'Page 1 of 1'.

You will be required to input one of your **Unity bank account numbers**, so that we can easily verify your details, and eligibility to apply.

A laptop screen displaying the 'Admin Information' section of the 'Unity Impact Grants Application Form' at step 4. The page features the Unity Trust Bank logo and a '40th Anniversary' seal. The section contains two text input fields: 'Please enter the name of your organisation:' and 'Please enter the Unity account number of your organisation (Only numbers):'. A progress bar at the top right shows 'Page 1 of 1'.

Once you have completed and are satisfied with your application, please ensure you select **'Submit'** on the final page to ensure your application is submitted for assessment.

Figure 5: Final page and ensure that you click 'submit'.

A laptop screen displaying the final page of the 'Unity Impact Grants Application Form' at step 5. The page features the Unity Trust Bank logo and a '40th Anniversary' seal. The text on the page reads: 'Thank you for completing your Unity Impact Grant programme application. We aim to respond to all applicants by Friday 28th November 2025 via the email provided in this form. To finalise your submission, please press "Submit" below.' At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Previous Page' and 'Submit'. A progress bar at the top right shows 'Page 1 of 1'.

## 6. Conclusion and application access

If you are ready to start your application, please log into your Online Banking account where, from **1st September**, you will find the Unity Impact Grant banner and a link to the application form.



If you are unable to access your online banking with Unity but would like to apply, please use the link below to access your Unity Impact Grant form [Unity Impact Grants Application Form](#)

### If you have any questions about the Unity Impact Grant...

or the application process itself, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Email the team at [donationspanel@unity.co.uk](mailto:donationspanel@unity.co.uk)

Please note, the donations team can only offer support on the Unity Impact Grant. If you have a general banking query, please contact the Unity Customer Service team using the details at the foot of this page.

📞 Call us: 0345 140 1000    ✉ Email us: [us@unity.co.uk](mailto:us@unity.co.uk)    🌐 Visit us: [www.unity.co.uk](http://www.unity.co.uk)

Our call centre opening hours are 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding bank and public holidays in England or Scotland. Calls are charged at local rate. Unity Trust Bank plc is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Unity Trust Bank is entered in the Financial Services Register under number 204570. Registered Office: Unity Trust Bank, Four Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2JB. Registered in England and Wales no. 1713124. Calls may be monitored and recorded for training, quality and security purposes U1100\_0625

unity trust  
bank 

