

# FactSheet

www.islandroads.com

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## Island Roads in the Community

*How Island Roads and its employees provide grant aid and other help to local charities and good causes.*

With around 200 Island employees, Island Roads sees itself as very much part of Island life and is very keen to play an active role in supporting the local community. We do this principally through the Isle of Wight Foundation and our own volunteering scheme, although our staff also have an annual programme of fundraising events which gather money for a charity chosen by them each year.

You can read more about this charitable and community activity below.

### The Isle of Wight Foundation



Registered Charity Number 1163489

The Isle of Wight Foundation, is a registered charitable trust that each year issues grants of between £3,000 and £16,000 to projects that tackle social exclusion. Up to £80,000 is made available each year through grants.

The Foundation comprises the network of companies which form Island Roads – Ringway Island Roads, Meridiam, Island Road Services and Vinci Concessions. The funds contributed to the foundation by these bodies are not in any way linked to the Highways PFI contract.

To date, the foundation has donated more than half a million pounds to worthwhile causes!

Among over 50 recipients so far are Aspire, The Way Forward Programme, the Island Riding Centre, St Catherine's School, Ability Dogs 4 Young People, Isle Access, IW Beach Soccer, YMCA Young Carers and Wight Home Care.

Each grant award has a 'sponsor' from Island Roads to ensure there is an ongoing link between the recipient and the company - so the relationship is about donating skills and knowledge as well as money.





Applications for foundation funding are usually sought in February each year and the successful recipients are announced in December that year.

While the wider aim is to promote inclusivity, the foundation looks to achieve this by supporting projects that improve access to employment and build better communities. In particular, applications must demonstrate that they contribute to one or more of the following themes:

### **1. Integration through work**

Projects that support those currently excluded from the job market to adapt to the working world, while also receiving the training and support they need.

### **2. Access to housing**

Projects that facilitate access to housing for the most underprivileged individuals to provide them with more stability.

### **3. Training and qualifications**

Projects that offer basic training and guidance to enable individuals with little or no qualifications to enter the working world.

### **4. Road back to employment**

Initiatives that help people to reduce the factors restricting their mobility and improve the mobility of people deprived by a means of transportation, thereby allowing them easier access to employment, health care and education.

### **5. Social integration**

Projects to support people who are excluded from society, to help them regain self-confidence, recover a better standard of living, accomplish day-to-day activities and integrate with society.

### **6. Youth and citizenship**

Initiatives aimed at promoting citizenship and responsibility among young people.

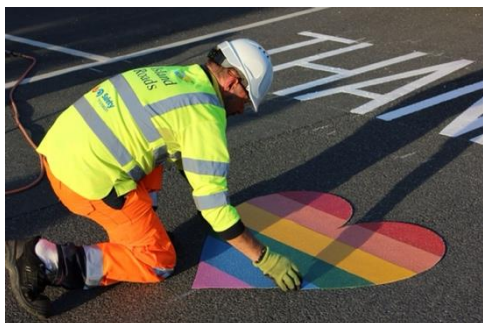
Foundation grants are only available to not-for-profit organisations such as registered charities and community interest groups.

You can learn more about the foundation, including details of eligibility criteria and how to apply, and learn more about the projects we have supported, via <https://islandroads.com/iw-foundation/>

## **Island Roads Volunteering Scheme**

Under a volunteering scheme, Island Roads encourages its staff to take two days paid leave a year in order to undertake community work. Since 2013 staff have really risen to the challenge working with charities and good causes on dozens of projects contributing thousands of man-hours.

The nature of this support has been varied, from rounding up wild goats for annual veterinary checks, and sprucing up The Needles Battery on behalf of the National Trust, to removing the invasive Himalayan Balsam with Island 2000, tidying up and painting at Aspire Ryde and improving off-road access at sporting clubs and community projects (it is important the work carried out is not part of the highways network covered by the PFI contract).



We have also worked with our supply chain partners on a number of projects to create playground markings at various Island schools and were delighted to create a 'Thank You' message to staff and volunteers at Mountbatten Hospice during the Covid-19 pandemic.

If you would like to suggest a project that could be assisted by Island Roads staff under the volunteering scheme then please contact [info@islandroads.com](mailto:info@islandroads.com)

Please note that the requests must fit within the at least one or all of the following criteria:

- Education - we support educational projects that encourage social integration, active participation, safety initiatives and learning and training.
- Environment - we are committed to enhancing the environment in which we operate and support environmental initiatives to include carbon reduction, recycling, conservation and local regeneration.
- Health - we encourage initiatives and organisations which further enhance the health and safety of our own workforce as well as the communities affected by our operations.
- Employment – we may support initiatives that promote professional integration for people excluded from society, helping them acquire basic training and qualifications.
- Tackling social exclusion – supporting projects that build better communities through projects to promote social cohesion, fight exclusion and isolation, enable housing for the most underprivileged and help the homeless.

## Annual staff fundraising.

Every year our staff vote to support a local charity through a series of fundraising events. They have raised thousands of pounds for charities including Home-Start, Ability Dogs 4 Young People and Daisy Chains.

If you know of a charity that would like to be considered for support by our staff fundraising, then please contact [IRfundraising@islandroads.com](mailto:IRfundraising@islandroads.com)



You can visit our website for more details about any of our services [www.islandroads.com](http://www.islandroads.com)