



**The Isle of Wight Foundation
GRANT CALL
2021**

Introduction

Island Roads is a partnership between the Isle of Wight Council, VINCI Concessions, Meridiam Infrastructure and Ringway. It began operating the Highways PFI on the Isle of Wight for a 25-year period on 1 April 2013.

The Highways PFI is a massive investment in the Isle of Wight's infrastructure and will see 804km of road, 756km of footways (pavements), 12,000 streetlights and a range of other highway assets upgraded.

In addition to the massive infrastructure investment the PFI will deliver, Island Roads is committed to supporting the local Island community during its time on the Island. To do this, the company has helped to establish the Isle of Wight Foundation, a registered charitable trust that will focus on combining the skills of Island Roads' staff together with financial assistance to help community projects and schemes on the Island.

Island Roads is part of a wider network of companies within the world's leading construction and concession company - VINCI. VINCI established the first VINCI Foundation in France in May 2002, illustrating the VINCI Group's determination to form lasting partnerships with the local community and support those who live and work in areas where the company operates. To date there are eleven VINCI trusts/ foundations all over Europe and UK which have collectively supported over 800 projects, all of which focus on promoting and supporting the integration of people that have been excluded from society, back into the community.

From promoting better access to employment, to initiatives that help people acquire training and qualifications, to giving disadvantaged people access to housing and raising young peoples' awareness of good citizenship, the VINCI Foundation has helped to make social cohesion a reality in its local communities.

The Isle of Wight Foundation has been formed to help make this same commitment for the Isle of Wight community – to fight against exclusion on the Isle of Wight; to give everyone a place, a role and help them to feel valued in our society.

The Isle of Wight Foundation is funded jointly by Ringway Island Roads, Meridiam, VINCI UK Foundation and VINCI Concessions.

1. What is the Isle of Wight Foundation?

The Isle of Wight Foundation is a charitable trust which provides an opportunity for charities and not-for-profit organisations to bid for grant funding each year to support local projects that promote and deliver social cohesion on the Island.

The Isle of Wight Foundation will make a sum of money available each year in grants of between **£3,000 and £16,000**, to organisations wanting to run projects that aim to help improve local communities and the lives of people excluded from society.

The projects will also be supported by Island Roads employees, who will be given the opportunity by the company to be a sponsor for the project and to provide their specialist skills on a voluntary basis to provide further support to these projects. Each employee is given an amount of time during their working hours to take part in this scheme; to engage with the local community and support projects

that are important to them.

2. General context

In order to help identify areas where the Isle of Wight Foundation might focus its efforts, the company looked closely at information about the Island including the work undertaken by the council and its partners through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment as well as talking to community representatives to form a picture of the key areas of need.

Key factors influencing social exclusion identified included:

- high levels of unemployment, particularly amongst young people (27% of whom are unemployed) with some coming from families in which nobody has worked for two or three generations.
- an ageing population, some of whom are becoming isolated in their communities
- the rural nature of the Island and difficulties with transportation links
- areas of deprivation (income, employment, housing, education and skills) amongst the worst in the region and the country

The Isle of Wight Foundation will therefore focus on two main themes:

- **Access to employment**
- **Building better communities**

3. Selection criteria

3.1 Areas of support

The funding will therefore prioritise projects which aim to tackle these issues, and which will make a positive, measurable impact on the local area. The Isle of Wight Foundation will specifically seek to support projects and initiatives which:

- Provide people with better chances to access training and development to improve their life skills and opportunity for employment:
 - ✓ *Projects which support those currently excluded from the job market to adapt to the working world, while also receiving the training and support they need.*
 - ✓ *Projects that offer basic training and guidance to enable individuals with no qualifications to enter the working world.*
 - ✓ *Initiatives that help people to reduce the factors restricting their mobility and improve the mobility of people deprived of means of transportation, thereby allowing them easier access to employment, to health care, to education.*

- Build stronger communities with more active citizens working together to minimise social exclusion.
 - ✓ *Initiatives aimed at promoting citizenship and responsibility among young people.*
 - ✓ *Projects to support people who are excluded to regain self-confidence, recover a decent standard of living, accomplish day-to-day activities, and by so doing integrate with society.*
 - ✓ *Projects that facilitate access to housing for the most underprivileged individuals to provide them with more stability*

3.2. Who is eligible to apply?

The Isle of Wight Foundation will consider applications from any community interest or not-for-profit organisations working on the Isle of Wight (for example, charities, community groups and voluntary organisations) that can meet the funding aims and criteria specified.

It will not consider applications from individuals, private sector (profit based) organisations, statutory bodies, federations, public organisations, institutions and political or religious organisations/groups.

3.3. Duration

The financial support is temporary and must be used within 12 months of signing the partnership agreement.

The voluntary support from Island Roads employees does not have to be used within the same timeframe but will take place in their working time.

3.4. Sustainability and innovation

The Isle of Wight Foundation will support initiatives that aim to be sustainable and ensure permanent employment or activities. It does not finance temporary projects (e.g. exhibitions, one-off events).

The Isle of Wight Foundation values projects or initiatives which seek innovative solutions to tackle social exclusion.

3.5. Leadership capacities

The Isle of Wight Foundation will be keen to see evidence in any submission that the management of the organisation applying for the grant are prepared to dedicate time and energy to the further development of the project.

3.6. Transparency

Any organisations applying for grant funding must be willing to demonstrate transparency in terms of the information that is provided to the Isle of Wight Foundation both in terms of the clarity and

accuracy information supporting the application, including financial components but also in terms of reporting on the progress of the project and its achievements.

4. Financial support

The financial support provided will be a grant of between £3,000 and £16,000.

This financial support will be given as a lump sum and must be used within 12 months of signing the funding agreement.

The support is reserved for investment expenditure that is material (equipment, vehicles, ICT, furniture, furnishings etc) or non-material (e.g. a website, training directly related to the project).

The following will not be considered:

- ✗ Projects or activities that do not meet any of the Foundation aims and criteria.
- ✗ Any costs you incur when putting together a grant application.
- ✗ Activities that happen or start before we confirm our grant to you.
- ✗ Political or religious activities.
- ✗ Day-to-day operating costs (for example, utility bills, council tax, rent and insurance).
- ✗ Land or building projects where the ownership or lease is not yet in place (including any planning permissions).
- ✗ On-going staff costs
- ✗ Projects or activities that the state or a statutory body has a legal obligation to provide.
- ✗ Projects that cannot be completed within 12 months of the date of the letter confirming the grant (from January 2020)

5. Employee support

Our employee volunteering scheme has proved an extremely valuable tool. It provides community projects with lasting benefits through the transfer of skills and expertise or practical support. It also enables our employees, the vast majority of whom live and work on the Island, to get involved in something that they feel passionate about and interested in, and a chance outside of their day-to-day work to make a difference in their local community.

We will look closely at how we can match employee skills and interests to projects submitted. Employees will be given the opportunity to be a sponsor for a project and can work individually or in teams to support that project.

The 'sponsorship' may take on various forms, for example:

- Participating in aspects of the day-to-day life of the charity
- Offer of expertise for the operational management of the non-profit organisation (bookkeeping, commercial expertise, communication, human resources) or for technical aspects (work, safety, law etc)
- Practical support to complete work on a project involving specialist skills e.g. land clearance, drainage, construction, design

- Directly helping the people the project supports in their road back to employment: e.g. how to write a CV, training for job interviews, finding out about jobs in the construction sector

6. Additional qualifying criteria

Successful bidders must also be able to show that they have or will have arrangements in place to meet the following responsibilities. They should provide evidence of:

- ✓ Public liability insurance (minimum £5 million).
- ✓ Evidence that they are able to manage grant funding effectively and efficiently and within the 12-month period – January - December 2021.
- ✓ Evidence that they qualify for funding as an organisation - grants can only be made available to properly constituted voluntary and community groups
- ✓ Compliance with relevant legislation including health and safety, risk assessment, equality and diversity, safeguarding vulnerable adults and children, data protection and freedom of information. This can be demonstrated by providing copies of relevant organisational policies.
- ✓ Agreement to the use both the Isle of Wight Foundation and Island Roads logo on any promotional materials for funded activities.

7. When can you apply?

Applications must be submitted to Island Roads by **12 noon on Friday 7th May 2021**. Bids can be accepted by post or by hand to Island Roads, St Christopher House, 42 Daish Way, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5XJ or by email to IWFoundation@IslandRoads.com Applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Handwritten applications will not be considered.

8. How do you apply?

You can visit <http://www.islandroads.com/137-iw-foundation.html> and download an application form. This can then be completed and emailed back to us or alternatively you can print off a completed copy and either drop it off to our reception, or post it to St Christopher House, 42 Daish Way, Newport, PO30 5XJ. Please note, handwritten forms will not be accepted.

If you are unsure whether your project is something that the Isle of Wight Foundation will potentially support, please email IWFoundation@IslandRoads.com with an outline of your query in advance of the closing date and we will contact you.

9. Selection procedure

A selection committee comprising representatives from Island Roads and its funding partners together with a local community representative will meet to consider the bids and a shortlist of projects will be identified.

These organisations will then be visited to help gain a better understanding of the proposed project and its likely impact.

The selection committee will then propose a final list of projects to the Directors' Board, comprising representatives of each of the four funding organisations. The board will then have the final decision on the projects selected.

10. Funding agreements

Any successful bidder for the Isle of Wight Foundation grant funding will be offered a funding agreement with conditions. The agreement will include arrangements that will be put in place to monitor how the project outcomes are being delivered.

Any funding provided through the Isle of Wight Foundation can only be used for the purposes set out in any funding agreement and must be used within 12 months of being awarded.

11. How will the progress and impact of the projects be determined?

The Isle of Wight Foundation will require regular reports on the progress of the project and evidence of the impact and the outcomes it has specified. Monitoring will therefore look to confirm how much activity has been delivered and how effective it has been. Bids should therefore include proposals for monitoring and reporting about project delivery.

Island Roads will publish information on all of the Isle of Wight Foundation funded projects on its website www.islandroads.com

12. Timeline for grant applications and award

- This grant call has been issued on **8th February 2021**
- The closing date for applications is **7th May 2021** (12 mid-day)
- The projects meeting the selection criteria will be visited between **June and August 2021**.
- The Selection Committee will review projects by the end of **October 2021**.
- The Directors' Board will consider grant applications brought forward by the Selection **Committee in October/November 2021**.
- Grants will be announced and awarded in **December 2021**.
- Successful programmes should begin on or around **1st January 2022** and be completed by **31st December 2022**.

13. Additional information

You can read more about the VINCI Foundation and the type of projects it has supported in countries around the globe by visiting <http://www.vinci-foundation.com/fondation/en/page/homepage.htm>

For more information relating the Isle of Wight Foundation visit <http://www.islandroads.com/137-iw-foundation.html>. Here you will also find information about projects that have previously secured funding.

If you have any questions relating to the Isle of Wight Foundation or the grant application and award, please email IWFoundation@IslandRoads.com