

Screwfix Foundation Hospice Capital Improvement Grants 2026

Information and criteria

Introduction

The Screwfix Foundation grant programme will support small capital projects that have a direct impact to patients and their families in member hospices.

The grants programme

Grants are available for capital improvement projects that will directly benefit patients and their families.

The programme is primarily to support capital costs.

It is important that the project should demonstrate a direct impact to patients and their families.

Projects could include

The following are examples of ways in which money from the grant could be used:

- LED lighting/boiler/heating improvements - only where people in need will benefit directly from those improvements e.g. rooms/community spaces;
- EV charging - if the vehicles are used predominantly to support people in need transportation;
- Doors - making it more accessible & heating efficient, once again benefiting people in need;
- Windows - environmental friendly windows which will make the building/rooms more comfortable;
- Sensory garden, including environmental focuses;
- Outdoor spaces - ensuring patients have an accessible outdoor space.

The Screwfix Foundation likes to support projects where they are the major or sole funder.

What is not eligible?

Examples of projects that are not eligible include:

- refurbishment of staff rooms or other non-patient facilities;
- staff training or any other revenue activity;
- information technology, including iPads/tablets/PCs
- Any type of equipment;
- routine maintenance that has no noticeable effect on the care environment;
- applications for work that form part of a much larger project, Screwfix Foundation prefer to be the major or sole funder of a project;
- Hospices awarded a grant directly from The Screwfix Foundation within the past two years;
- work that has started before end May 2026.

Grants

The total available funding in this round is £100,000 and we are looking to make grants of up to £10,000 each.

Only one application can be considered from each hospice

Expectation

We will share the learning from projects that are funded through this programme. If successful in your application for funding, you will be expected to contribute to this.

Additional activities will include:

- submitting a written progress report after your grant has been awarded
- site visits by staff from Hospice UK to evaluate progress
- Submitting an abstract for a poster presentation at Hospice UK national conference.

You will have access to ongoing support from the Grants Team to ensure that your project goes as smoothly as possible and the offer of facilitation to help resolve any issues as they arise.

Eligibility criteria

Eligible organisations are hospices that are members of Hospice UK, including NHS hospices:

- adult hospices
- children's hospices.

Based in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

Hospices that have been awarded a grant directly from The Screwfix Foundation within the past two years are not eligible to apply for this capital improvement grant.

Deadline

The deadline for applications is Monday, 13 April 2026 at 17:00. Applicants will be informed whether or not they have been successful at the end of May 2026.

Organisational support

The Chief Executive or equivalent at the hospice will be asked to write and sign a statement of support (on hospice headed paper) outlining how the proposed work fits with the strategic direction and business plan of the applicant organisation; provide assurance that this work will make a difference in practice and the organisation will take responsibility to review the progress of the project to ensure that change is effected; and describe any other support which will be provided.

Application process

We encourage all potential applicants, after reading the application materials, to contact the Grants Team to informally discuss your proposal. This enables us to establish whether your planned work fits within the general requirements of the programme and offers you an opportunity to find out more about what we are looking for.

Please note that discussing your proposal with the Grants Team does not guarantee the success of your application.

Only one application per grant round will be considered from each hospice. Applications can be made on the online forms available on our website: www.hospiceuk.org/grants

Completing the online form

Before you can access the online application form you will be asked several questions in the eligibility filter. If answered correctly, you will be directed to the full application form.

Tip, you may find it helpful to prepare your answers in Word first. A template of the application questions is available on the website in Word version. You can use the template to 'cut and paste' your answers into the online form.

When you are filling in your application form, please give concise answers as some questions may have a limit on the number of words you can write.

In addition, if a grant is awarded, we will ask you to report back on your project by referring to the answers written on your application form, so it is important to be realistic in your answers.

Submitting the online form

Once you have completed the application form you can submit it online. To submit, go to the last page of the form and at the bottom is a 'submit' button. Once you are happy with your application, click 'submit'.

Once you have submitted your application you will receive a confirmation of submission e-mail, which will include a copy of your application.

Please upload to your application:

- a signed statement of support on hospice headed paper from your chief executive
- any other supporting information, such as a feasibility study or scoping exercise, that identifies the need for the project.

Assessment

Applications will undergo a two stage assessment process:

1. By Programme Staff

To check the application meets the basic eligibility criteria. If further information is required at this stage, a member of the programme staff will request it.

2. By the Major Grants Committee

During the second stage all applications will be considered by the Major Grants Committee, which comprises of senior hospice personnel as well as staff from Hospice UK and representatives from the Screwfix Foundation.

Applications will be assessed against set criteria, we will consider how the proposal:

- demonstrates a **direct impact** to patients and their families;
- the **number of patients** directly benefiting from the project over a twelve month period;
- demonstrates a **need** for the project;
- will be **evaluated** to measure the effectiveness of the project;
- is likely to be **completed** by end May 2027;
- demonstrates **value for money**;
- **feasibility** of the proposed work;
- The Grants Committee will prioritise projects they feel would most likely **contribute to national learning and the possibility of scaling and replicating** in other hospices. To support this, your application should demonstrate how your project would build on established practice, be nationally relevant and show a clear need.
- The Grants Committee will prioritise those projects that have the ability to **start soon after the decision to fund** has been announced.
- It may also be necessary to allocate funding to **ensure a balanced geographical spread and project type** are taken into account.

You should address each of the points above in your application. These are not listed in order of importance.

It is likely that we will receive more applications than the amount of funding available, so the success of your application cannot be guaranteed and the committee's decision is final.

Financial situation

If we receive more applications than we can fund and the project has been assessed and is strong enough to be in contention for a grant, then hospices' free reserve levels may be taken into account.

For the purpose of this grant programme:

- free reserves are defined as all reserves with the exception of endowed or restricted funds and any reserves represented by tangible fixed assets
- running costs are defined as total expenditure as per the most recent audited accounts.
- where the hospice operates one or more trading subsidiaries, the figures are to be based on the consolidated levels of reserves and expenditure for the group.

Supporting documentation for your application

You have the opportunity to submit supporting documentation to strengthen your bid. Examples of documentation you should consider including:

- evidence for why the activity proposed will have the impact we are looking for
- evidence of need for your proposed work

What happens if successful?

If your application for a grant is successful then we will send an Award Letter, together with an Acceptance Form, to the Chief Executive at the hospice. We may contact the application sponsor personally to confirm support of your application.

The Acceptance Form must be signed by the applicant organisation's Chief Executive and a Trustee, agreeing to the conditions of the grant. We will ask you to confirm when the project will start and when you expect to complete it.

Grants must be claimed within twelve months of the date of this letter. We reserve the right to withdraw funding after twelve months if it is not claimed, so it is important that you keep us up to date with progress.

Payments will be made on the submission of a Grant Claim Form together with evidence of expenditure such as copies of paid receipts and invoices in relation to the grant.

Once your project is complete

As a condition of your grant, you will be required to send us a final report at the end of the grant funded period of your project. You will be asked for further information about what you have achieved and what impact the work has had on the experience for patients and their families.

Timetable

An outline timetable for the programme is given below.

- 13 April 2026 - Deadline for submission of applications 17:00
- End May 2026 - All applicants to be notified of decisions
- 1 September 2026 - First progress report due
- 1 June 2027 - Final Impact Reports due from project leads

Acknowledgements

Grant holders are required to acknowledge the Screwfix Foundation and Hospice UK in any information that is circulated about the project. This includes e.g. conference presentations, reports, publications and articles that arise from the work.

Screwfix Foundation

The Screwfix Foundation is a registered charity set up in 2013. We are passionate about making a difference to communities across the UK and Republic of Ireland. We are a grant giving charity with a clear purpose to support projects that improve, repair and maintain homes and community facilities used by those in need throughout the UK.

Hospice UK

Hospice UK is the national charity for hospice and end of life care. We work to ensure everyone affected by death, dying and grief gets the care and support they need, when they need it.

Further information

Please see our website or contact the Grants Team at Hospice UK with any questions about this grant programme or if you need further information:

E-mail: Grants@hospiceuk.org

Website: www.hospiceuk.org/grants

Telephone: 020 7520 8219

Address: Grants Team, Hospice UK, 34-44 Britannia Street, London, WC1X 9JG