

EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT

COMMUNITY FUND

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



WELCOME

Thank you for enquiring about the East Midlands Airport Community Fund. The Airport Community Fund is dedicated to bringing lasting benefit to those areas most affected by the airport's operations. Charities, community groups and not-for-profit community organisations within the 'Area of Benefit' can apply for grants up to £2,000 for tangible items of lasting benefit.

The EMA Community Fund was established in April 2002 and has granted over £2.8 million to more than 2,000 projects*. Applications are assessed by the independent Community Fund Committee, who bring local knowledge to the Community Fund, ensuring the money is used to the maximum benefit of the community.

This guidance leaflet provides all the information you need to make a suitable application including a map of the 'Area of Benefit'. You can find more information, including Annual Reports that include real examples of projects that have successfully applied to the Fund, on our website by scanning the QR code.



COUNCILLOR STEPHEN TAYLOR

Chair of East Midlands Airport Community Fund

*Correct as of July 2026

EMA COMMUNITY FUND OBJECTIVES

For a project to be eligible for a grant from the Fund it must meet at least one of the following:

- To bring the community closer together through facilities for sport, recreation, and other leisure time activities.
- Supporting young people to prepare for the world of work and make work an inspiring choice.
- Offer environmental improvement awareness and education and/or encourage and protect wildlife.
- Heritage conservation.

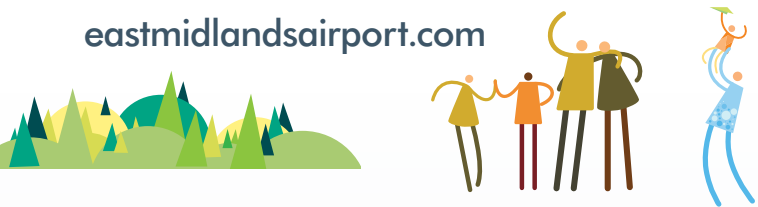


SCAN HERE TO VISIT
SUPPORTING OUR
LOCAL COMMUNITY
FOR MORE
INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

T: 01332 818414

E: community@eastmidlandsairport.com
eastmidlandsairport.com/community



WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY FUND?

The Community Fund is a separate fund that is managed independently by the Community Fund Committee.

The money in the Fund comes from a substantial annual donation from East Midlands Airport together with surcharges and fines levied against aircraft that exceed strict noise limits.

The surcharges and fines increase the money available to the Fund, together with encouraging the airlines to operate more responsibly and use quieter aircraft. You can find details of noise fines and surcharges levied in our annual reports on our website.

The Community Fund awards grants of up to £2,000 to support eligible projects within our 'Area of Benefit' that have long lasting community, social or environmental benefits.

You can find a map of the 'Area of Benefit' on Page 4.



Treetops Hospice received £2,000 towards their Contemplation Courtyard.

IS MY PROJECT ELIGIBLE FOR AN EMA COMMUNITY FUND GRANT?

To be eligible, your project needs to meet these criteria:

1. Your project must be within the 'Area of Benefit' (see page 4).
2. We can only fund charities and not-for profit organisations or community groups. We cannot fund individuals or profit-making organisations.
3. Your project must meet at least one of the Fund's objectives (see page 1).
4. Your project and the items you bid for must have a lasting benefit to the community. The items you bid for need to be tangible, such as equipment or furniture. You should be able to demonstrate how items will be stored or kept safe where appropriate.
5. Please note that the Fund cannot pay for the purchase of land or buildings, building maintenance or repair, administration or running costs, wages or training, consumable items.
6. Your project should benefit all members of the community, regardless of age, race, gender, ability, or religion.
7. You must demonstrate that you are an established group or charity, by providing your Constitution as well as your latest annual financial records. If you are a new group with no financial records, please provide an outline of your proposed business plan and budget.
8. Please ensure that you read the Fund rules on page 3 before applying.

WHO ARE THE COMMUNITY FUND COMMITTEE?

There are five members of the Community Fund Committee including three councillors, one each from the three local counties represented in the 'Area of Benefit', an airport on-site business representative and a representative from East Midlands Airport. Meetings take place four times each year.

The final decision on projects remains with the Community Fund Committee. All applications are processed by the Airport.

GUIDELINES TO APPLYING FOR FUNDING

For the autumn 2026 round of funding we will be trialling a new on-line application platform called ActionFunder. In order to apply for an EMA grant you need to sign up and create a free profile [here](#) and then actively apply to the EMA Community Fund [here](#).

If you are still unsure whether your project is eligible, you can contact us at community@eastmidlandsairport.com with any questions. We are happy to arrange a call on request to discuss your application. Visit our website for more info by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page.

CHECKLIST:

- Sign up and create a free profile on the ActionFunder site [here](#).
- Create a project that you are seeking to fund, and actively apply to our fund [here](#).
- Please provide the full address and postcode of your project, so that we can check that your project is within the eligible area.
- Please ensure your project is described in a clear, concise way.
- Please provide a full breakdown of the costs of your project or the items you are bidding for.
- Please include links to estimates or quotes for all items you are bidding for. You can also provide visuals of the items if you feel this will make your application easier to understand.
- Please include links to your organisation's constitution and latest financial accounts or copies of bank statements as evidence that you are an established group or charity. If you are a new group that is unable to provide past financial records, please provide an outline of your proposed business plan and budget.
- Any changes made to final purchases not agreed in advance may result in a grant payment being reduced or not made.

If you require any advice or assistance in making an application you can contact us on community@eastmidlandsairport.com

For further help:

- Check out the ActionFunder Help Centre [here](#).
- For more information about how 'Active Apply' works visit [here](#).
- Come to an ActionFunder online monthly community drop in [here](#).
- Contact ActionFunder Help desk at hello@actionfunder.org





COMMUNITY FUND RULES AND CONDITIONS:

- The maximum funding is £2,000 (subject to review in exceptional circumstances).
- Funding for sports kit is limited to £500 and is for children's and youth clubs only. Bidders must demonstrate that kit belongs to the club and not to the individual.
- The Community Fund can offer full funding of a project, or partial funding such as a specific element or item of the project.
- Applicants should demonstrate that projects will benefit members of the community within the 'Area of Benefit' regardless of age, race, gender, ability, or religion.
- Preference will be given to projects which are of benefit to the local community or a substantial section of it.
- **Organisations which have statutory responsibilities** (such as local authorities, parish councils, schools, hospitals, surgeries or clinics) are now no longer eligible to apply for funds, regardless of the project. This includes 'friends of' schools, PTAs and other similar organisations.
- Buildings used primarily for a specific group, such as churches, may be eligible for funding if they can demonstrate they benefit the wider community.
- Members of the Community Fund Committee may wish to visit your project before a decision is taken on your application.
- A maintenance plan may be required for projects which involve the creation of a physical asset, such as a garden requiring ongoing maintenance.
- The decision of the Community Fund Committee is final.
- Members of the Community Fund Committee reserve the right to request a visit to any project in receipt of a grant at a mutually agreeable time, for promotional purposes, e.g., photographs.
- Details of successful applications, including photographs, may be used in promotional material by East Midlands Airport.
- Organisations that have had a successful application can reapply two years after their grant was awarded. Grants will not be awarded within the two-year period.
- **Grants cannot be awarded to** individuals, political parties, sole traders, commercial organisations and those working for profit.
- **Grants will not be awarded for:**
 - consumable items, recurrent expenditure or running costs including printing, web design, promotional materials,
 - salaries, coaching, teaching fees or courses,
 - one off events, days out, hire of venues or hire of equipment,
 - awards, trophies, or medals,
 - projects which have already been carried out and paid for,
 - installation costs,
 - VAT, unless applicants are not VAT registered,
 - the purchase of land or buildings, or for repair and maintenance work. However, security items or adaptations for disabled use, such as handrails may be allowed.

WHAT HAPPENS ONCE MY APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED?

We will check that your application meets the objectives and criteria of the Community Fund and you have provided all supporting information (the group's constitution, financial information, quotes/estimates of items).

During this process we may need to contact you to discuss the project or ask you to provide further information.



Swarkestone Sailability received £2,000 towards a hoist for disabled users.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE COMMUNITY FUND COMMITTEE HAS MADE THEIR DECISION?

If your application is unsuccessful, we will email you to inform you of the Committee's decision and explain why the project was unsuccessful. The decision of the Community Fund Committee is final.

If your application is successful:

- You will receive an email confirming your grant, and any special conditions, after the meeting.
- **Payments are made in arrears by BACS transfer,** once you have purchased the items and provided receipts to us. These need to be sent to community@eastmidlandsairport.com
- Grants must be spent within 12 months of being awarded unless an extension is granted.
- Information about successful applicants and the delivery of projects will be published in our Annual Reports.
- Please share your updates and reports of your project on the ActionFunder platform. We may publish photos and information about successful projects in our reports and on social media to further promote the Fund.



EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT COMMUNITY FUND AREA OF BENEFIT

The map displays the East Midlands Airport Community Fund Area of Benefit, which is outlined in blue. The area is divided into numerous small regions, each labeled with a unique postcode. The map includes major roads (A roads) and surrounding towns and cities. The legend indicates that the blue outline represents the Community Fund Area boundary and that all listed postcodes are eligible.

EMA COMMUNITY FUND ELIGIBLE AREA

Community Fund Area boundary.
All listed postcodes are eligible.

LE11 1	LE12 7	LE67 4
LE11 2	LE12 8	LE67 5
LE11 3	LE12 9	LE67 8
LE11 4	LE14 3	LE67 9
LE11 5	LE65 1	LE7 1
LE12 5	LE65 2	LE7 3
LE12 6	LE67 3	LE7 4

DE1 1	DE22 3	DE3 9
DE1 2	DE23 1	DE65 5
DE11 0	DE23 2	DE65 6
DE11 7	DE23 3	DE7 4
DE11 8	DE23 4	DE7 5
DE11 9	DE23 6	DE7 8
DE12 6	DE23 8	DE7 9
DE13 0	DE24 0	DE72 2
DE13 9	DE24 1	DE72 3
DE14 1	DE24 3	DE73 5
DE14 2	DE24 5	DE73 6
DE14 3	DE24 8	DE73 7
DE15 0	DE24 9	DE73 8
DE15 9	DE3 0	DE74 2

NG1 2	NG12 4	NG8 2
NG1 5	NG12 5	NG8 3
NG1 6	NG2 1	NG8 4
NG1 7	NG2 2	NG8 6
NG10 1	NG2 3	NG9 1
NG10 2	NG2 5	NG9 2
NG10 3	NG2 6	NG9 3
NG10 4	NG2 7	NG9 4
NG10 5	NG7 1	NG9 5
NG11 0	NG7 2	NG9 6
NG11 6	NG7 3	NG9 7
NG11 7	NG7 4	NG9 8
NG11 8	NG7 5	
NG11 9	NG8 1	

EMA COMMUNITY FUND ELIGIBLE AREA

 **Community Fund Area boundary.**
All listed postcodes are eligible.

For more information visit www.eastmidlandsairport.com/community
To contact us email community@eastmidlandsairport.com

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
HOW WE SUPPORT THE
LOCAL COMMUNITY

