



# Good Things Foundation

## Tech Rescue – Climate Action Hubs

### Grant Description & Application Guidance

**Deadline for submission: Friday 12th June 2026 at 12 noon**

#### Introduction

Good Things Foundation has been funded by The National Lottery Community Fund, to work in partnership with others to deliver a three year programme addressing the UK's growing electronic waste crisis through bold, community-led climate action.

Tech Rescue is an inclusive, community-led response to e-waste where device donation, repair and reuse become everyday norms. By bringing together community based organisations, public bodies, and private sector partners, we will deliver a coordinated and inclusive response to one of the fastest growing environmental challenges while generating meaningful social impact.

Our approach recognises that effective climate action must be shaped and led by the communities most affected. Research from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation highlights that low-income communities are often disproportionately impacted by climate change, yet remain underrepresented in decision-making. While communities care deeply about environmental issues, structural barriers continue to limit participation.

This project addresses that gap by placing community voices and leadership at its core. Through a practical, inclusive model, we will train local people with repair skills, redistribute refurbished devices, create pathways to economic opportunity, and embed climate awareness into everyday life – building long-term resilience and local environmental leadership.

The project will strengthen community-led capacity for device refurbishment across the UK by inspiring and supporting more organisations to establish and grow local refurbishment schemes. Through this work, it will help build sustainable regional ecosystems for device donation, refurbishment, and reuse across 12

regional areas, creating stronger collaboration between communities, organisations, and stakeholders. The initiative will also increase public awareness of device reuse opportunities and encourage wider participation, enabling people to contribute as donors, volunteers, refurbishers, or local champions. A central aim of the programme is to create a lasting legacy by embedding sustainable, community-led approaches to device reuse within each region, ensuring that local action, partnerships, and impact continue beyond the lifetime of the project.

By linking e-waste reduction with digital inclusion, we align environmental impact with urgent social needs. This dual benefit shows that climate action can also expand access to education, employment, and connectivity—particularly for digitally excluded households.

**We're looking for organisations already leading the way in device reuse and who would like to inspire others and scale their impact. Organisations who apply for this funding opportunity must already be delivering a device refurbishment initiative and want to scale their service.**

The programme design will start in July 2026 with 3 organisations being involved in the design stage. Hub delivery will start in **January 2027 – 30 May 2029**.

## **What are we looking for?**

We are looking for 12 organisations across the UK who are experienced in delivering a device refurbishment initiative to become Community Climate Action Hubs. There will be one in each of the 9 regions and one in each devolved Nation.

We're aiming to strengthen existing networks and expand into underserved areas to create a national infrastructure for grassroots e-waste action. You will be required to engage with marginalised groups such as people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ communities, refugees, asylum seekers, and those facing racial inequality.

**You will play a lead role in local delivery and in shaping the development of toolkits, campaigns, and national learning. You will be required to:**

- Train individuals or organisations to become e-waste champions. The champions will lead local device rescue initiatives, build wider stakeholder engagement, and become trusted voices for climate action within their communities.
- Run community repair and/or reuse awareness workshops. These workshops will bust myths around reuse and may also double as repair training opportunities for those facing barriers to employment, including disabled people, refugees, and others often excluded from the labour market.

- Be an Ambassador for the programme, share your knowledge and expertise, participate in forums and workgroups and be able to champion your work and your organisation in media and press opportunities organised by Good Things.
- Collaborate with Good Things to engage local device contributors, increasing the supply of devices into the community reuse ecosystem in your region through the secure receipt and processing of donations. Your organisation must be ready and able to accept donations of eligible tech from both organisations and individuals.

Please note, we will ask about your device refurbishment processes and standards in the application form.

## More information about this programme

Over the course of the project Good Things will collaborate with the 12 regional hubs to develop sustainable ecosystems of device reuse within their regions. In order to scope, design, implement and embed the ecosystems there are a number of 'networks' or groups which you will be participating in and benefitting from. Here is more information about the working groups and forums.

Participation in these will support collaboration, shared learning, and the effective delivery of programme outcomes.

Work Group	Purpose & Aims	Your Responsibilities & Benefits
<p><b>Peer Learning Network</b></p> <p>Led by University of Liverpool</p>	<p>Bring regional Climate Action Hubs and E-Waste Champions together</p> <p>Share knowledge, learning and experience</p> <p>Peer support and capacity building</p>	<p>Attend online sessions every 6-8 weeks facilitated by Uni of Liverpool</p> <p>Contribute to the participant led discussion and share your experience and insights</p> <p>Learn from others in the network</p>
<p><b>Cross Sector E-Waste Action Network</b></p> <p>Led By Good Things Foundation</p>	<p>Bring stakeholders together within a region to develop a roadmap for reuse.</p> <p>Promote and establish regional accountability and action for device reuse.</p>	<p>Attend twice yearly sessions led by Good Things</p> <p>Collaborate with Good Things to grow and embed reuse partnership working in the region</p> <p>Scale your device reuse programmes</p>

<p><b>Steering Group</b></p> <p>Led by Good Things Foundation</p>	<p>Governance of the programme including representation from those that have experienced digital exclusion</p> <p>Ensure that we remain true to the project objectives and respond to the voices of those delivering and benefitting from the project.</p>	<p>Support in the identification of device beneficiaries that could join the Steering Group.</p> <p>Attend or contribute to quarterly sessions</p> <p>Provide insight and take action on feedback to ensure that the project stays on track.</p>
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## Tech Rescue Campaign

In parallel to embedding regional ecosystems of device reuse, Good Things aims to increase the flow of devices into communities through a national and regional ‘Tech Rescue’ campaign, encouraging organisations and individuals to support the reuse initiatives within their region. The objective is for devices donated within a region to stay in that region, noting that any surplus can be absorbed by redistribution to another region.

The campaign will be led by Material Focus, building on the ‘Recycle Your Electricals’ campaign by further developing a focus on behaviour change and confidence to reuse rather than recycle. The national element of the campaign will focus on achieving strong reach, frequency, and recognition – ensuring audiences see the campaign widely and encounter it often enough to encourage action. The regional element will amplify and signpost to the reuse initiatives in the region.

You will be invited to support in the design and development of the campaign and expected to lead on local engagement to amplify the campaign. To support this you will also have a specific regional budget for marketing that can be tailored to local audiences.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

To ensure the successful delivery of the programme, we will continuously collect data with the support of the Community Climate Action Hubs. The primary purpose of this collection is to understand the level of activity, who is being supported, and how the programme can evolve and improve. We will build the specific data collection approach during the co-design phase. Our aim is to establish robust systems and processes for compliant and effective data sharing,

making essential data available throughout the programme to support management, learning, and the achievement of targets

In addition, Good Things has partnered with the University of Liverpool to undertake an evaluation of the project. This is so that we can robustly evaluate the project and also share learning that supports further development and scaling of device reuse across the UK.

The evaluation framework will combine quantitative and qualitative methods to assess programme delivery, participant engagement, outcomes, and longer-term impact. It will support continuous learning throughout the project, capturing evidence of what works, identifying barriers and enablers, and informing future scaling, replication, and policy development. The framework has been designed to ensure robust data collection, inclusive participation, and actionable insights for community, sector, and policy stakeholders.

You will be expected to contribute to the evaluation process by joining the Peer Learning Network, submitting data and case studies and participating in the Action Learning Sets and interviews.

- *Key quantitative and qualitative data will be gathered through the Climate Action Hubs, participant engagement activities, the Tech Rescue Campaign, and the Cross-Sector E-waste Networks.*
- *A programme of 12 in-person Action Learning Sets facilitated by the University of Liverpool will convene Climate Action Hubs, community leaders, local organisations, partners, and key stakeholders to map systems, identify challenges, and share emerging solutions.*
- *In addition, 20 semi-structured stakeholder interviews will be undertaken by University of Liverpool, alongside a wider Delphi survey involving project participants to identify key enablers, barriers, and opportunities for scale and sustainability. Insights generated through the Peer Learning Network will further strengthen the evidence base around effective practice and replicable approaches.*
- *Learning and evidence from the programme will be disseminated through the Peer Learning Network, blogs, case studies, toolkits, webinars, and engagement with policy stakeholders, including the DSIT Digital Inclusion Action Committee, Treasury Subcommittees, and relevant APPGs.*
- *Continuous feedback mechanisms will be embedded throughout delivery, including post-workshop surveys and reflective exercises linked to community activities such as donation drives, enabling iterative learning and programme improvement.*
- *All outputs and communications will be designed to maximise accessibility and inclusion through multilingual materials, Easy Read formats, and video summaries to support wider participation and engagement.*

## **Co-Design Phase**

Between July - December 2026 there will be a co-design stage facilitated by Good Things, Material Focus and University of Liverpool with the aim of:

- Developing training materials that support the recruitment and development of E-Waste Champions

- Reviewing and refining the data collection and reporting requirements

We will work together with three of the Climate Action Hubs in this co-design process which will require a further commitment of 5 days over 6 months from each hub to deliver.

Note: All selected Climate Action Hubs will have the opportunity to feedback on resources created and the data collection and reporting requirements.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible to apply for this opportunity organisations must be members of the National Digital Inclusion Network. We welcome applications from organisations across the UK.

Applicants must demonstrate that they are already delivering a device refurbishment initiative service, with established policies and procedures in place.

You must be able to provide evidence that data wiping is carried out securely in accordance with IEEE 2883 or NIST SP 800-88 standards.

If you are not already experienced in device refurbishment and distribution, this isn't the right opportunity for you.

## **Contract Size**

The programme launches in June 2026 with a set up and co-design phase running until December 2026.

The core contract value per Community Climate Action Hub is £35,000.

The core contract is for engagement with the programme between December 2026 and May 2029. The campaign period is between January 2027 and January 2029. Programme sustainability and evaluation will be between January - May 2029.

We will also work with three organisations during the set up and co-design stage to design key elements of the programme. Those organisations will receive an extra £1,385 each for the design phase between July - December 2026.

Organisations not selected to participate in the set up and co-design phase will be invited to provide feedback on the programme design but this is not obligatory.

Additionally, each region has been allocated a £2,500 regional marketing budget, how this is allocated will be determined through the set up and design phase and will take into account the context, capacity and capabilities of the hub within the region.

Reasonable expenses to travel to in person workshops facilitated by Good Things, Material Focus or University of Liverpool will be reimbursed.

Throughout the project Good Things will work with you to explore opportunities for additional funding and, where appropriate, ideas to strengthen the future sustainability of your device reuse scheme.

**NOTE:** This funding is not intended to cover the processing, refurbishment and distribution of devices, we anticipate that we will be working with organisations that have a business operating model in place that is capable of supporting this aspect of the project.

## Project Requirements

As part of delivering the programme, organisations that are successful are expected to contribute to the requirements below:

### Project requirements

- Train 20 e-waste champions in your region (240 across the Tech Rescue Programme)
- Run two repair cafes / in person events to promote the work you do
- Contribute towards engaging 2,400+ people in repair/reuse and capturing how they engage
- Play an active role in the Cross Sector E-Waste Action Networks within your area and take on device donations locally contributing to our shared ambition to rescue 15,000 devices
- Conduct donation drives, operating and promoting drop off points within your local areas where the public can drop off their disused tech
- Contribute to the gifting of 8,500 devices back into the community with a focus on low income and digitally excluded people
- Participate in peer learning network sessions by sharing your expertise and learnings and contributing to the evaluation for the project
- Participate in action learning sessions facilitated by University of Liverpool
- Be an ambassador for Good Things in the delivery of this project, be able to support PR, marketing and advocacy opportunities
- Provide Good Things with reporting on your activities

## Payment schedule

The payment schedule is yet to be finalised and will be agreed throughout the set up and co-design stage. We want to ensure that the funding is released in the most effective way possible to support delivery of this programme and would like

to explore some different options with the organisations that will be scaling their service.

The first payment for the three organisations involved in the design phase will be in July 2026 - £692.50 - followed by a second payment of £692.50 in November 2026.

All payments will be made following contract acceptance and attendance at the onboarding session. A payment schedule with payment thresholds will be shared in the onboarding session.

Please note, upon contract acceptance, you will need to provide evidence of the organisation's bank details. No payments will be released until we can verify them.

Should the bank details change throughout the project, you will be required to share updated evidence for verification.

## Project timelines

Stage of process	Date
<b>Launch of online application</b> - a link to the application will be shared with organisations who passed the EoI stage.	12 noon Tuesday 26 May 2026
<b>Deadline for applications</b>	12 noon Friday 12 June 2026
<b>Application assessment period</b>	15 June 2026 - 3rd July 2026
<b>Communication of results to applicants</b>	By 5pm Monday 10 July 2026
<b>Project start and end date</b>	1st January 2027-30 May 2029
<b>Project onboarding session</b>	TBC - December 2026
<b>Mandatory E-waste champion training webinar</b>	TBC - December 2026
<b>First payment awarded</b>	Co-design payments: July and November 2026  Delivery phase: January 2027

## Application: Preparing to apply, questions & guidance

As part of the application process you'll be asked to provide your registered company or charity number. This is so that we can undertake due diligence checks as part of the assessment process which will include:

**Due diligence checks:** We will undertake a series of due diligence checks to validate that the applying organisation is operating within the scope of its constitution and to detect relative financial risk of the organisation. You can find more detail, based on the contract size you're applying for, below.

**Accessing and completing the application form:** Your web browser settings must allow third party cookies in order for you to complete, upload and submit your application. We recommend that you use Chrome as your browser.

Once you've opened the application form, please check that your browser settings do not 'block third party cookies'. If they do, change this setting and refresh the webpage before starting your application.

## How to apply for this funding opportunity

Please note, to apply for this grant you'll be required to upload documents as part of the application process. Once you've logged into your account, you'll need to download and save a copy of the '[Supporting Information](#)' form and ensure the file name is (hub name) - (hub number). Once completed, you will need to save and upload the document.

You will also need to upload your organisation's financial information. Please see below for the information you'll need to provide as part of your application. If you don't upload this information as part of your application we'll not be able to assess it.

### To be uploaded as part of the application process:

- Latest accounts for the last full complete year and the latest management accounts for the current year.

To be provided, on request, once your application has been assessed:

- A copy of your safeguarding policies and procedures.
- A copy of your data protection policies and procedures.
- A copy of your Public Liability Insurance certificate.
- A copy of your organisation's constitution or Memorandum of Association

and Articles of Association.

- Evidence of Waste Carrier Licence and T11 Waste Exemption status

Please note, failure to provide the additional documents when requested will mean that your application will be declined.

The following are the questions you'll need to answer and the details you'll need to provide during the application process.

## **1. Your details**

1.1 Hub ID

1.2 Hub name

You will have to confirm that you have the authority to submit this application

## **2. Financial**

2.1 How much are you applying for ?

- [£35,000](#)
- [£36,385 to include 5 days over 6 months design phase](#)

## **3. Delivery**

**3.1 Please tell us how you would best describe your organisation's legal status or ownership from the categories below?**

- Sole trader/Partnership
- Limited Company
- Limited Liability Partnership
- Independent local Government
- Community Benefit /Cooperative Society
- Community Interest Company (CIC)
- Charitable Incorporated (CIO)
- Charitable Company (Limited)
- Statutory Corporation
- Unincorporated Association

**3.2 If you have a registration number from Companies House, The Charity Commission or as a Mutual, please add this below**

## **4. Delivery**

**4.1 Please tell us about the standards you work to**

- Can you provide evidence that you securely data wipe to IEEE 2883 or NIST 800-88? Y/N
- Are you certified for ISO9001, 14001 and 27001? Y/N
- If not, please share more information on the infosec, data wiping and repair process you have in place and any standards you are working in line with or towards. Please include any links to relevant pages on your website.

#### **4.2 Please tell us about your recent experience of delivering a device refurbishment scheme**

In this response we would like to know more about:

- A brief overview of the refurbishment scheme you are delivering including how long you've been delivering the programme.
- The number and type of devices refurbished and distributed.
- The donation process - who is donating them and any partners who may be donating devices.
- The geographical area you cover.
- Your role in managing or delivering the scheme.

750 words maximum

**4.3 Please describe how you would deliver this project.** In this response we would like to know more about:

- Who the project will support and how beneficiaries will be identified.
- Any evidence you can provide that demonstrates you are capable of receiving and processing more than 1250 device donations in a year.
- Any training, onboarding, or user support provided to device recipients.
- Accessibility and inclusion considerations.
- Any adaptations you might need to make to your operation to meet the project requirements.
- The capacity and capability that you have to market device reuse and how you might support the Tech Rescue campaign locally.
- The partners you already work with or plan to work with and how they will support the delivery of your project.

750 words maximum

**4.4 Please let us know if you are applying to be part of the co-design phase from July -December 2026**

**4.5 Please tell us about your experience of co-designing services and activities with people who have lived experience, community members, partner organisations and stakeholders to ensure projects are inclusive, relevant and responsive to local needs.**

**Please note, you only need to answer this question if you are interested in being**

## **part of the co-design phase.**

In this response we would like to know more about:

- Explain who you have worked with in the co-design process (for example beneficiaries, community groups, volunteers, partner organisations or local stakeholders).
- Include examples of methods used, such as workshops, focus groups, surveys, steering groups, community meetings or one-to-one conversations.
- Describe how you were able to shape the project or service, not just give feedback after decisions were made.

750 words maximum

## **4.6 How do you envisage collaborating with Good Things to create a lasting legacy beyond the funding period, and what evidence or action are you already taking to ensure the continuation or long-term sustainability of the refurbishment scheme and its impact?**

In this response we would like to know more about:

- How you anticipate the project's benefits will continue after funding ends.
- Any plans you have for sustaining a refurbishment scheme in the long term including future funding or income generation plans.
- Partnerships already in place and how you might collaborate with Good Things to further develop or strengthen partnerships in the region.
- How you plan to maintain and grow a device reuse pipeline including any capacity building that you may require.

750 words maximum

## **4.7 Please tell us about the key staff members who will deliver the project.**

In your response, please describe:

- The capacity and expertise of the staff who will be responsible for delivering and managing the project.
- Where relevant include details of qualifications and background checks.
- Let us know of any changes in staffing that might be required to scale and respond to the project requirements.

250 words maximum

## **4.8 Please outline any risks to the project and how you plan to mitigate them.**

For this response you should highlight any known or potential risks and explain the practical measures you'll take to minimise them.

250 words maximum

## **Support**

If you have any questions which cannot be answered using the information above please contact the team by submitting a [Get Support](#) request.