

Finance and Fundraising resources

We've compiled guidance, videos, templates and other resources to support with your finance and fundraising practices and strategies:

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Youth Music's guide to other funders

[Youth Music's guide to other funders](#) is a list of free grant directories, community resources and funders that support community, youth and/or music projects.

Youth Music's management accounts template

Management accounts are an internal tool that you can use to plan and track your financial position. They usually include:

- An annual budget - an estimate of your income and expenditure for a full year, broken down by month.
- 'Actuals' - the actual amount of income and expenditure, updated at the end of each month.
- A cashflow - so you know how much cash you have in the bank, both now and in the future.

This template contains all these things on one spreadsheet.

If you're applying for Youth Music funding as a new organisation, who doesn't yet have published accounts, then we will ask you to submit your management accounts. You can (but it's not mandatory to) use this template for the management accounts you submit to Youth Music.

Download the [Management Accounts template](#).

Watch our [short tutorial for more information on how to use the Management Accounts template](#).

Getting started with finance

If you're new to finance or need a reminder of the basic terms and concepts, here are some key resources to get started with.

[NCVO's guide to budget and cash flow forecasts](#)

Audience: Small or new non-profit organisations.

Short guide that explains the difference between budget and a cash flow forecast, and how to approach creating a budget.

[Embrace Finance's guide to Small Charity Finance – Where to Start](#)

Audience: Charities but relevant to other non-profit organisations.

Short guidance explaining 9 key terms that are essential to getting started with finance as a small charity or non-profit.

[Local support from NAVCA \(National Association for Voluntary and Community Action\)](#)

Audience: Small community organisations and charities.

Every local area has a NAVCA member organisation. They can provide support, resources and advice for small community organisation or charity, including around finance basics.

[Resource Centre's budgets for community groups guidance](#)

Audience: Voluntary and community groups.

Guide to preparing and using budgets for small community and voluntary groups.

Deeper dive into finance

If you're looking to develop your approach to finance, here are some in-depth toolkits, resource hubs and specific guidance to support with the next steps.

[NCVO's financial management hub](#)

Audience: Charities but relevant to other non-profit organisations.

In-depth hub providing guidance for charity finance, including financial controls, budgeting, reporting, tax, and banking. In addition, [NCVO offers training](#) on a sliding cost scale.

[Charity Finance Group's guides for small charities](#)

Audience: Small charities.

Wide ranging short guidance around for small charity finance, banking, reserves and other finance topics.

[ICAEW's Charity Community](#)

Audience: Charities.

Free membership is available to ICAEW's Charity Community, giving access to sector-specific updates in accounting, regulation and governance. The Community also contains a wider range of resources, CPD webinars and recordings, and free or affordable events and training.

[Embrace Finance's small charities resource hub](#)

Audience: Charities but relevant to other non-profit organisations.

A finance resource bank, including guides to how to ask questions about your finances, templates for financial recording and reporting, and recommendations for free or affordable training and expertise.

[Resource Centre's guide to bank accounts for community groups](#)

Audience: Community groups.

Guide to opening a bank account as a small community group.

[Preventing Charity Fraud's resource hub](#)

Audience: Charities and other non-profit organisations.

Wide range of resources around preventing, assessing and responding to fraud in community organisations and charities.

Fundraising

A wide range of resources to support you to develop your fundraising strategy, as well as guidance on different fundraising approaches.

Fundraising Strategy

[Youth Music's blog on unlocking fundraising success in 2024](#)

Audience: Small non-profit organisations.

Blog outlining some practical tips and key steps to developing small organisations' fundraising potential.

[Charity Fundraising Ltd's fundraising strategy guide](#)

Audience: Charities but relevant to other non-profit organisations.

Detailed guide on how to develop a fundraising strategy from Charity Fundraising Ltd.

[Chartered Institute of Fundraising](#)

Audience: Charities and other non-profit organisations.

Range of guidance and resources on how to develop a fundraising strategy. They have a [video on developing a fundraising strategy](#) which is a helpful place to start.

[CultureHive's effective fundraising strategy webinar](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

Detailed webinar supporting organisations to develop an effective fundraising strategy, a collaboration between Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy and CultureHive.

[Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

Advice, resources, and training on fundraising from Arts Fundraising & Philanthropy.

[NCVO's funding and income guides](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

NCVO's funding and income hub, providing advice on finding grants, local funding and fundraising methods and strategies.

[Showcase of funding innovation and inspiration](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

Website dedicated to providing information about innovative fundraising approaches and ideas. They have a wide range of [case studies of arts and education organisations](#).

Digital fundraising

[Charity Digital's guide to digital fundraising](#)

Audience: Charities but relevant to other non-profit organisations.

Guidance on digital fundraising tools and trends, and how charities can use them.

[Digital Candle's free advice for charities](#)

Audience: Charities.

Digital Candle offers charities a free one hour call with a digital expert. They can provide advice on any aspect of digital, including digital marketing and fundraising.

Crowdfunding

[Nesta's blog on matched crowdfunding](#)

Audience: All organisations.

Blog explaining what matched crowdfunding is and how to get started from Nesta.

[EasyFundraising's guide to creating a winning Crowdfunding Strategy](#)

Audience: All organisations.

A useful step by step guide to creating a successful crowdfunding campaign from Easy Fundraising.

[UK Crowdfunding Association's video guide to crowdfunding](#)

Audience: All organisations

UK Crowdfunding Association's straightforward video guide to crowdfunding, explaining what it is and how to get started.

[Youth Music's Exchanging Notes: An introduction to Crowdfunder UK video](#)

Audience: Charities and non-profit organisations.

Webinar covering:

- Crowdfunding concepts, how to deploy your strategy and build your online fundraising community.
- How to plan for a crowdfunding campaign, engage a network of supporters and tell your story to achieve success.
- All the various features of the Crowdfunder.co.uk platform and how best to utilise them from a charity point of view.

Further resources

Big Give

Audience: Charities.

Big Give runs match funding campaigns for charities and special causes at key moments across the year. Explore their website for advice and resources as well as examples of successful campaigns.

Gov.uk's guide to claiming Gift Aid as a charity

Audience: Charities.

Overview of Gift Aid, what it is, how Gift Aid works and if you are eligible to claim for it.

Gov.uk's blog on applying for funding as a Community Interest Company

Audience: Community Interest Companies.

In-depth guidance for Community Interest Companies around applying for funding and getting started.

Fundraising Everywhere's training and webinars

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

Free and affordable training and webinars on a wide range of fundraising topics.

Building financial resilience and sustainability

Guidance and toolkits on how to develop a financially resilient and sustainable organisation.

[Embrace Finance's Ins and Outs when it comes to building financial sustainability](#)

Audience: Charities but relevant to other non-profit organisations.

Blog outlining key things small charities should and shouldn't when building their financial sustainability.

[Lloyds Bank Foundation's organisational resilience guide](#)

Audience: Charities and non-profit organisations.

Comprehensive guidance and programme, which organisations can work through in their own time, on the approach and principles of organisational resilience and how to apply it.

[Arts Council's business planning guidance](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

Guidance around developing a business plan, including the role that finances play in developing a sustainable business.

[Charity Excellence Framework's resource hub](#)

Audience: Charities.

Resource hub including a range of finance and wider charity resources, including 10 toolkits on financial sustainability and crisis management. (Scroll down to the subheading, Checklists & Planning Tools.)

[The School for Social Entrepreneurs' Resource Hub](#)

Audience: Social enterprises and social entrepreneurs.

Resources and guidance around setting up, growing and sustaining a social enterprise. The School for Social Entrepreneurs also offer a range of workshops (on a sliding cost scale) and programmes.

[Good Finance's social investment guidance](#)

Audience: Charities and social enterprises.

Guidance on what social investment is and how charities and social enterprises can access it. It includes a [map of social investors, funders and advisers](#) in the UK.

Financial difficulties and endings

Toolkits and practical guidance on how to manage financial difficulties and endings or closures. If you're currently funded by Youth Music and experiencing financial difficulties or considering closure, please get in touch with your Grants and Learning Officer.

[Arts Council's managing financial difficulties guide and toolkit](#)

Audience: Charities and non-profit organisations.

Guide and toolkit to support organisations recognise and manage financial difficulties.

[Stewarding Loss's toolkits and guidance](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

Stewarding Loss supports non-profit organisations to end with care and close well. Their resources include a set of principles, toolkits, case studies and workbooks.

[The Decelerator support service](#)

Audience: All non-profit organisations.

The Decelerator provides support to organisations anticipating, planning or going through closures, endings or mergers. Support includes a one-time one-hour free coaching session, a range of tools and support directory.

YOUTH MUSIC

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH MUSIC
STUDIO LG01, THE PRINT ROOMS
164-180 UNION STREET, LONDON, SE1 0LH

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