

themovementstrust.org

UK Charity 1194447

THE MOVEMENTS TRUST

supporting social movements.



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Who we are

Our mission is to get more funding to movements working in the UK and the rest of world.

We believe that movements offer something unique, and philanthropy needs to adjust to be better able to support them.

Movements often lack the resources and networks to access funding and deal with complex application processes. They are often barred from funding programmes because they are not a registered charity.

We help you get access to funds, and also provide other help.

WE EXIST TO ENABLE PEOPLE-POWERED SYSTEMATIC CHANGE

supporting social movements.



Who we work with

Informal and unincorporated groups, as well as those that are registered/constituted (e.g. CICs)

Movements formed of at least 3 people, and individuals if you are working in partnership with others – but above all, with the power or aspiration to reach many more

Movements with little or no existing resource, and those experiencing barriers or exclusions

Movements who use influencing approaches that are charitable activities. In other words, non-violent organizing and awareness raising, and nothing party-political



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How to join the movement

To use our charity intermediary (also called sponsorship) service, hear about any grant opportunities or join our networking events, you can put in an initial application.

Our Board will review what you are trying to do, how you are organised and what your approach is.

Contact us for an application form, or for information about our drop in sessions:

together@themovementstrust.org



Our services

Sponsorship

As a registered charity, we can partner with you to secure funding, acting as your sponsor to receive and transfer funds while ensuring compliance with charity regulations.

What we're not: We don't provide financial services like fiscal sponsorship, bookkeeping, payroll, or grant management.

You can manage the sponsored funds yourself or be connected with a financial service provider if needed.

Networking

The Movements Trust aims to help movements make connections to strengthen their work

We host regular events where movements can showcase their projects and share experiences with stakeholders and donors. We also distribute a newsletter and partner with organisations worldwide to build a dynamic network of social movements.

Interested in joining a vibrant community dedicated to social justice? Get in touch!



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Legal advice

We can partner with you if you need legal advice to support your work, strategy, or organising model.

Note: We cannot provide legal advice if you or your colleagues are facing legal action.

For example, if you need advice on your organisational structure, processes, or the development of your movement's activities and strategy, simply submit an advice request. Contact us for more details.

Our website will feature additional services, though please note these may change over time.



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How it works

- 1 Apply for sponsorship**
- 2 Get approved**
- 3 Access your funds**

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Step 1: Apply for sponsorship

Submit a general application form to tell us about your work.

Our trustees will review your application to ensure sponsored funds will be used solely for charitable purposes.

Once approved, you'll receive a link to request sponsorship for charity-restricted grants or those eligible for Gift Aid. Use the link to provide details of the donor, amount, and funding purpose. For core operations, outline the activities included.

A separate sponsorship request is needed for each donation or grant.

Step 2: Get approved

When submitting a sponsorship request, provide detailed information about how the funds will be used to ensure they are for charitable purposes, enabling faster approval.

Once approved, you'll be notified and can liaise with your donor. We'll supply our bank details and, if needed, can communicate with the donor or provide supporting documents.

We'll notify you once the funds arrive to finalise the transfer to you.



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Step 3: Access your funds

To secure your funds, you'll need to sign an agreement confirming how the funds will be used and provide a photo ID for the person signing.

Once this is done, you can submit a payment request, and we aim to transfer funds within a week.

Typically, we transfer to a bank account in the movement's name or a fiscal host service. In certain cases, we can transfer to an individual.

We ask you to share a copy of any donor reporting with us for our records. We'll also follow up with a brief survey.



Sponsorship fees

Where possible, we recommend the donor/funder pay the fee on behalf of the movement, in addition to the total grant/donation sum.

Fees 2025

For grants/donations under £25,000 the fee is on a 'pay what you can' basis: 0-5%

For grants over £25,000, we encourage a slightly increased donation of 3-5% (capped at £5000)

For grants over £500,000 - to be agreed on a case by case basis

On occasion we can support time-limited crowdfunding campaigns at 5% (capped at £5000)



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Regranting

We are not a grant maker, as we do not hold our own funds.

However, we occasionally distribute grants through our regranting services, acting on behalf of donors who wish to support movements through us.

When regranting, we strive to develop and promote movement-friendly grant making practices, contributing to positive change in the philanthropy sector.

If you are a funder interested in collaborating with us, please get in touch.



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Get in touch

Don't forget to visit our website and subscribe to our newsletter to receive all our news and updates!

"We work with people-powered movements that work across economic, social and environmental issues."

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