

Electrical Safety First is committed to helping those who are most vulnerable to electrical risk and injury in their homes. These risks have been exacerbated in recent years by a number of wider factors, including the cost-of-living crisis, rocketing inflation, and rising energy prices. In response to these factors, and the likelihood of electrical safety being compromised by financial concerns, Electrical Safety First has made available up to **£250,000** to help fund electrical safety initiatives through partnership working at local level.

The Charity's programme will fund projects that seek to keep people safe in their homes, with a focus on tackling risks associated with electrical products, increase the public's awareness of electrical safety and promote changes in behaviour.

We are also keen to fund data collection projects that would support our ambition to promote electrical safety on a national level, by working with the UK and Devolved Governments to introduce legislative changes that protect consumers across the country. Data is integral to this work, so we would welcome any projects that focus on data collection which align with our campaigning work.

For example:

- Collecting data around any injuries or damage to property that have been caused by faulty electrical products. Injury-related data would be especially useful, owing to its scarcity in the UK and the potential for it to be leveraged to improve electrical safety.
- Collecting additional metrics from electrical-related fires, to provide a greater depth of understanding around the cause and effect of these fires. This might include detailing the type of product that caused the fire, if it isn't already collected through the Incident Reporting System, and the severity of the fire.
- Collecting data around electrical product faults and malfunctions that could be used to complement tools such as the OPSS product recall service.

We also encourage applications that align with our ongoing campaigns. For example, this could include helping to promote the safety messages from our recent [Battery Breakdown](#) and [Don't Be Electricked](#) campaigns to enhance public safety awareness.

Applications are invited for grants of up to **£5,000** per organisation. However, we may consider larger funding amounts of up to **£10,000** for joint and/or larger projects, which focus on or incorporate a data capture element and require cross-agency working.

1. How to Apply

- Fill in the Online Application Form available from:
www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/electricalsafetyfund
- The form should be completed by Midnight, Sunday 22nd October 2023.

2. Key dates and deadlines

- Applications deadline: 22 October 2023
- Award announcement: week commencing 30 October 2023
- Funding award and invoicing submission deadline: 30 November 2023
- Funding to be spent before: 28 February 2024
- Evaluation report submission deadline: 31 March 2024

3. Who can apply?

a. **You can apply** for funding if your organisation is a:

- Fire and rescue service
- Trading Standards Authority
- Community safety organisation
- School or other educational institution
- Other not-for-profit organisation

b. **You are not eligible** for funding if you are a:

- Commercial organisation or Individual

4. Scope of Works

Activities that will be considered for funding must have a focus on helping to keep people electrically-safe and related to ensuring the safety of electrical products in the home.

The following types of activity will be considered for funding:

- a. Product testing and product replacement events (e.g. amnesty events to replace unsafe electric blankets, portable heaters etc.)
- b. Educational and raising awareness activities
- c. Home safety activities/visits
- d. Data collection projects that would support our national aims to prevent electrical-related injuries, such as collecting data relating to injuries caused by electrical products, issues with products purchased from online marketplaces, or anything else you believe meets the funding criteria.

Please see Electrical Safety First's cost of living advice for further guidance to support your application: www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/costofliving

5. Judging criteria

Applications will be judged by a selection panel using the following criteria:

- a. **Need for the project:** what electrical safety issue(s) your project aims to address around safer use, misuse and/or lack of maintenance of electrical products, or data collection.
- b. **Objectives, planned outcomes and targets:** what changes, improvements, benefits or other outcomes your project aims to achieve, how closely the set of planned activities will help to deliver those outcomes and an assessment of how realistic the targets are.
- c. Applications will need to provide indicators as to **how the success of the project will be measured.**
- d. **Audience(s)/beneficiaries:** the people your project aims to reach and support:
 - i. The number of people to be reached: i.e. number of people it is expected your project activity will be promoted to;
 - ii. The number of people who will benefit from the project: i.e. number of people expected to directly benefit from your project. (This number may be smaller than the number the project is to be promoted to).
 - iii. If this is not applicable – such as in the case of a data collection project – detail the high-level ambition for who will ultimately benefit from this work. For example, if collecting electrical injury data to support preventative measures, then the ultimate beneficiaries will be healthcare providers by lowering their caseload, and the general public (whose safety will be improved).

- e. **Geographical spread of projects:** The combined number of applications received from across the UK will be considered as a whole to ensure that there is a good geographical spread of awards across the UK.
- f. **Contribution to ESF objectives:** Include an explanation of how the proposal aligns with ESF's objectives, as detailed on the Electrical Safety Fund webpage.

6. Terms and Conditions

- a. Applications must be received by Midnight on Sunday, 22nd October 2023. Applications received after this date will not be considered.
- b. Only one application per organisation will be accepted.
- c. Grant awards will be capped at £5,000 per organisation. We may consider funding amounts of up to £10,000 for joint (more than one organisation working collaboratively) and/or larger projects.
- d. The decision of the selection panel is final.
- e. The signed Funding Agreement must be returned to us by the deadline given. Failure to do so may result in your funding being revoked.
- f. Successful applicants will be expected to submit monthly status reports on the project. These will be brief updates for you to communicate project progress based on certain criteria, and an opportunity for you to request assistance from ESF if it is needed.
- g. An Evaluation Report will be sent to successful applicants to record the success of their activities. This includes a section for press coverage/publicity – see Media Toolkit provided for more information.
- h. Successful applicants will also receive a case study form in their Media Toolkit which is intended to assist in the collection of case studies. This information should be returned as part of the Evaluation Report.
- i. Successful applicants will need to participate in an online workshop that will take place before the projects start. This workshop serves as an opportunity for you to familiarise yourself with the range of support provided by Electrical Safety First throughout your project. It also offers a chance to address any questions or queries you might have.

- j. Failure to return a completed Evaluation Report and case study material may result in a request for funding to be returned.

7. Data capture

Please read the paragraph below and tick the box on the application form if you agree to Electrical Safety First using your details to contact you.

As a charity, Electrical Safety First is interested in speaking to people about their experience of electrical safety. From time to time, we may wish to contact you for research purposes, to help us improve safety advice and develop campaign activities. We may also use some of these case studies on our website and in other media whilst not disclosing the identity of persons concerned.

8. Electrical Safety First contact details

If you would like further information and/or clarification on any aspect relating to ESF's Electrical Safety Fund, please contact:

Samuel Terry, Policy and Research Manager, Electrical Safety First
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