

Tech Rehome Network Fund

Guidance for Applicants

This guidance document exists to support organisations interested in applying for a grant from the Tech Rehome Network Fund. We hope that this Guidance for Applicants document will help you to understand the Fund's priorities and to complete an application if you decide to do so. We recommend that you read it fully before applying.

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About the Tech Rehome Network Fund

The Tech Rehome Network Fund aims to strengthen city-level device reuse programmes, improve digital inclusion outcomes for residents, and generate practical learning to support device reuse at scale. We believe that by funding and supporting city-based networks to deliver device reuse programmes, Virgin Media O2 can enable cities to build trusted, sustainable and scalable device reuse ecosystems.

Virgin Media O2 commits £3million to support local tech reuse networks in 30 cities across England, Scotland and Wales by 2030. The Tech Rehome Network will strengthen tech reuse systems at a city level, both improving lives through digital inclusion and building up a bank of learning and evidence for the future.

Dana Haidan, Chief Sustainability Officer at Virgin Media O2, writes:

“Digital exclusion affects millions of people across the UK, yet our study shows the technology that could help tackle it is already sitting in homes and businesses across the country.

Through the Tech Rehome Network Fund, we're investing in trusted local organisations to build the networks cities need to keep devices in use for longer. By making it easier for organisations across cities to pass on unwanted technology, we can give devices a second life while helping more people get online.”

What are the objectives of the Tech Rehome Network?

- **Strengthen city-wide tech reuse systems:** Participating cities have trusted, sustainable and locally embedded device reuse programmes that can secure, process and redistribute suitable devices at scale to people who are digitally excluded.
- **Improve digital inclusion:** People who are digitally excluded improve their quality of life through better access to devices and support.
- **Evidence leads to change:** Policymakers, local authorities, community organisations and businesses can build, adapt and scale device reuse programmes based on the unique needs and contexts of their cities.

What does the Tech Rehome Network Fund offer?

- Flexible grants of up to £100k, targeted to strengthen or scale up the device reuse system across your city over a one to two year period to suit your needs.
- Shared learning with other grant holder cities as part of the evolving Tech Rehome Network, which you will both contribute to and benefit from.

Each applicant city can apply for up to £100k in order to make a significant contribution to strengthen and scale the device reuse system in your city. We are open to applications from a single organisation, local authority or a collaboration between more than one organisation.

Devices for reuse to be included within this Fund are smartphones, laptops and tablets.

Applicants should include activity, core, salary, equipment, and monitoring, evaluation and learning costs which are aligned with activities which will deliver your ambitious outcomes, according to the specific needs of your city.

Activities should start no earlier than March 2027 and can last for between 9-24 months, according to your local need.

This is the first round of funding for the Tech Rehome Network Fund, and £500,000 is available this round. We intend to make a small number of grants in Round 1, learn from this process, and make further funds available in 2027 and beyond.

What priority outcomes will be funded?

We intend to support cities to strengthen the parts of their reuse system which will have greatest impact. Outcomes could be:

- Strengthen and scale a **sustainable eco-system for device donation**.
- Develop and enhance **local processing and refurbishment** expertise, productivity, capacity or capabilities.
- Connect and strengthen trusted **community distribution networks**, along with **supporting the skills, confidence and digital safety** of residents to improve their lives through digital inclusion.
- Refine processes that strengthen the **efficiency, resilience and financial sustainability** of the city's device reuse system.
- Develop system-wide **governance, evidence and learning processes** at a city level.

We know that effective city-wide device reuse systems are complex and no two cities have exactly the same needs. The Fund will support cities to focus on strengthening and scaling the parts of your device reuse system that will have greatest impact.

We expect cities to have different bottlenecks or priorities. Applicants do not need to address all parts of the device reuse system in your city, though we expect that there are likely to be more than one part which needs support. We encourage applicants to focus their request for funding on those parts of their system where targeted investment could have the greatest catalytic effect across the system as a whole.

What will a strong application look like?

Strong applications to the Tech Rehome Network will show:

- A strong alignment with the ambitions of the Fund to strengthen city-level device reuse programmes and improve digital inclusion outcomes for residents.
- A commitment and capacity to contribute to and benefit from shared learning with other grant holder cities as part of the evolving Tech Rehome Network.

- Commitment from your local authority, and connections between others in your local system, eg anchor institutions, device donors, refurbishers and processors, community distribution and training partners.
- Clearly identified need, challenges and bottlenecks in the existing device reuse system in the city and clarity of where the greatest catalyst and opportunity for change lies.
- Ambitious outcomes to strengthen a sustainable and scalable system.
- Credible activities, partnerships, budget and timescales to unlock improvements that would otherwise not be possible.
- Clear focus on co-creation, equitable practices and demonstrable needs of residents.
- Proportionate and achievable monitoring, evaluation and learning activities to identify evidence and insights.
- Ability to participate in communications and publicity activities related to the Tech Rehome Network if required

We intend to support a variety of approaches rather than one single model. We intend to generate learning of what works with different approaches (and, importantly, what doesn't) so that policymakers, local authorities, community organisations and businesses can more confidently embed and scale device reuse programmes.

It's intended that this grant should be considered a one-off catalytic grant, supported by opportunities to share insights with and learn from others in the Network. Grant holders will not be able to apply for further support in future years.

Who can apply?

We want councils, charities and community organisations across your city to strengthen and scale your device reuse system together, for the long run. You'll already have a device reuse mechanism at play across some or all of the city, and have identified which parts of that system need to be strengthened or are ready to be scaled up to have wider reach or greater impact.

You can apply as a single organisation or a collaboration between more than one organisation. If a collaboration, you must all be focused on the same city, and will have a single lead organisation which will hold responsibility for the grant and subsequent reporting.

We believe that local authorities (City Councils) have an important role to play within a city-wide network, and therefore applications must have a strong statement of commitment from your local authority as part of your application. Their role might be as lead applicant or they might provide a convening or enabling function, a governance role, be a device donor, and/or they might have a more direct role in distribution of devices through education, health, youth, arts or social care. We know that all cities operate differently, so there is no one model preferred over others. Further information about how we will validate a local authority if it is awarded a grant is provided in the FAQs below.

We expect that other large anchor organisations, such as universities, health institutions or commercial businesses will be involved in your approach to rehoming tech devices in your city

and may be important partners. However, they cannot receive a direct grant from the Tech Rehome Network. These institutions may be closely involved in your network, for example, by donating devices, or contributing to city-wide agreement on data security requirements.

We intend to support cities across England, Scotland and Wales in each round. We don't intend to fund within cities which have already had support from Virgin Media O2 to strengthen their device reuse systems.

Eligibility

These eligibility criteria apply whether you are applying as a single organisation, or to all organisations if applying as a collaboration between more than one organisation.

All applicants must be one of the following types of organisation:

- Registered charity, including charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs).
- Community Interest Company (CICs) and community benefit organisations (where there is a minimum of three unrelated directors).
- Company Limited by Guarantee (but not Company Limited by Shares), that is constituted to operate on a not-for-profit basis.
- City Council or London Borough Council.

All applicant organisations must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be registered, located and operate in a city in England, Scotland and/or Wales.
- Have a strong focus and track record with device reuse within your city.
- Have been operating for a minimum of 24 months. This is to ensure that you have an established track record within your city and have published financial accounts and a bank account in the name of your organisation.
- Have recorded an annual income in your last financial year of £300,000 or more.
- Be able to apply and manage the grant in English.

In addition, we cannot accept applications from:

- Organisations that don't meet the eligibility criteria above.
- Commercial or for-profit organisations with no constituted charitable purpose.
- Combined Authorities - in this round of the Tech Rehome Network Fund we will focus on city-wide approaches rather than a broader Combined Authority reach; it's possible that in future rounds we may adapt this.
- Organisations set up solely for political or religious promotion.
- Organisations set up solely for the benefit of animals, with the exclusion of assistance animals trained to support individuals with disabilities.
- Individuals.

We cannot fund applications for:

- Purchase of data or WiFi contracts: this programme is focused on rehoming devices, but where helpful we will signpost to the National Databank, social tariffs or public WiFi, as we recognise that connectivity is a key requirement to optimise a second life for these devices.
- Activities solely focused on commercial benefit.
- Activities that may benefit Virgin Media O2's commercial business: this is a grant programme with charitable purpose.
- Organisations or activities that discriminate on the basis of age, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, marital status or disability.
- Activities that have already been completed or will be prior to receipt of a grant offer and signed terms and conditions.
- Applications seeking a contribution towards major capital building projects, eg land acquisition or projects requiring planning permission.
- Activities or projects that are primarily for political or religious promotion.
- Grants cannot be allocated to bursaries, scholarships, sponsorships or donations designated for a specific, named recipient.
- Sponsorship of other activities.

Outcomes and activities

As part of your application, you will need to consider what activities will contribute to the outcomes you want to achieve.

The following table gives examples of the types of activities we might expect to see in an application; these are illustrative examples only. We do not expect each application to address all outcomes or need to strengthen all elements of the tech reuse system in your city. Strongest applications will focus on strengthening the system as a whole, rather than only one part.

Outcome	Illustrative Example activities
Strengthen and scale a sustainable eco-system for device donation.	• Improving assurance principles to increase number of anchor institutions as regular (rather than one-off) device donors, for example through improved clarity and confidence in data security, GDPR and organisational risk management (compliance). • Aligning procurement requirements and procedures, reconfiguring waste management contracts and processes, influencing internal improvement processes (governance). • Ensuring reliable triaging for reuse, separating obsolete devices from genuinely broken devices (process).

Outcome	Illustrative Example activities
Develop and enhance local processing and refurbishing expertise, productivity, capacity or capabilities.	• Strengthening green skills training and flexible capacity. • Scaling up operational processes. • Improving workshop equipment. • Enhancing asset management systems. • Testing new financial models to retain greater value in the operational system towards improved financial sustainability.
Connect and strengthen trusted community distribution networks, along with supporting the skills, confidence and digital safety of residents to improve their lives through digital inclusion.	• Understanding recipient needs. • Resolving barriers to access. • Strengthening and scaling up distribution mechanisms. • Ensuring partnership arrangements are proportionate and equitable. • Providing digital skills training, such as user assistance, digital literacy and confidence building, meaning that residents can: ○ Understand how to access connectivity to make use of devices. ○ Understand safe digital use, privacy and conscious online choices. ○ Confidently use reused devices to connect with families and community, or to access health and care services, employment opportunities, housing, education and skills development.
Refine processes that strengthen the efficiency, resilience and financial sustainability of the city's device reuse system.	• Active processes to identify local challenges and opportunities. • Partners have clearer roles and responsibilities. • Improved visibility of and creative communication about device reuse opportunities. • Embed user voice within all parts of the system • Test and learn from different financial models, integrate multiple income sources and cross-subsidise where possible.
Develop system-wide governance, evidence and learning processes at a city level.	• Co-ordination and integration of different parts of the system within your city • Improving monitoring and evaluation strategy and processes to strengthen and share the evidence for improved digital inclusion and ewaste reduction through reuse.

Supporting documents

All applicants are also asked to upload information to support your application:

- Detailed budget to cover the activities of this application.
- Statement of support from your City Council.

In addition, lead organisations which are not registered charities must upload:

- Your organisation's most recent published annual financial accounts.
- Your organisation's governing document.

Registered charities are not required to upload these documents because we will access the information from one of the UK's Charity Commissions.

The governing document of your organisation could be your constitution, articles of association, trust deed, articles of incorporation, or any other legal document explaining the purpose of your organisation and how it works. Your governing document must include its charitable aims and objectives and a dissolution clause which explains what would happen to your organisation's assets if the organisation had to wind up or dissolve. We know that governing documents for local authorities will be different.

How do I apply?

The Tech Rehome Network Fund is supported by our grantmaking partner, Charities Aid Foundation (CAF). All applications for a grant will be made via CAF's online grant portal.

Before you start, please ensure you have read this Guidance for Applicants document thoroughly, as it includes important information to help you make the best application for support from the Fund.

- To start a new application to the Tech Rehome Network Fund, use this link: <https://bbgm-apply.yourcausegrants.com/apply/programs/c8c503a8-7de1-4e4e-bed0-4cf5e6ab2d83>
- You will be asked to create a Blackbaud ID account for the CAF grantmaking portal (or to log in if you have used this portal previously).
- Complete a series of short eligibility questions to ensure your organisation is eligible to apply. If eligible, you are directed to the main application form.
- Complete the application form and upload the supporting documents required.
- Submit your application before the deadline of **Friday 30 October 2026 5.00pm**.

You can save and return to the application form; you do not need to complete it in one go.

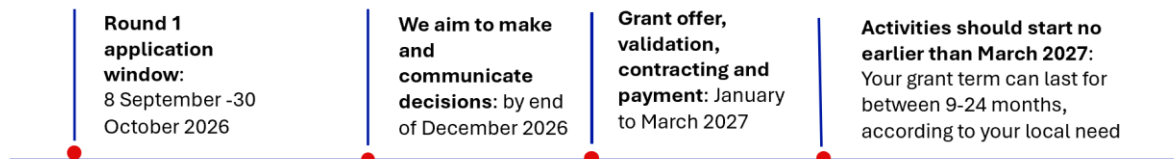
- To return to the grant portal to continue with an application, use this link: <https://bbgm-apply.yourcausegrants.com/apply/applications>

Timeline

We reserve the right to adjust these timings if needed.

- Round 1 application window: 8 September – 30 October 2026.
- We aim to make and communicate decisions by end of December 2026.
- Grant offer, validation, contracting and payment: January – March 2027.
- Activities should start no earlier than March 2027; your grant term can last for between 9-24 months, according to your local need.
- Insight and outcome conversations will take place during your grant term, in order to contribute to and benefit from shared learning as part of the Tech Rehome Network.
- End of Grant report due one month after your grant term completes.

Tech Rehome Network: Round 1



- Insight and outcome conversations will take place during your grant term, in order to contribute to and benefit from shared learning as part of the Tech Rehome Network
- End of grant report due one month after your grant term completes

Where can I find out more about the Tech Rehome Network?

Virgin Media O2 provide a wealth of information about the Tech Rehome Network [on this webpage](#), where you can find useful information about their previous work supporting communities and organisations to address some of these challenges. The Tech Reuse Network has developed from these insights and learnings.

From late September, you can also watch a recorded introduction to the Fund which includes captions and a transcript to help you navigate through the content.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are provided on the following pages of this document.

Further information on the CAF grantmaking portal is [here](#).

To maintain a fair process, Virgin Media O2 and CAF are not able to review or offer advice on your specific application. However, we are happy to answer questions about the programme or help with access to the grant portal. You can reach the CAF Grantmaking Team via TechRehomeNetwork@cafonline.org

How is my data used?

When you apply for this grant programme, you are directed to CAF's carefully selected service provider (Blackbaud) to register an account and enter the details of your grant application. Blackbaud provides the application platform on behalf of CAF and processes personal data in accordance with its contractual arrangements with CAF. Blackbaud's privacy policy can be viewed [here](#). CAF and Virgin Media O2 will process your personal data in connection with the assessment, administration and delivery of the grant programme. Please refer to [CAF's Privacy Notice](#) and [Virgin Media O2's privacy policy](#) for more information on how your data will be used.

Frequently Asked Questions

Application and decision process

1. What is the purpose of the Tech Rehome Network?

The Tech Rehome Network has an ambitious outlook, underpinned by values of transparency and connection. It seeks to create systems-level change in the device reuse networks in each city, so that lives are improved by digital inclusion, and to invest in building evidence for the future so that together cities can evolve their attitudes, approaches and behaviours towards sustainable device reuse for the long term.

2. What do you mean by 'devices'?

The Tech Rehome Network will focus on laptops, tablets and smartphones. We know that many other devices such as desktop computers, monitors, printers and networking equipment also currently enter the disposal route rather than being prioritised for reuse, but at present we will focus on devices which are most needed to improve digital inclusion.

3. My organisation works within a large town and not a city, can we apply?

We believe that the greatest potential system change is likely to be achieved at a city level. Drawing on experience with the Time After Time Fund which Virgin Media O2 ran with environmental charity Hubbub and the partnership with Coventry Council to scale the #CovConnects programme, we believe that cities are likely to have a more sustainable scale of anchor institutions, distribution networks, and commitment with its local authority to be able to build a trusted, sustainable and scalable device reuse system. Therefore, only organisations working in cities can apply in this round.

This is the first round of the Tech Rehome Network Fund and we intend to evaluate and learn from each round. Therefore there may be changes to the eligibility criteria in future rounds.

4. I made a mistake on the eligibility questionnaire. Can I start it again?

Starting a new application will take you back to the eligibility questions. Please ensure that you answer the questions honestly and thoroughly, because this will mean that you do not waste time in making an application if your organisation is not eligible to do so.

5. How will our application be assessed and how will decisions be made?

All assessments will be carried out following fair and transparent processes which prioritise best grantmaking practice and the priorities of the Tech Rehome Network Fund.

When assessing grant applications, we will consider the following areas:

- A strong alignment with the ambitions of the Fund to strengthen city-level device reuse programmes and improve digital inclusion outcomes for residents.
- A commitment and capacity to contribute to and benefit from shared learning with other grant holder cities as part of the evolving Tech Rehome Network.
- Commitment from the local authority, and strength of connections with others in your local ecosystem, eg anchor institutions, device donors, refurbishers, community distribution and training partners.
- Clearly identified need, challenges and bottlenecks in the existing device reuse system in the city and clarity of where the greatest catalyst and opportunity for change lies.
- Ambitious outcomes to strengthen a sustainable and scaleable system.
- Strength and depth of track record in all parts of the device reuse system, including depth of engagement with digitally excluded communities and ability to deliver signposting and support towards digital literacy, knowledge and confidence.
- Credible activities, partnerships, budget and timescales to unlock change that would otherwise not be possible.
- Clear focus on equitable practices and demonstrable needs of residents.
- Proportionate and achievable monitoring, evaluation and learning activities to identify evidence and insights.

Final decisions in each round will be made by an expert Selection Panel drawn from across the circular economy, device reuse and digital inclusion sectors. They will ensure that all grants are awarded to charitable organisations or local authorities which:

- Are the best fit for the Tech Rehome Network in this round.
- Have the greatest potential for strengthening and/or scaling the city's device reuse system for greatest impact and learning.
- Have capacity to contribute to and benefit from shared learning with other grant holder cities as part of the evolving Tech Rehome Network.

We intend to support a variety of approaches rather than one single model and to generate learning so that policymakers, local authorities, community organisations and businesses can

be confident to scale device reuse programmes based on the unique needs and contexts of their city.

6. Why do you ask about how we embed the insights and experiences of people we support into the design and delivery of our services?

We believe that authentic insight into your community's needs and experiences leads to stronger project design, more effective delivery and deeper impact. We recognise that how you do this will be unique to your organisation.

7. When can our activities start and finish?

We know that impactful projects do not necessarily fit within a fixed one-year period. Therefore, this grant term is flexible between 9 and 24 months long. You can tell us your preferred start and end dates for your funded activities within this period. Funded activities cannot commence before 1 March 2027, and all grants must be completed by end of March 2029 (24 months).

8. What can we include in our budget as costs?

Clear descriptions and detail will help us to understand how you intend to use the funds. Please structure your budget to include an appropriate level of detail/breakdown for:

- Salary and staff costs
- Activities costs
- Goods, equipment or technical costs
- Relevant core costs of your organisation (when it is essential for these to be covered so that the outcomes of your work can be achieved)
- Monitoring, evaluating and learning activities and reporting
- Capacity to contribute to and benefit from shared learning within the Tech Rehome Network
- Any other essential costs

Please make sure that you present a complete and clear picture of how the funds will be used with an appropriate level of detail. One of the common reasons that organisations are not awarded a grant is that they do not provide sufficient detail in their budget, as this forms part of our assessment.

9. Will you make part-awards?

If a grant is awarded, we aim to award the full request amount wherever possible. We want your project to proceed as you have intended and understand that part-awards are not best practice in supporting charitable organisations to achieve maximum impact.

Therefore, please ensure that you only apply for the funds that you need to deliver your intended outcomes and that you apply at an appropriate level for the size and capacity of your organisation. The transparency of your budget costs is an assessment criteria.

10. You require a supporting statement from our local authority. What should this include?

We believe that local authorities (City Councils) have an important role to play within a city-wide network. We do not expect your local authority to control or lead all aspects of the device reuse system, nor to promise future financial commitments beyond the current political cycle.

However, a strong supporting statement from a named senior officer could include: how this approach integrates into their strategic priorities, willingness to remove barriers to implementation, commitment to a convening role, access to expertise, facilities, staff time, data or other resources, ability to build relationships to develop reliable device supply and a willingness to prioritise a shared long-term vision and sustain partnerships.

11. Do our financial accounts need to be an independently audited document?

No, this is not necessary. However, please make sure that your financial accounts are available for your most recent financial year end, and that have been completed and filed/reported.

There is a question on the organisational details page of the application form about your total income and this figure must be the same as the total income shown in your uploaded accounts.

12. What can we expect in the future? Are there opportunities for longer-term grants?

This is intended as a catalytic programme and we don't intend to offer further grants to existing grant holders. There will be further rounds of the Tech Rehome Network which will be open to any organisation which has not been awarded a grant. Virgin Media O2 have a commitment to support local tech reuse networks in 30 cities across England, Scotland and Wales by 2030.

13. Will there be further rounds? If we are not selected for funding this year, can we re-apply next year?

This is the first round of funding for the Tech Rehome Network Fund, and £500,000 is available this round. We intend to make a small number of grants in Round 1, learn from this process, and make further funds available in 2027 and beyond. If you believe that you have the potential to apply for a grant from the Tech Rehome Network Fund but are not yet ready to do so, you can apply in future rounds when further funds will be available. If you are not selected in this round, you will receive feedback; this might or might not indicate that you are encouraged to apply again.

14. Can I see all of the questions on the application form before completing it?

The online grantmaking portal allows you to log in and see the whole application form. You do not need to complete one page before moving on to later questions. You can save as you go and return to it later. You can also download a document which includes all questions directly at the start of the application form.

15. Are there fixed word count limits for each question?

In general, no. We know that fixed word count limits can cause frustration, so we include guidance on approximately how many words we'd like to see for each question. Very short or very long answers do not help your application. Due to restrictions in the database, a very small

number of questions do have fixed character counts, but we have shown where these are and we do not anticipate that these will cause you a problem.

16. Do you have guidance for navigating the online grant portal?

Yes, you can find out more about the new applicant and grant holder portal [here](#).

Grant awards: what happens next

17. Will we be notified about the outcome of our application?

Yes. CAF aims to notify all applicants about the outcome of their application in December 2026. This will be a grant offer in principle. If you have not been awarded a grant, you will receive general feedback about your application after this in January 2027.

18. When can we announce that we have been selected as a grant holder for the Tech Rehome Network?

Grant holders must not announce they have been selected to receive funding through media, social media or any other communications channel until agreed with Virgin Media O2.

19. What is the CAF validation process?

If your organisation is selected, you will be awarded a 'grant in principle'. If your organisation is not a registered charity, CAF may then ask you further questions and for documentation to complete due diligence and validation checks. This is to ensure the grants meet legal requirements on charitable donations. This can take up to three months (though may be less time) and it is a requirement that you must complete this stage before funds can be disbursed. This may mean that your funds are not received by March 2027, and your project dates should take this into consideration.

The documents you need to provide for CAF's validation will depend on the type of your organisation. They may include a copy of your organisation's governing document, a certificate of charitable registration, your most recent annual financial accounts, a transactional bank statement from the last three months as proof of your organisation's bank account, and details of Trustees/Directors' full names, residential addresses, and dates of birth.

Once these checks have been completed, you will also find it easier to receive future donations through CAF, if appropriate.

20. What is a governing document?

Your governing document is the document that sets out the rules of your organisation. It could be your constitution, articles of association, bylaws, statutes, trust deed, articles of incorporation, or other legal document, explaining the purpose of your organisation and how it works. It must include a charitable dissolution clause (ie, what would happen to your assets if your organisation closed down).

21. I am applying to the Fund as a City Council. What additional validation requirements must I complete?

Along with the validation requirements above, we will require confirmation that:

- Funds will be ringfenced for charitable purposes, ideally in a distinct bank account.
- Any funds that are not used will be returned to CAF.

22. We are applying as a group of organisations collaboratively. What additional validation requirements must we complete?

We welcome applications which involve a group of organisations. Within your application, we ask for the following details:

- Which organisation is the lead applicant and receiving the grant.
- How funds will be managed between the organisations ie will funds be granted onto other organisations within the group or not.
- Information about each organisation that will receive funds.

If your collaborative application is selected, we will validate your organisation(s) using this information. If necessary, we will request a Memorandum of Understanding to be put in place, laying out the core principles of how the group will work together and manage the grant funds. We will tell you if this is needed as part of the validation process.

23. If I am unable to provide supporting documentation as part of the application or validation process, will it negatively impact my application?

Yes. Failing to provide supporting documents would mean that CAF will not be able to perform the relevant assessment and due diligence checks. Therefore, applications without required supporting documents will not be considered for a grant.

24. What happens if my organisation is selected for a grant but cannot be validated?

The validation process is usually efficient and will rely on you answering the questions and providing the documents which are requested. The validation process must be completed within two to three months, including any further enquiries we may need to make having reviewed your documents; after that time, we may withdraw the grant offer.

CAF will do everything in its remit to support all organisations throughout the validation process. If the organisation cannot be validated despite best efforts, the grant offer will be withdrawn, and funds will not be disbursed to the organisation.

25. When will any grant be paid?

Once CAF validation has been successfully completed, grants will be paid in one instalment. We anticipate that most grant payments will be made from March 2027, but it is possible that grant payments could be later if the validation process has been extended or for reasons outside our control. Please take this into account in your planning.

26. Is there any introduction to the Tech Rehome Network or others on this grant programme?

Yes, we intend to host a short introductory webinar for all grant holders in March 2027. You will be invited to this with any grant offer.

27. What reporting will we need to provide during and at the end of the grant?

Conversations focused on progress towards outcomes and insights into what you have learned will take place with CAF up to twice during your grant term. This will enable all grant holders to contribute to and benefit from shared learning as part of the Tech Rehome Network. Further details will be shared with grant holders.

There will also be a single end of grant report due to CAF. We will share the online End of Grant template when grants are awarded and you will be required to complete it within one month of the end of your grant term.

General questions

28. What proportion of applications to the Tech Rehome Network Fund do you expect to be successful in this round?

We intend to make a small number of grants of up to £100,000, with total funds of £500,000 available in this first round.

29. Can we ask for help with our application?

We hope that this guidance document and the associated webinar are helpful. In order to maintain a fair and transparent process, we cannot discuss specific ideas for your application. However, if you have any questions about the grant portal or the programme as a whole when you are completing your application, please contact the CAF grantmaking team at TechRehomeNetwork@cafonline.org

30. Why is the Tech Rehome Network funded by Virgin Media O2?

Virgin Media O2's Responsible Business Plan prioritises Circularity, with an ambition that Every Device Lives Twice and Championing a reuse culture for technology. Many devices are discarded before the end of their usable life, increasing electronic waste and putting pressure on the world's finite resources. Digital exclusion also affects millions of people across the UK, yet the technology that could help tackle it is already sitting in homes and businesses across the country. Virgin Media O2 believes that by funding and supporting city-based networks to deliver device reuse programmes, they can enable cities to build trusted, sustainable, and scalable device reuse ecosystems.