

# **DUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Grant Awarding Policy**

## Introduction

The Council is sometimes approached by groups, schools, charities or organisations seeking grants or donations towards their projects, events or activities in and around the parish.

The council also holds or receives funds from local trusts (kept in an earmarked reserve). This policy outlines a framework for the Council to use when considering those requests to ensure any applications are considered fairly and transparently.

The parish council awards grants from within its set budget and earmarked reserves.

A grant is any payment made by the Council to be used by groups, schools, charities or organisations for a specific purpose that will benefit the Parish, or residents of the Parish, and which is not directly controlled or administered by the Council.

### Purpose of Grants

The Council awards grants, at its discretion, to organisations which can demonstrate the grant will make a difference to the parish or its residents by:

- Providing a local service
- Enhancing the quality of life
- Improving the environment or local facilities
- Promoting the communities of Dunstall in a positive way
- Supporting residents with a need
- Providing activities in the Parish
- Supporting residents in hardship or difficulty
- Providing other positive community benefits

Trust funds are particularly intended to support

- Elderly/old People
- People With Disabilities
- Other Charities or Voluntary Bodies

### Grant Application Process

Applicants must apply in writing providing the following information (as applicable):

- Outline of the bid
- Estimated cost of the project/activity
- Amount requested
- Details of benefit to the area or residents
- Estimated project dates

Supporting information (as applicable)::

- Constitution or aims and purpose
- Previous year's accounts or budget/business plan

Assessment Criteria:

- Community benefit
- Reasonableness of costs
- Local contributions
- Capability to deliver the project
- Within scope of a trust (where the council holds the funds)

The council can also proactively award grants and make charitable donations under this policy, subject to a council decision.

All applicants / recipients will be contacted following the Council's decision. Decisions do not reflect the worthiness of the cause. Organisations may reapply regardless of outcome.

The Clerk is authorised to award small grants, in consultation with council members, where budgetary provision allows and the grant is for a time-sensitive project that cannot wait until the next council meeting.

Conditions of Funding (as applicable)

- Organisation must be non-profit or charitable
- Council must be credited in publicity
- No funding for political or religious activities
- No retrospective funding
- Generally no funding for national organisations
- Organisations should have a bank account
- Proper accounting and evidence of expenditure required
- No ongoing commitments; applications required annually
- Grants assessed on individual merit
- Council may impose additional conditions
- Grants must be used for their intended purpose
- Unspent funds must be returned
- Within scope of a trust (where the council holds the funds)

Legal Basis

Nothing prevents the Council from exercising its powers under the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137.