



GRANT AID POLICY

Grant Aid applications can only be accepted from organisations which provide a service to the local community or enhance the reputation of Swanley.

Each application is required to demonstrate a need for grant aid and each application should be accompanied by a copy of the organisation's up-to-date accounts showing clearly any balances in hand, together with a prediction of expected expenditure throughout the ensuing year, including any anticipated capital expenditure. No grant will be paid prior to receipt of the organisation's accounts. In addition, evidence of grant applications and awards by another Local Authority or affiliated Body must be supplied.

An organisation having received a grant must co-operate fully in any evaluation by the Council of the way in which the grant was used.

The Town Council has adopted the following guidelines for its consideration of applications:

1. The services of the Voluntary or Charitable Body should be available to the public of the Parish.
2. Grants over £250 will not normally be awarded. Larger grants may be awarded in certain circumstances (see Larger Grants below).
3. Grants will normally be prioritised when the expenditure helps meet any of Swanley Town Council's strategic objectives:
 - (a) Managing the Council's resources effectively
 - (b) Creating and Maintaining a Quality Environment
 - (c) Making the Parish a Safer Community
 - (d) Encouraging Improvements to Health and Well Being
 - (e) Promoting and Encouraging a more Prosperous Community
 - (f) Championing the Community's needs and interests
4. Conditional grants must be claimed by the organisation before the end of the financial year (31st March) or the award of the grant is cancelled.

5. Grant applications for funding of staff costs are not normally approved.
6. Ongoing commitments are not normally made.
7. Grants are not made retrospectively.
8. National organisations or local bodies with access to funds from national 'umbrella' or 'parent' bodies will not be supported other than requests for specific equipment otherwise unavailable from organisations with a local office within the Parish.
9. Education, health and social services establishments for whom the Health Authority or County Council are the appropriate funder are not grant-aided.
10. Private concerns operated as a business to make a profit are not grant-aided.
11. Grants will not be made to charitable trusts seeking capital to add to their investments.
12. 'Upward funders', i.e. local groups whose total fundraising is sent to their Central HQ for redistribution are not grant-aided.
13. Individuals seeking sponsorship are not grant-aided.
14. Grants will not be awarded to fund ordinary revenue expenditure (e.g. volunteer costs, rent, insurance costs etc).

Larger Grants - £250 - £1000

15. Large grants will only be considered to support facilities/services in the Swanley Parish which the Town Council might otherwise be required to provide directly.