



Aims & Objectives for Grants

Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act empowers a local Council each year to allocate restricted funds on anything which, in the Council's opinion, is in the interest of its area or part of its area, or in the interest of all or some of the inhabitants of that area. The Section 137 grants must satisfy two criteria:

1. The Council must be satisfied that there is a direct benefit to its area or part of its area or to some or all of its inhabitants.
2. The Council must ensure that the direct benefit which will accrue to its area or inhabitants will be commensurate with the amount of expenditure under this heading.

Section 137 was amended by the Government and Housing Act 1989, Section 37 to empower local councils to make grants to voluntary bodies where no specific grant-making power existed in other legislation and where, in the Council's opinion, the grant would benefit any part of its area or any of the inhabitants. This includes charities and disaster funds.

However, any grant of £2,000 must include a proviso that the recipient must provide the Clerk with a written report on how the money has been used within 12 months of the grant.

Procedure

The Town Council has agreed the following procedure:

1. That the Finance & Assets Committee will consider applications once a year and a local media advert will be placed at the appropriate time. Details will also be uploaded to the Council's web site. The decision taken to award grants will be taken in July or at a meeting nearest to this month.
2. That the Clerk shall ensure that applications received have all of the supplementary papers necessary, before reporting them to the Finance & Resources Committee.

3. That grants be made in accordance with the following criteria:

- a) That there will be direct benefit to Warminster or part of the area or to some or all of its inhabitants.
 - b) That the direct benefit which will accrue to the area or inhabitants will be commensurate with the amount of expenditure.
 - c) That, with the exception of disaster fund appeals, no grants will be made to national based organisations unless they can show the proportion of direct benefit to the residents of Warminster.
 - d) That grants will only be made to individuals in exceptional circumstances.
 - e) The grant application must be applied for by an authorised member of the charity or organisation.
 - f) Capital requests are preferable to revenue requests.
 - g) Only one grant per organisation will be given in any one council year and this will be limited to £2,000 per applicant. The council year runs from 1st April – 31st March.
- 4) The above criteria will be sent to prospective applicants, with a request for a sight of their accounts, Equal Opportunities Policy, invoice or quotation for the project, details of other funding requests, Terms of Reference, Constitution and Memorandum & Articles if relevant.

Selection Process:

The Council will review each application provided that all supplementary information has been supplied.

The deadline date for submitting applications will be 1st June.

Incomplete forms will not be considered.

The applications will be heard at meetings scheduled in July or nearest date

Cheques will be issued at a presentation evening usually held in September.