

Support Funding Policy

Worcester District Scout Council

What is the purpose of the Support Funding Policy?

This policy outlines the criteria and procedures for awarding grants to support individual members of Scouts Worcester who are participating in Scouting activities and events. It aims to ensure fairness, transparency, and effective resource use to promote inclusivity within our Scouting community.

Eligibility Criteria

Grants are available to any members of Scouts Worcester District who meet the following criteria:

- Youth applicants must be registered full members of Scouts Worcester.
- Adult applicants must hold a full role within Scouts Worcester.

Conditions For Application

- Each application must be submitted by the member, with support from the relevant section or event leadership team where necessary.
- Members who meet the criteria for Free School Meals as laid out on the .gov website are automatically eligible to apply.
 - Applicants who do not meet this criteria should contact their Group Lead Volunteer or District Lead Volunteer for approval before applying.
- Members are expected to have applied for funding from their groups prior to applying for support from the District. Evidence of this should be provided alongside the members application.
- Members are expected to have explored alternate funding options with the relevant leadership teams before applying for support from the District.

Grant Allocation

Maximum funds available are outlined below:

- Grants are available to cover up to £500 or 25% of the costs for attending a trip or event, whichever is lower.
- Grants are available to cover up to 100% of the costs for uniform, subscription fees or other general expenditure, subject to the Trustee Boards review and approval.

Application Process

Applications can be made for support with any Scouting expenses. This includes, but is not limited to, costs to attend trips or events, subscription costs or uniform costs.

Applications should be submitted via The official Worcester District Scout Council Support Funding Application Form, available by contacting the District Chair (chair@scoutsworcester.org) or District Lead Volunteer (dlv@scoutsworcester.org).

Each application requires written endorsement from the Leader in Charge of the relevant Section/Event Leadership Team.

All applications should be submitted via. The instructions on the above noted application form. Where the application is for funding to attend an event, this should be submitted a minimum of 12 weeks in advance of the commencement of the event.

Assessment and Approval

The District Trustee Board will review applications based on eligibility criteria, financial need, previous support received and the potential benefit to the applicant's personal development and contribution to Scouting.

Applicants may be required to provide additional information or attend an interview as part of the assessment process.

Applicants will receive an acknowledgment of receipt of their application within 14 days, along with requests for any additional information and an estimated time period for a final decision.

All applications will be reviewed by the District Trustee Board for approval at a trustee board meeting, or via. email or special meeting if necessary.

Decisions will be communicated to applicants as soon as practicable with consideration to the fact that this process is administered by volunteers in their own time. The amount to be awarded will be agreed by the trustee board, with consideration to the full circumstances, and may not be the exact amount applied for.

Conditions of Grant

Grants are non-transferable and must be used solely for the approved expense. If the recipient is unable to use the funds for the expense the grant was awarded for, the grant must be returned to Scouts Worcester.

Funding Limitations

The availability of grants is subject to the funds allocated for this purpose within the Scouts Worcester annual budget.

The Trustee Board reserves the right to adjust grant amounts or decline applications based on funding availability and adherence to this policy.

Who To Contact?

If you have any queries relating to this Support Funding Policy, please contact us via. the Chair of the Charity Trustees (chair@scoutsworceter.org).

Policy Information

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