



Eligibility & Grant Guidelines

These guidance notes are a summary of the Trustee's present approach to awarding grants. They will be subject to periodic review and do not replace or alter the objects of the Trust.

Area of benefit

IMPORTANT:

Please check that the project falls within the Trust's area of benefit BEFORE submitting an application. The benefit from projects must fall wholly or largely within the area of benefit.

The objects of the Trust also stipulate that particular attention should be given to projects that provide benefits to those people in areas most directly affected by airport operations.

Will the Trust fund all my project?

Not necessarily. Trustees may offer part funding towards a specific element of your application. Alternatively, they may award a **conditional** grant where funding will only be released once the specific conditions have been met. These could be:

- Raising additional funds in order to complete the project
- Obtaining planning or other permissions such as a licence that are needed to proceed

Grants are not usually made where local authorities or other public bodies are responsible for funding, though sometimes joint funding can be agreed.

If a conditional grant is awarded, six-monthly update reports are required.

Conditional grant offers that have NOT been paid will be withdrawn after 18 months unless there are exceptional circumstances and ongoing contact with GACT.

When can I apply for a grant?

Currently, the Trust awards grants once a year. Opening and closing dates are published on the home page of the website and on the application form. Grants are paid by the end of May.

Priority categories for the Trust when assessing a project are set out below:

- Development of young people
- Art projects including amateur drama, music, art
- Sporting facilities
- Environmental improvement and conservation
- Improvements to community facilities such as village halls
- Support for the disabled
- Support for the elderly
- Encouragement of additional volunteering or giving in the area

Trustees will NOT support the following

- Projects or beneficiaries that are completely or largely outside the area of benefit
- Recurrent expenditure or running costs
- Ongoing costs, maintenance or deficits
- Repeat annual applications for similar projects
- Costs that should be funded from other sources e.g. public bodies
- Applications from organisations that have statutory responsibilities such as local authorities, hospitals, schools, unless it is a project that is over and above their core activities
- The purchase of land or buildings
- Organisations that are working to make a profit for shareholders, partners or sole owners, nor to individuals.
- Individuals
- Grants will not normally be made to organisations with excess 'free' reserves
- Salaries

General conditions

Please read carefully before submitting your application.

- If successful, a completed Project Report must be returned by the end of December in the year the grant was awarded. Failure to do so will affect any future grant applications.
- Grants will NOT normally be made where it is evident that little or no effort has been made or is being made to raise funds elsewhere. Determined efforts to raise money elsewhere or to demonstrate match funding will be helpful
- Grants will not normally be made to organisations with excess 'free' reserves
- Applications from areas not directly affected by the airport will be given less attention
- Grants will NOT normally be made to cover ongoing training costs but may be considered as part of start-up costs in relation to an additional amenity or service being established that will be self-sustaining thereafter
- Grants made to applicants in earlier years will be taken into account
- Consideration will be given to occasional grants of a larger size where the project is particularly valuable or unusual and likely to benefit a significant number of people
- Grants may be made for a period of two or three years where the need is demonstrated and where the pattern of investment in the project is phased
- Applications should demonstrate that projects will benefit the wider community
- Places of worship are eligible for funding if they benefit the wider community
- A maintenance plan may be required for projects that involve the creation of an asset that requires ongoing maintenance
- Trustees reserve the right to inspect projects during their progress or following completion
- Trustees reserve the right to cancel a grant if it appears that the project is not likely to proceed in the foreseeable future, or to impose a date by which conditions must be met
- Where the applicant seeks permission to spend the grant in a way that is different from that set out in the application, the request will be considered on its merits, and will depend to a great extent on adhering to the spirit of the original project
- Grants will NOT normally be made for an event that takes place BEFORE 1st June in the year of application, or after 31st May the following year

Amount of grant

The minimum grant is £250. The Trust's normal level of grants is from £1000-£5,000. Occasional larger grants may be considered if the impact is targeted to benefit a significant number of people and is considered to make a valuable and noticeable difference longer term. The circumstances in which such grants are made are likely to be few and far between and applicants are advised to seek advice from the Trust BEFORE applying for a larger grant by emailing mail@gact.org.uk.