

Friends of Muir Group Charity Grant Application Guidance Notes



FoMG Charity Grants Programme

Friends of Muir Group charity grant programme was established in 2002, and exists to improve the quality of life of Muir Group residents and the communities in which they live.

What are the aims of FoMG

- To deliver projects that benefit Muir Group residents and their communities
- To provide support and advice to people in financial hardship
- To provide support and advice to disabled or older people
- To support and contribute to recreational facilities for those who need it by reason of age, disability, poverty or social economic circumstances
- To promote education for all people
- To promote the advancement of education, training or retraining particularly among unemployed people
- To provide financial assistance towards the relief of unemployment in areas of social and economic deprivation

Grant funding will be targeted towards projects aimed at 3 specific groups:

- Young people
- Older people
- Communities

Grants are based around the following themes:

- Sport and Play
- Equality & Diversity
- Education & Training
- Arts & Heritage
- Crime & safety
- Environmental Initiatives
- Health & Well Being
- Relief of Poverty & Debt

Projects will be assessed in relation to:

- How they will specifically benefit residents and communities
- Their overall contribution to the social, economic and physical regeneration and contribution to sustainability

Who can apply

Grants will be considered for applications from individuals, community groups or organisations to assist with the cost of projects.

Grants to Individuals

- Individuals should be Muir Group residents or live in Muir Group accommodation
- Single awards will be considered to benefit the individual concerned

- Financial assistance will be considered in relation to particular difficult circumstances
- Awards to individuals are unlikely to exceed £150, other than in exceptional circumstances

Grants to groups or Organisations

- Applications for awards must be to finance projects or activities that directly benefit Muir Group residents in areas where they live or work
- Where appropriate, applicants should seek other sources of funding, match funding and partnership approaches

How many times can I apply

Individuals and organisations can submit repeat applications, however, each application will be considered individually.

What we will not fund

FoMG will not consider applications:

- To settle debts
- That promote political activities
- In relation to general public appeals
- Towards ongoing costs for Credit Unions, although we do consider start up grants
- That support individual religions to the exclusion of other religions, however, we actively support initiatives that promote tolerance and understanding of different faiths and cultures

How much grant money is available

You can apply for maximum grants of up to £5,000

Application Timetable

FoMG meet quarterly - 4 times per year.

Dates for bid submissions will be posted on our web site at www.muir.org.uk

What information will you need to provide

Before you submit your application, please ensure –

- All sections have been completed
- You have provided a copy of your constitution – if you have one
- You have attached your organisation or group accounts

Please note that incorrect applications may be returned for amendment and that this may result in deferment to a later date

How will your application be processed

- Applications are assessed to ensure they fit the general criteria outlined above
- Applications will be judged based on the outlined criteria
- Applications are presented to the FoMG Board for consideration
- Each application is assessed individually and a decision is reached on the date of the meeting.
- You will be notified of a decision within 4 weeks from the date of the board meeting
- On occasion the Board may request further information, this means that your application may be deferred until the following board meeting.

Rejected applications

The decision of the board is final.

We will write to you stating the reasons why the application was unsuccessful. This may assist you to improve or amend your application accordingly and you may resubmit your application for future consideration.

How to apply

If you think you are eligible for consideration - you can apply by:

Writing to: **The Community Investment Manager
Friends of Muir Group
Mere's Edge
Helsby
Nr Chester
WA6 0DJ**

By telephone: **01925 790624**

By fax: **01244 404026**

By email: **fomg@muir.org.uk**

You can also download an application form from the Friends of Muir Group section on our website at **www.muir.org.ok**