Oliver's Dragons

Grant-Making Policy & Funding Criteria

This policy sets out how applicants can apply for a Grant from the Charity and how the Trustees will assess applications made. Whilst the number of funding rounds in each year is at the Trustee's discretion, the Charity will usually provide up to three opportunities per year to apply for a Grant.

Definitions

- **Application** means the application made requesting a Grant
- **Charity** means Oliver's Dragons (Charity No. 1213824).
- **Grant** means funding awarded by the Charity.
- **Project** means the activity, service or support being funded.
- **Recipient** means the individual, family or organisation receiving a Grant.
- **Funding Period** means the periods of the year during which Applications for Grants are accepted.

Our Charitable Purposes

- Supporting projects that improve the lives of young people living in Marple and the surrounding areas through recreation, leisure and social welfare opportunities.
- Relieving sickness, disease and human suffering affecting children impacted by cancer primarily in the Stockport area, but also in the broader North West region.
- We will consider applications that support these purposes and meet this funding criteria.

Who Can Apply

- Registered charities, Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs), churches, Community Benefit Societies, Community Interest Companies (CICs) and social enterprises.
- Public sector organisations where there is no adequate statutory funding available.
- Individuals and families supported by a relevant professional such as a headteacher, social worker, Macmillan nurse or GP.
- Commercial organisations are not normally eligible for funding. They will only be considered where funding is for a clearly defined charitable project that directly advances the Charity's purposes and does not support normal business operations.

Funding Priorities

- Children and groups facing disadvantage or exclusion.
- Disabled children, looked-after children and children from single-parent families.

- Projects that have significant impact, either due to the numbers of children who benefit, or where meaningful impact can be shown to particular children
- Projects that demonstrate value for money and / or lasting legacy
- Children impacted by cancer, prioritising: child with cancer, siblings, children of parents with cancer and other affected children.

How to Apply

- Use the Charity's application form.
- Explain how the Project meets the criteria and priorities.
- Provide:
  - Information about the organisation/individual making the Application.
  - Contact details submitted on the Application must be those of the individuals managing and delivering the Project.
  - Full details of the Project, including the amount of Grant applied for, and how the Grant money will be spent.
  - Evidence of the need identified and the impact the Grant is expected to have.
  - Written support from an associated professional, if applicable.
- The Charity will only consider one Application per Recipient, per Funding Period.

We Will Not Fund:

- Political activities or campaigns.
- Promotion of religious beliefs, although faith-based organisations may apply for eligible projects.
- Onward grant-making.
- Retrospective costs or completed projects.
- Debt repayments, cash gifts, rent arrears or routine bills.
- Activities that public authorities (e.g. a local Council) have a legal duty to provide.
- General business expenses, start-up costs, expansion costs or trading activities.
- General salaries , organisational overheads or running costs.
- Business debts, liabilities, reserves, cashflow support or unrestricted organisational funds.
- Capital projects, capital fundraising appeals or business assets.
- Purchase, construction, refurbishment or acquisition of buildings, land or premises.
- Ongoing maintenance, repairs or routine operating costs.
- Any funding that primarily benefits a commercial business rather than delivering charitable impact.

Safeguarding

Applicants working with children or vulnerable adults must have appropriate safeguarding policies and practices and comply with relevant legislation.

Data Protection

Applicants' data will be held in accordance with data protection legislation. It will be held securely, disclosed if subject to an access request, treated as confidential, only used for the purpose for which it has been provided and destroyed once no longer needed.

Decision Making

Applications will be considered by the Charity's Trustees, who will make the decisions based on this Funding Criteria. They will work to the Charity Commission C27 guidelines on trustee decision making.

The Charity will carry out appropriate due diligence on Grant applicants to confirm the identity of the applicant and to confirm that:

- Grants will be applied in accordance with the Charity's Purposes.
- Grants will not be used for illegal purposes, such as money laundering, bribery or financing terrorism.
- The applicant does not hold views or have any involvement in activities contrary to the Charity's values and purposes.

Grants are awarded entirely at the discretion of the Trustees and their decision is final.

Award of Grant

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their Application.

Successful Recipients will be awarded a Grant, usually to a maximum of £500, but the Trustees retain the discretion to vary this amount where they consider appropriate.

Grants are awarded on the following conditions:

- The Grant can only be spent by the Recipient and may only be used for the Project or for the benefit of the Recipient detailed in the Application.
- The Recipient will keep clear and accurate records showing how the Grant has been spent.
- Where required, the Recipient will obtain whatever permissions are needed (consents or approvals) before carrying out the Project, keeping them up to date and complying with them.
- The Charity can ask for the Grant back if the Trustees reasonably believe that the Grant has been:
    - spent (all or part of it) on anything other than the Project or for the benefit of an individual Recipient; or
    - used in a way that goes against the Purposes of the Charity or the terms of the Grant Agreement.

Reporting

All recipients of a Grant will be required to provide a report on how the Grant was used and the impact it has had. The content and nature of information to be reported will be appropriate for the size and type of Grant awarded. The Charity will review such reports to ensure that Grants are being used for the purposes intended and to assess the impact grants have made. This learning will be used to inform future decision making and policy to maximise the Charity's impact.