

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

CRITERIA APPLYING TO REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1. Powers

- 1.1 The Council has the ability to make payments to those seeking financial assistance under a wide variety of legal powers; these range from those which are general and permit the support of sport and recreation, leisure, tourism, arts and cultural activities to those which are more specific in assisting, for example, the Citizens Advice Bureau. The payments must be for the benefit of those living or working within the parish.
- 1.2 In addition Section 137 of the Local Government Act is a more general power allowing for limited funds to be spent provided that such expenditure is for the benefit of the community or some part of it.
- 1.3 The first test that the Council will apply to any application for funds is to establish whether the power exists to meet the request if the Council is minded to do so.

2. Further Tests

- It will then be the practice of the Council to apply further conditions to the application.
- 2.1 An organisation applying must show that its purpose is for the benefit of those living or working in the City.
The organisation or individual applying for funds must be based in the City or resident within its boundary.
(Applications from individuals educated at schools in the City but living elsewhere, may be considered.)
 - 2.2 Encouragement will be given to those organisations seeking funds at the commencement of their activity. Regular or repeat funding will not normally be granted.

3. Financial Details

- 3.1 All group applicants will be required to provide up to date accounts which, wherever possible, will have been subjected to outside audit. New organisations will be asked to provide a business plan or forecast.
- 3.2 Applicants will be expected to specify the amount that they are seeking, the usual maximum granted will be £500.
Please indicate what applications are being made to other funding sources (if any).

5. Town Hall

Requests to remit the cost of the Town Hall in order to boost the income of fund-raising events held in the building are considered as an application for a grant to cover the hire cost; these are subject to the same scrutiny and criteria applied to all other grant applications.

6. Applications Timetable

- 6.1 Only one application will be considered from any organisation or individual in each financial year
- 6.2 Retrospective applications will not normally be considered

Please submit your application with supporting information, marked: Grant Application to:

The Finance Officer
Wells City Council
Town Hall
Wells BA5 2RB