

**THE FERMANAGH TRUST**

**UNRESTRICTED GRANTS GUIDANCE**

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**Total fund available per annum:** Currently £30,000.

The Fermanagh Trust is the first county-wide community foundation in either Northern or Southern Ireland.

The Fermanagh Trust is intimately connected with the County and is an independent grant making body. The Board of Trustees are all local people with experience, amongst other things from background & experiences in the community development, community relations, community business, health and social care, cross border and private/ public business sectors and local government.

**Size of Grants: (Maximum)** Normally grants of between £150 and £3,000 maximum are made for successful applications. Grants can be sought for:

capital, project and revenue funding. Interest free loans will be considered in special circumstances. All applications will need to show evidence of fundraising - locally or otherwise.

**Objectives:** The ***objectives*** of the Fermanagh Trust as set out in its trust deed are ‘to promote any charitable purpose, and to support initiatives which will lead to social and community development to improve conditions and life for people in the County of Fermanagh and immediate hinterland’.

**Range of Interests:** Since its inception in 1995 the Fermanagh Trust has been particularly keen to support local groups, neighbourhood or community-based practical projects. The range of interests supported are good causes that will promote social and community development, good relations, and the understanding and appreciation of cultural and historical heritages.

The Trust will be particularly interested in initiatives or projects that (1) involve a wide participation of local people in actively addressing local needs; (2) that demonstrate a capacity to develop and manage solutions for local concerns, and (3) that will bring a lasting benefit for the group, neighbourhood or community concerned.

Applications from projects of an unusual or innovative nature that demonstrate a creative potential, yet which may not be within the normal charitable or welfare range of other trusts, will be considered.

Applications will only be considered from groups acting in a voluntary capacity.

Applications will also be considered in respect of needs assessments where, for example, a group, neighbourhood or community wishes to find out more about local needs and/or the solutions to local needs.

**Exclusions:** The Trust cannot consider applications from outside County Fermanagh and its immediate hinterland. Also, the unrestricted grants programme is not open to applications from individuals. In general, the Trust tries not to become involved in commitments of a long-term nature, or provide year-on-year grants. NB: The Trust has a number of specific named funds which provide awards to individuals.

For further information visit <http://www.fermanaghtrust.org/our-grants>

 Grants will not be provided to finance;

* Salaries
* Publication costs e.g. books, or publications
* Fund raising initiatives
* Festivals
* Band Equipment
* Deficits of loans
* Retrospective funding
* The relief of statutory responsibilities
* Projects instigated by large voluntary regional or national organisations
* Community Interest Companies (with the exception of seed corn funding)
* Private sector organisations.

As sponsorship is normally undertaken to obtain commercial benefit, the Trust does not sponsor events.

**Applications and**

 **How to Apply:** Trustees normally meet at least every quarter to consider applications.

Applications should be made by completing application form and submitting to the Fermanagh Trust Secretary.

Postal applications will not be acknowledged unless accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope.

All applicants, successful or unsuccessful, will be written to and advised of the trustee’s decision.

 <http://www.fermanaghtrust.org/our-grants/fermanagh-trust-grants-programme>

Correspondence & Address

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