



SEAHAM TOWN COUNCIL

GRANTS POLICY

Seaham Town Council has satisfied the prescribed statutory criteria set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and qualifies as an eligible Town Council to use the Power of Competence and will adopt this power when considering grant applications.

Reviewed : Finance Committee - November 2021

Section 137 of Local Government Act, 1972 *“A Local Authority may, subject to the provisions of this section, incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interest of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants”*. The Council can also distribute grants under GPC (General Power of Competence) if all criteria is met and approved at AGM.

Accordingly, the Town Council has adopted the following irrespective of the power under which it makes the donation.

- All applicants are required to complete the Town Council's Grants Application Form.
- Each form will be scrutinised by officers to ensure it is completed correctly prior to it being submitted to the Finance Committee for consideration.
- The Town Council sets a budget for grant making during the annual budget setting process. This is a limited amount and accordingly grants are targeted towards activities which benefit as many people as possible in Seaham.
- The maximum amount of grant that can be awarded at any one time is £1,000.
- Organisations are limited to one application per financial year.
- The amount requested will not be exceeded but may be reduced.
- If other areas of funding have been sought this information must be provided.
- Seaham Town Council encourages applications from 'new' community clubs/ventures who require assistance with setting up costs.
- Any successful applicant is required to acknowledge Seaham Town Council's contribution in any advertising/marketing literature they produce including social media.
- Successful applicants are required to complete the post grant evaluation questionnaire. Failure to do so can result in the rescinding of the grant and a request for its return.
- Applications will not be considered from private organisation operating as a business to make a profit or surplus.
- Applications will not be considered from "upward funders" i.e., local groups whose fundraising is sent to the Headquarters for redistribution unless proof is given that the grant is spent at local level.
- An organisation is required to have a bank account in its own name.
- Ongoing commitments to award grants or subsidies in future years will not be made (unless budgeted for). A new application will be required in all cases.