

Grants for educational purposes

Background

For many years the Guild has run training events, with charges intended more or less to cover the event's costs. Most courses end up making a small surplus. Among these events were the annual weekend courses at Easthampstead, which had a substantial turnover. For reasons beyond the Guild's control, the Guild often received a refund of several hundred pounds in compensation for late cancellation of function room bookings, resulting in substantial surpluses. As a result, the Guild funds include a significant amount of accumulated money that the Guild considers it appropriate to spend on educational purposes.

Criteria

Applications for funding must satisfy the following criteria:

- Scope
- Educational purpose
- Additionality and Quality
- Proportionate contribution

Scope

The scope is broadly the scope of the Guild, ie funding requests will be considered where the benefit will apply directly to Guild members and/or to activity in towers within the Oxford Diocese.

Educational purpose

Funding requests must relate directly to the training of ringers. That includes:

- Initial training of new recruits
- Development and skill enhancement of existing ringers
- Development and skill enhancement of ringing teachers

The funding may be applied to any expenditure directly related to one of the above, for example:

- Provision of equipment to support training activity
- Costs incurred in order to undertake training activity
- Fees directly related to training activity

Additionality and Quality

Guild funding is intended to make a difference, ie to facilitate educational activities that otherwise would be less likely to happen, and/or to ensure that educational outcomes are of a higher quality than they would otherwise be.

Proportionate contribution

The Guild will contribute a proportion of the cost of a project, not the whole cost. The reason is twofold. Firstly the need to provide local funds in addition to a Guild grant ensures a degree of local commitment, without which the money is unlikely to achieve its intended benefit. Secondly the Guild will be able to make more separate grants for a given amount of money, and thus spread the benefit over more parts of the Guild.

The proportion is not fixed. Each case will be judged on its merits in terms of what it is trying to achieve and the impact that the Guild's contribution could have on achieving that objective.

Application and assessment

Applications for a grant should be made through the Guild Education Subcommittee. Each application should state: what is proposed, why it is required and who will benefit, what it will cost, how it will be funded (apart from a possible Guild grant), how long the benefit will last (and what measures will be taken to ensure that it does). Applicants are advised to discuss their proposals prior to making formal application.

Requests will be assessed against the four criteria in this document, and recommended for either acceptance or refusal. Approval of significant grants will be made by the Guild General Committee, which meets in March and November. Between these times, smaller grants may be approved by the Guild officers, especially if time is critical to the success of the proposal.

Application for an educational grant

Applicant name	
Address	
Phone	
E-mail	
Tower(s) to which the application relates	
Description of what you propose doing	
Why it is needed and what benefit will result	
Who will benefit	
How long will the benefit last, and what will be done to ensure that it does	
The cost of what you propose (broken down if appropriate)	
The source(s) of funding (other than a Guild grant)	
The timescale for spending the money and delivering the benefit(s)	