



Cronfa'r Degwm

Welsh Church Fund

(under the Welsh Church Fund Acts 1914 – 1945 and the Local Government Act (Wales) 1993)

Guidelines

1. What is the Welsh Church Fund?

The Welsh Church Fund derives from the Welsh Church Act 1914. Gwynedd Council administrates the fund and allocates the interest from the fund in grant form annually to **registered charities** in Gwynedd.

Every grant must be in accordance with Gwynedd Council's Welsh Church Fund Charity Scheme. Further guidelines were adopted to define areas and the type of applicant who is likely to be considered, although Cist Gwynedd's Grants Consultation Panel (who now determines applications) can make exceptions in worthy causes that are outside the usual guidelines but are in accordance with the Charity Scheme.

The grant includes capital and revenue funding. The allocations are expected to support projects that strengthen and develop companies and enterprises within the voluntary sector. The purpose is to enable the voluntary sector to play a full role within Gwynedd communities by reflecting one or more of the following objectives:

- (i) Promote information and appreciation of Welsh arts and literature.
- (ii) Provide or support the provision of facilities for entertainment or other leisure time activity.
- (iii) Promote architectural, historical or scientific interest involving Wales.

2. What level of grant can be awarded?

Applications up to £3,000.00 are welcome.

The fund will not consider applications for support by the same organisation for a period of three years from the date of the previous application.

3. What type of projects could this fund support?

It is expected that applications are based on new projects or services that achieve specific and clear objectives.

a) Examples of possible projects the Fund could support:

Arts and Literary Activities

- Establish, replenish libraries, museums, galleries, or art exhibitions, scientific or industrial
- Provide lectures, exhibitions, and equipment
- Acquire, retain, and publish archives and documents
- Projects involving literature, stage arts, fine arts, literature and/or music

Leisure, Social and Entertainment Activities

- Provide or support the provision of playing fields, parks, open spaces, centres, or halls for leisure activities
- Provide equipment
- Training costs for volunteers
- Costs in connection with new activities for older people / pensioners

Historical Activities

- Obtain and retain land or objects of special interest in relation to architectural science or natural history
- Purchase, repair, safeguard, interpret and/or exhibit relics
- Provide educational facilities or opportunities in the world of history / heritage
- Support studies and research into subjects involving history, topography, literature, and Welsh life
- Maintenance work on listed buildings or buildings that are not listed but have historic connections
- Interpretation materials for buildings of historic and/or architectural interest

b) Activities the Fund will not finance:

- Grants will not be given towards religious or sectarian activities or towards resources mainly used for those activities
- A grant will not be given for normal and regular maintenance work of buildings nor to support regular or permanent activities / services.
- Applications from Community Newspapers will not be considered
- Personal applications or applications for the direct benefit of individuals are not permitted.
- A grant to support a post is not permitted
- Foreign visits
- Statutory educational activities

4. Who can apply for support?

Grant applications from **registered charities only** will be considered.

You must meet the following criteria before applying for funding through this fund:

- You must be a registered charity located or operating within Gwynedd.
- Your organisation cannot distribute profit.
- Your organisation must have a legal and constitutional status.
- Your organisation must have a clear management structure.
- Your organisation must have a clear financial management system.
- It must have operational principles which adhere to legislation on employment, health and safety, equality for workers and volunteers.

- Show an understanding and commitment to equality in respect of access, language, culture, gender and ethnic matters.
- Possess aims and objectives that accord with the activities financed through this grant.
- Show that other groups and individuals in the area support the activity/scheme.
- It must be shown that the principles of value for money have been followed in developing, implementing, and running the scheme, such as ensuring that you follow the Tender Application Guidelines (copies are available from the Cist Gwynedd Office) for the work/service, especially in respect of the capital projects.
- That principles of protecting vulnerable adults and children, in accordance with the legislation, are in operation.

If promoting religion is your group's main aim, please contact the Cist Gwynedd Senior Officer.

It will be a requirement that every project approved complies with the terms and conditions of the fund. In some circumstances special conditions could be imposed on a project.

5. How to apply for a grant?

You may apply for funding through the Welsh Church Fund by completing the appropriate application form. It is important that you follow the directions carefully and ensure that your project responds to the guidelines and criteria.

Gwynedd Council officers are available to provide you with guidance. **It is strongly advised that you contact an Officer to discuss the project before applying.** The details of these officers are below:

Bro Peris, Bro Llew/Nantlle, Bro Ffestiniog Area

markgahan@gwynedd.llyw.cymru Phone Number: 07901 893006

Caernarfon/Bangor a Bro Ogwen Area

dafyddionjones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru Phone Number: 01248 605276

Pwllheli a Penllŷn Area

alyslloydjones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru Phone Number: 01758 704120

Dysynni, Ardudwy a Dolgellau Area

annalewis@gwynedd.llyw.cymru Phone Number: 01341 424504

Porthmadog a Penrhyndeudraeth Area

lindseyellis@gwynedd.llyw.cymru Phone Number: 07919 024025

Bala Penllyn, Rhydymain a Dinas Mawddwy

HuwAnturEdwards@gwynedd.llyw.cymru Phone Number: 07929 512741

For more information or queries please call Cist Gwynedd Officer 01286 679870

Cistgwynedd@gwynedd.llyw.cymru.

6. When should an application be submitted?

Closing Date: 14th June 2024.

You should ensure that the application form has been completed **and all** the essential supporting and technical documents have been submitted by the closing date.

We aim to process and award applications within 6 weeks of the closing date.

We are happy to receive application for less than £1,000 at any time and we aim to process such applications within 4 working weeks, subject to available funding.