



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 in order 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 between £3,000 and £5,000 are welcomed.

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 particular 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 and Mantell Gwynedd 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 shown below:

Gwynedd Council

Uwch Swyddog Cist Gwynedd	01286 679 153
Ogwen Community Support Officer dafyddeinionjones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru	01248 605 276
Gwyrfai Community Support Officer rhianelingeorge@gwynedd.llyw.cymru	01286 882 968
Dwyfor Community Support Officer alyslloydjones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru	01758 704 120
Meirionnydd Community Support Officer annalewis@gwynedd.llyw.cymru	07500 818 300
Mantell_Gwynedd	01286 672626

6. When should an application be submitted?

The fund opens annually on 1 April. We are happy to receive applications for less than £1,000 at any time and we aim to process such applications within 4 working weeks.