



Beatrice Gilmore
Charitable Trust

GRANT-MAKING POLICY

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This purpose of this policy is to set out the principles, criteria and processes that govern how The Beatrice Gilmore Charitable Trust (Beatrice) makes grants.
- 1.2. We designate as a grant the financial award the Trust makes from its funds to support charitable activities to UK charities registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales, the Scottish Charity Regulator, or the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 Beatrice is a registered as a charity with the Charity Commission of England and Wales (number 1200074) set up for a range of - but not all - charitable purposes. It is governed by a board of trustees and administered by a secretariat who has delegated responsibility for day-to-day activities.
- 2.2 The trustees ensure proper governance of Beatrice's grant-making in three ways.
 - Through grant-making principles which ensure that decisions are ultimately made by Beatrice's trustees.
 - Through published grant-making criteria and priorities which set out the activities the trustees wish to support in furtherance of Beatrice's charitable objectives. These criteria also include activities which the trustees do not wish to support because they do not consider them to be in line with Beatrice's purpose which has been set to reflect the wishes of its benefactor. The trustees accept that they may on some rare occasions make grants outside published criteria but that in all such cases the activity supported will be charitable in law and within the perceived wishes of its benefactor.
 - Through grant-making processes which set out how decisions are reached for awarding grants.

3. Grant-making principles

- 3.1. The principles which underpin the trustees' governance of Beatrice's grant-making take into account the scale and range of its grants.
- 3.2 The principles are as follows:
 - The trustees have ultimate collective responsibility for all grant-making decisions in line with Beatrice's charitable purposes.
 - The Testatrix of Beatrice's endowment wished the trust to continue in perpetuity and as such the quantum of grants awarded in any year should approximate to the net income generated by Beatrice in that year.
 - Trustees reserve the right to apply conditions to any grant.
 - Trustees reserve the right to ask for the return of funds if the conditions of the grant cannot be met.

4. Grant-making criteria

4.1 Beatrice's published guidance on current priorities for applications from organisations is set out in Appendix 1 of this policy.

4.2 As a registered charity, Beatrice can only make grants to support activity which is charitable in law. Organisations have to be UK registered charities to apply. Beatrice does not provide direct support to non-UK based organisations, but they do seek to fund UK charities that have a dynamic, supportive relationship with non-UK charitable projects and actively monitor the impact of those projects on the intended beneficiaries.

4.3 The trustees, in recognition of their understanding of the Testatrix, may support faith inspired projects working to improve the lives and communities of the most marginalised in society, and we also look to support secular orientated projects. The trustees insist that funded organisations never attempt to proselytise beneficiaries.

4.4 Trustees expect that grants should support one or more of the following outcomes:

- Projects that seek to make a community self-reliant and that address the causes of poverty and disempowerment from within that community utilising locally based resources and participatory practices.
- Services and activities that work in empathy with the culture of the intended beneficiaries, provide them transformative opportunities and involves beneficiaries in the design and delivery of the project.
- Provision and expansion of innovative offerings to beneficiaries, with an emphasis on quality and effectiveness.
- Building stronger communities – organisational development that strengthens civil society for the intended beneficiaries.

4.5 External applications for support must be made using Beatrice's online application process.

4.6 The trustees will only consider making grants to those organisations with Objects that enable the following:

- The prevention or the relief of poverty.
- The provision of services to improve opportunities for those who are most disadvantaged.
- To enable those who are vulnerable because of their youth, old age, ill health, disability or financial hardship to take greater control over their lives.
- The support of the communities of those who are most disadvantaged.

4.7 Grant requests which the trustees will not normally support are:

- Contributions to general appeals or circulars.
- Religious institutions except to the extent that they work directly with the most disadvantaged and the grant is wholly used for suitable direct projects with the disadvantaged.
- Public bodies.
- Activities which solely support animal welfare; the arts; environment; medical research, hospitals or hospices; educational institutions; heritage; culture; sport.
- Capital or building projects, although the trustees will support the capital requirements of beneficiaries within income generating projects.
- Activities which have already taken place.
- Privately owned and profit-distributing companies or limited partnerships.
- Applications from individuals.

4.8 To ensure Beatrice's resources are used solely to further its charitable objectives and so that it can report on the impact of grants, trustees normally expect that all grants will have measurable objectives agreed at the beginning of the funding period as part of the grant offer.

4.9 The trustees will report on the impact of the grants it makes on its website and reserves the right to promote those processes and initiatives that it judges have made a significant impact on the beneficiaries. Grantees are requested to acknowledge any grant in the narrative of the project on their website and, where material, in their Annual Report.

4.10 The trustees aim to award one off grants of between £5,000 and £15,000 and are willing to consider multi-year grants of up to £45,000 (with a maximum of £15,000 in any one year) for programmes that may require a period of time to make a measurable impact. There is no lower or upper limit, but applicants should be mindful of Beatrice's average grant size. The trustees recognise that overheads and management costs are an essential part of project costs but these should not exceed more than 20% of the award in total and be justified.

4.11 The trustees prefer that Beatrice's funding makes a material difference to a project and therefore makes up a minimum of 40% of the total project costs. However, there is an expectation that the applicant is willing to contribute at least 20% of funding from their own or other sources. The trustees will not generally consider applications which exceed more than 10% of the prior year's total incoming resources for the applicant charity.

4.12 The trustees are looking for creative approaches to solving problems which could be replicated and are happy to fund pilot projects.

4.13 The trustees encourage the use of participatory practices in delivering their projects.

5. Grant-making processes

5.1 Trustees aim for Beatrice's grant-making processes to be transparent and to provide relevant feedback to applicants. To this end, all eligible grant requests go through a three-stage process as follows:

- Initial review to determine whether the request meets the trustees' basic criteria and if they should be considered for further consideration. Requests not shortlisted are rejected.
- Summary review of those applications passing the initial scrutiny for the purpose of drawing up a shortlist for detailed examination. The summary review will examine the merits of each application and the applicant's ability to deliver the project. If appropriate, further information will be sought. A shortlist of between six and eight charities will be drawn up. Requests not shortlisted are rejected.
- For each shortlisted applicant two trustees will undertake due diligence work following an agreed template. This is intended to provide those trustees with a deeper understanding of the applicant charity and the local partner as well as the circumstances of the proposed beneficiaries and the way in which the project will help them. This will include an assessment of the application of participatory practice.
- At convened meetings of the trustees, each shortlisted applicant will be discussed with one of the trustees who undertook the due diligence on the application, presenting it to the meeting. Once all presentations have been made, a final decision will be made by the whole board on whether to award a grant.

5.2 Applicants will receive an automated acknowledgement on receipt of their application. Those not shortlisted will be notified. The shortlist will be finalised around a month before the trustee meeting. Shortlisted applications will be considered by trustees at twice-yearly meetings normally held in April and November and will be informed within four weeks of the meeting.

5.3 Organisations who are awarded grants will be required to agree to the Trust's terms and conditions for grant holders before the grant is paid. These will outline reporting requirements.

5.4 In addition to responding to grant requests, the trustees may at their discretion invite or commission proposals or provide funding in collaboration with others where doing so would meet the Trust's strategy and priorities for its funds.

6. Variations to this policy

6.1 The trustees may vary the terms of this policy from time to time.

Version 4.0 approved by the trustees April 2026.

APPENDIX 1: GRANT-MAKING PRIORITIES

The trustees have agreed the current priorities and criteria for grant awards for five years to be reviewed in 2027.

- Projects that utilise participatory processes embedded in the local community to address and resolve issues that the most marginalised in that community are faced with.
- Projects that seek to bring about lasting change to those who have been most disadvantaged within a community through reason of structural prejudice
- Projects that understand the systems and protocols that impact on the beneficiaries and work to bring about change that negates the marginalising influences these systems bring to the beneficiaries
- Projects that work within the community. The project should be part of a programme of work delivered at all levels within that community. The project should operate to change perceptions and practice in a way that favours the beneficiaries
- Projects that give a voice (listened to and respected within the community) that provides advocacy for the beneficiaries
- Projects that respect the religion and culture of the beneficiaries and have a policy not to proselytise.
- Projects in Africa or the Indian subcontinent
- Projects funded by UK charities whose income falls between £50k and £1m per year
- Small projects run by charities falling outside but compatible to the above parameters that provide innovative approaches targeting extremely disadvantaged beneficiaries.

All applications must be made using the Trust's on-line application process. This is available on our website at www.beatricegilmoretrust.org.uk A Word document can be made available if you cannot use the on-line application. Please email admin@beatricegilmoretrust.org.uk