



Parry Family Charitable Foundation®

Policy & Strategy ©
20 Oct 2015

Reviewed & Updated 27 January 2024

Date of constitution: 24 October 2014

Charity registered in England and Wales No. 1159701

1. Objective

To advance for the public benefit such charitable purposes according to the law of England and Wales as the trustees see fit from time to time.

2. Overview

We are a small independent grant making foundation supporting charities and not for profit organisations that make a meaningful difference to people's lives.

We established our Foundation in 2014 because we had become concerned about the high operating costs of some charities and wanted to maximise the benefits from grants in targeting real need. Therefore we want to support vital projects that are well-managed by energetic and highly efficient charities.

Most applications will be by invitation following work by trustees to identify suitable charitable partners and projects.

It is our aim to build over time strong and enduring relationships with like-minded charities who share a common approach to maximising value focused on the target need. To this end we have created Partnership Charities which is a group of invited charities with whom we have established a strong relationship.

A small number of grants will be made each year.

We want to make the most of donations we receive by keeping our own costs low. The Foundation currently has no staff with the trustees undertaking all the administrative work without reward and compensated only for expenses.

We expect any charity we support to demonstrate high levels of efficiency and excellent value for money with the maximum amount of any grant made being spent on front line activities.

3. Strategy

The trustees have agreed the following strategy:

We look to support energetic and highly efficient charities to deliver meaningful projects that have a tangible impact on improving people's lives

Partner Charities have been established under which the Foundation partners with like-minded charities to jointly deliver agreed programmes. This has improved long term planning and closer collaboration. The number of charities is small and will remain modest but as we grow and suitable candidates emerge we will invite new charities to participate. Partner Charities are the bedrock of our long term activities and will capture the major share of the grant budgets long term.

Our current strategy is to prioritise three key areas:

- Helping People in Need
- Tackling Poverty
- Saving Lives & Improving Health

Grants must deliver maximum front line benefits

We will normally offer grants to fund discrete projects.

Successful charities that we will support will be well run with great leadership, clear objectives and proven track records. They must be able to demonstrate they can deliver value for money.

We will support small and medium sized charities to gain maximum impact. Our approach to grant making is more fully set out under section 4. Grants below.

Our Grant Programme will be funded primarily from donations and income generated from its endowment fund

We aim to build from donations an Expendable Endowment Fund to generate an income to meet the Foundation's future grant programme. An Expendable Endowment Fund gives the trustees wider powers on how it can be used but the primary focus is to maintain a sustainable and meaningful Grant Budget.

Until the Expendable Endowment Fund was of a size to generate sufficient income to fund the annual Grant Budget a proportion of the donations received would have to be used to meet the shortfall.

The annual grant budget target is 4% of the expendable endowment fund but with a minimum set by the trustees. It is inevitable that there will

be years of both under and over spend and therefore the annual grant budget allows for these variations. We set our grant budget taking a rolling 5 year view. The grant budget is agreed by the trustees annually and the target reviewed periodically. In the early years a minimum annual budget of £20,000 was set to establish a good start. This has subsequently been increased and current levels can be found on the Foundation's web site. The medium term target set in 2022 was to maintain an annual grant budget of £40,000

It is not our intention, in the near future, to embrace fund raising activities but to rely upon donations from supporters and income from the Expendable Endowment Fund.

We will only work directly with charities and not engage with intermediaries

Our Strategy, Policies and activities of the Foundation will be reviewed regularly.

4. Grants

Our focus

- To fund discrete projects offering great value for money that will have a lasting impact.
- To make single payments meeting one-off project expenditure but where appropriate the grant may be spread over the life of the project. Multi-year proposals may be considered in exceptional cases.

Grant Structure

An annual Grant budget will be authorised by the trustees. This budget will comprise:

- Partner Charity Grant Fund
- Main Grant Fund
- Small Grant Fund - individual grants limited to level decided by the trustees
- A more detailed exposition can be found on our website

To focus grant resources our current priorities are:

- Helping People in Need - relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

- Tackling Poverty - prevention or relief of poverty
- Saving Lives & Improving Health - advancement of health and/or the saving of lives

We do not see this focus changing although our constitution gives the trustees a wider remit.

Organisations we help

- Quality charities that are well run with great leadership, clear objectives and proven track records.
- Grants will be made predominantly to registered and exempt charities but there may be cases when an acceptable proposal is from an a not for profit organisation. In all cases the organisations must demonstrate "for the public benefit" criteria set out by the Charity Commission.
- Grants will be awarded mainly to organisations operating in the UK.
- For maximum impact grants are likely to be awarded to small and medium sized charities with focused aims and a proven track record.
- We are unlikely to support charities with a national or international footprint.
- We will only deal directly with organisations and not through intermediaries or third parties.

What we do not support

We do not support general appeals, mail shots or letters/emails requesting donations.

We do not fund applications that are to

- support individuals directly
- meet charity overheads
- establish or add to a charity's endowment fund
- charities with high levels of uncommitted cash and/or investments
- support animal charities
- support charities concerned with the efficiency of the armed forces of the Crown, or the efficiency of the police, fire and rescue services or ambulance services
- religious charities to further or foster religious belief
- support charities focused on citizenship or community development
- fund projects that would normally have been covered by statutory bodies

- support human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity focused charities
- retrospectively fund completed projects

What we rarely support

- general funding and only then through the Small Grant Fund
- arts, culture, heritage or science charities
- amateur sport charities
- support environmental protection or improvement charities – although specific projects with traceable deliverables and financials would be welcomed.

5. Investment & Expendable Endowment Fund Policy

Funded essentially from donations from supporters. These donations will primarily be unrestricted. Any restricted funds will be held at bank or placed on deposit until needed.

The trustees will use the unrestricted donations to make grants but also to build an Expendable Endowment Fund as defined by FRS 102 SORP 2.17 with the aim of providing a long term grant budget facility.

The trustees have decided that investment will normally be made in “pooled vehicles” such as unit trusts, OEICs, investment trusts, ETFs and similar constructions

Funds can be placed on deposit.

All deposits and investments will be made with organisations regulated in the UK.

Our investment policy aims to achieve the best financial return allowing for capital growth as well as income commensurate with agreed risk levels.

Trustees have adopted the power to accumulate and will exercise this power as they deem fit taking account of the annual grant budget and level of donations. Often such action will be to smooth the funding of the Grant Budgets.

The Foundation can draw on capital from the Expendable Endowment Fund in addition to dividends/interest in order to fund the annual grant budget.

The long-term target return is determined and reviewed by the trustees and is set out in the *Investment & Endowment Fund Policy & Management Policy* will be reviewed by trustees annually

A full review of the endowment fund will be included in the Foundation's Annual Report and Accounts

Detailed policy and management information can be found on our website.

6. Grant Process Overview

There is a two stage process.

Trustees will invite organisations to make an initial outline application.

A trustee will work with the organisation to evaluate the outline application using an appraisal check list.

If an initial appraisal shows the application has merit, a trustee will be allocated, known as a Trustee Champion, to work with the charity to take it to the second stage of a full detailed application.

The Trustee Champion will guide the applicant to make the best case and, if warranted, make a recommendation to the board of trustees for approval.

The full Grant Process is set out in a separate document *Grant Process* which can be found on our web site.

This openness about our grant making activities is to encourage supporters to make donations and demonstrate to them the impact the Foundation has on good causes and evidence value for money. It will also help other charities thinking of applying for a grant to understand what we are about.