

# South West Nottinghamshire District Scouts

## District Funding Application - Guidance Notes

### Purpose

The District believes that no-one should be denied the opportunity to participate fully in Scouting due to family/personal financial circumstances.

We have a Hardship Fund which is intended to support young members or leaders who would otherwise be unable to participate due to financial limitations. Groups can also apply for Development Grants - perhaps to help with the cost essential equipment, although we would normally expect Groups to have budgeted for this from their own funds.

The concept is that groups will endeavour to access all other funding opportunities open to them before seeking help from the District.

### Items Covered

The fund is intended to:

- Assist with the cost of buying uniform to prevent the discrimination between those that can and those that cannot afford a uniform. Groups should consider setting up a "uniform bank" of second hand uniforms.
- Support to enable individuals to attend camps or other recognised Scout events or trainings within the UK. A separate District fund exists to support international outings.
- Help with other Scouting endeavours where individuals may be prevented from taking part due to financial circumstances.
- Help with the cost of essential equipment. (This may take the form of an interest-free loan)

### Application

Application should be made by an individual's leader/manager using the attached application form (also available on the District Web Site (Members Section)). The completed form should be forwarded via the GSL/DESC to the DC/DDC who would then review and, where appropriate, seek the other necessary authorisations. The handling of all applications would be on a confidential basis so as not to cause embarrassment to the young person/leader concerned.

### Award

In the case of a Hardship Grant, the District would expect a proportion of the total cost to be raised through contributions from the parent/carer and support from the Group/Unit. The Group/Unit would also be expected to apply for a HQ Hardship Fund Grant.

For an equipment grant, the Group would need to be able to justify the expenditure. Any assistance from the District for Group equipment may take the form of a grant and/or an interest-free loan.

Example:

Event/activity/item cost	£100
Contribution from Parent or carer	£25 (not applicable for Group equipment applications)
Contribution from Group	£25
Balance to find	£50 of which
	£25 from HQ grant or other external funding source
	£25 from District

If an HQ grant was refused the District would consider paying the whole balance.