



# THE KENNET & AVON CANAL TRUST

Devizes Wharf, Couch Lane, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 1EB

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## Grants Policy

In line with their duties under company and charity law, and in accordance with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, the Trustees have adopted the following policy on Grants.

## Introduction

1. As set out in its Articles of Association, The Kennet and Avon Canal Trust ('the Trust') seeks to:
  - a) promote, facilitate, and assist in the conservation, protection and improvement of the Kennet and Avon Canal and its associated watercourses, towpaths, structures and buildings;
  - b) advance the education of the public in general of the significance of the Kennet & Avon Canal and its associated structures;
  - c) protect and conserve, objects, sites and buildings of archaeological, architectural, engineering or historic interest on, in the vicinity of, or otherwise associated with the Kennet & Avon Canal; and
  - d) promote and facilitate recreational use of the Kennet and Avon Canal by a wide section of the community in order to improve conditions of life for the public.
2. The Trust has the power to make grants to other bodies where this is consistent with its objects and is for the public benefit.

## Policy

3. The Trust may consider making a grant to another body (the 'receiving body') where it has funds available, and considers that this is a better way of delivering the Trust's objects than incurring expenditure directly.
4. Outside bodies may apply for a grant at any time. The application must specify the use to be made of the grant. Any grant must be approved by the Trust Council.
5. Before making a grant, the Trust Council will consider a range of factors including:
  - consistency with objects: applications should directly address the Trust's objects, and provide continuing benefits; grants will therefore generally be for specific capital items;



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- **additionality:** if the receiving body would deliver the same conservation, education or recreational benefits even without a grant, then a grant is less likely to be appropriate;
- **public benefit:** successful proposals will generally widen the audience engaging with the canal, or support conservation of objects which are available to view by the public;
- **due diligence:** the Trust must be satisfied that the grant will be used for the purpose specified in the application and that the receiving body is able to continue to deliver public benefits; in general, therefore, grants will only be paid after the receiving body has incurred the relevant expenditure;
- **availability of resources:** before making a grant, the Trust will need to be satisfied that the grant will not displace other Trust activities of higher priority.

## Review

6. The Trustees will review this policy on an annual basis.

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Date approved by the Trust Council: August 2025

Review Date: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2027