

SAW - Raising Funds and finding resources.

Possible Sources of Funding

Group Fundraising Guide

Before you ask for money from funders it is always a good idea to be able to prove that you have a track record of raising funds for yourselves. To this end download the guidance paper on Group Fundraising.



A good place to start your hunt for funding is your local library which will have books like '**The Directory of Grant-making Trusts**'. At the end of the day, the most important thing is to make sure to read the guidelines carefully and only give the funder the information they really want.

The Scottish Government

There is a listing on the Scottish Government of funding streams available to community organisations at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/regeneration/communityfunds>

Scottish Book Trust Live Literature Events.

This will part fund author talks and workshops. If successful, the writers group require to pay £75 + VAT towards each event. SBT will fund the rest of the costs (fees, travel expenses, subsistence) The SBT maintain a list of participating authors, it's extensive but not all inclusive. There's a simple application form to be completed and submitted online. A decision is given approximately one month later and will fund events for a period commencing approximately a month after the decision. Timings are detailed on SBT website. Advice from successful groups suggests that having a particular development plan for your writing group for the period of the claim will help towards success of your application.

www.scottishbooktrust/learning/liveliterature/

Local Authority grants.

Most Council Bodies have fund systems which writers' group might apply to.

For example, Highland Council, has discretionary funding in ward funds to which voluntary organisations can apply for a grant or benefits in kind. It's likely that most other local authorities will have something similar. The forms for application are likely to vary in their length and complexity as are the local authority rules. If local authority premises

SAW - Raising Funds and finding resources.

are used for rent then seeking a waiver or reduction of the rent is one reason for applying to the Council. Of course a grant to cover the cost of rent of other premises could be the subject of an application. Highland Council's scheme is open to an application for anything a group might want to do - a book festival, speakers, an anthology etc. To make an application appealing to the Councillors, a group might consider what benefit they can bring to the local community and connect that with the request for funding. eg. Organising writing competitions and creative writing for school children in partnership with schools and libraries. The fund will have a financial year and an application nearer the beginning of that year may have a greater chance of success as funds may be exhausted before the fiscal year end.

Awards for All (Lottery Funding)

Applications from Writers Groups will be considered by the people at the Big Lottery Fund. 'Awards for All' funding will cover a diverse range of projects. Their website is detailed and helpful.

If your group's location is high on the scale of urban deprivation as measured by the Scottish Government then you will have a greater chance of succeeding in an application to the National Lottery. Don't miss mentioning it in your application if you decide to apply.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Note - Funding for the same period will not be available from both SBT and Awards for All.

Foundation Scotland

Foundation Scotland offers a number of funding awards, made up of money from the many different funds we distribute on behalf of companies, individuals, charitable trusts and community benefit funds. Their website can be found at **<http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk>**

Business or Strategic Plan

Preparing a business or strategic plan for your group detailing the future development of the organisation may help in applications to local authorities and grant making bodies.

Create Partnerships

Look at creating dynamic partnership working with a local Arts centre, a local theatre or other community facility and have at least one exciting profile, and hopefully, fund raising, event that occurs each year.

Thanks to **Jean McLennan** who helped compile this advice.