

## **Exeter Dispensary Charity (EDC)- Grant Making Policy - March 2024**

### 1. The Objects of EDC

Under the terms of the Constitution dated 18 May 2020, the objects of the Charity are:

- The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, of people of all ages living in the City of Exeter suffering from illness and/or living with a disability, by making grants of money for providing or paying for items, services or facilities not provided for by the State.

### 2. Priorities for support- Individual Grants

The number of applications which can be supported by the Charity is, of necessity, limited to the amount of funds available for distribution in any year.

### 3. Principles

In awarding grants, the Trustees will apply the following principles:

3.1 Applications can only be made for people living in the City of Exeter.

3.2 Applications will typically be considered only from applicants that are permanently resident in the UK.

3.3 Applications must be made by a Support Worker or advocate on behalf of an individual who is in need by reason of financial hardship, sickness or disability.

3.4 Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will typically not be considered for second and subsequent applications within 12 months of their most recent grant application decision.

3.5 The Charity will not, save in exceptional circumstances, make individual awards for sums in excess of £350.

3.6 Grants are most frequently made for fridges, freezers, cookers, carpets, medical aids and equipment, Fees for Debt Relief Orders, help with utility and telephone bills and emergency relief payments for example when the beneficiary is awaiting Benefit Payments when moving house.

### 4. Exclusions

The Trustees will not normally approve the use of the Charity's funds for medical research, educational purposes, computer equipment and therapy sessions.

## 5. Grant application process

All applications for grants should be completed in conjunction with this policy. They must be made by using the on-line application form on the Charity's website which includes a number of specific questions about the beneficiary which have to be answered in full. ([www.exeterdispensary.org.uk](http://www.exeterdispensary.org.uk)).

## 6. Assessment process

6.1 All grant applications will be considered and processed at the discretion of the Applications Secretary or in their absence by either the Chair or Vice Chair of the Charity. The Charity aims to consider and give a decision on applications within a few days and usually within a maximum of 14 days.

6.2 Applicants should note that, as with many other charitable trusts, Exeter Dispensary Charity may receive far more applications than it has funds to support. Even if an application fits within the criteria and priorities of the Charity and a detailed assessment has been made, the Charity may still be unable to provide a grant.

6.3 The Trustees will not be obliged to provide an explanation to the applicants should their application be unsuccessful.

## 7. Monitoring and Publication

7.1 It is the policy of the Trustees to monitor all grants made and the Applications Secretary keeps records of all applications made, whether they have been successful or not and if not, the reason for refusal. To this end, before a grant can be confirmed, conditions may be stipulated appropriate to the application and progress may be assessed against agreed targets and/or milestones.

## 8. Grants to Registered Charities

1. The Trustees discuss all such applications at their March and November meetings.
2. Trustees usually allocate such grants at their March meeting each year and review the position at their November meeting.
3. In particular the first priority will be to allocate available funds towards Individual Grants.
4. EDC's Website confirms that historically the Charity has allocated any left over funds towards grants to Exeter based Charities.
5. As a rule, Trustees will pay such grants in the range of £500 to £1500.
6. Successful Charity applicants are required to report back to EDC when they have spent the grant.
7. Criteria for making grants:

- Applicant must be a Registered Charity
- Must be Exeter based.
- Grant must be for the benefit of Exeter based people.
- The grant must be to support people who are in need by reason of financial hardship, sickness, disability or other disadvantage or distress.

Signed.....

Angus McNicol

Chair

Dated 19 March 2024

To be reviewed in March 2025