



## **Background**

Mid Cornwall District Scouts aims to provide Scouting to as many people across Mid Cornwall as is possible, regardless of ability, background or any other factor that makes us different from one another.

To this end, the District has created a fund that provides support to young people (or adults) facing financial hardship, participating in international expeditions or other scouting activities. The aim is to give every young person who wants the opportunity to be a Squirrel, Beaver, Cub, Scout, Explorer Scout or volunteer the chance to do so, whatever their circumstances may be.

This policy covers three funding options-

- 1) Financial Hardship support
- 2) Expedition funding support
- 3) Start up grants for new groups

### **1) Financial Hardship support**

It is the view of Mid Cornwall District Scouts that Groups should be the first port of call for help for those families experiencing financial hardship. However, it is recognised that some Groups may, at times already have strains on their resources and thus, the District Support Fund is available.

#### **Applications will be considered for:**

- Support for youth & adult members in financial hardship to purchase uniform to become a member of the Scout Association.
- The cost of a youth member to attend an activity that they may not otherwise be able to take part in.
- Young person membership subscriptions (up to a maximum of 3 school terms).

#### **Application process**

- Section leaders should apply on the young person or volunteers behalf. They can apply by completing the online application form available on the Mid Cornwall District website (<https://www.midcornwallscouts.org.uk/supportfund>)
- District Treasurer to circulate application to Finance Advisory Sub Team to review and ensure it meets the criteria. All applications are confidential, and youth member / volunteers names will not be disclosed
- The outcome of whether the Finance Advisory Sub Team can confirm criteria is met will be communicated via email within one week of the meeting detailing the decision made and where declined, the reasons for doing so

- If you are not sure about anything, please ask the District Treasurer for advice.

## **2) Expedition funding support**

It is the view of Mid Cornwall District Scouts that Groups should be the first port of call for help for those families experiencing financial hardship. However, it is recognised that some Groups may, at times already have strains on their resources and thus, the District Support Fund is available.

Applications will be considered from individuals once every 5 years for any of the following:

- Contributions to support young people take part in selected Scouting expeditions where alternative funding is not available.
- Participation at any other event or activity that provides Scouting where young people or adult members may benefit, as agreed by the District Trustee Board.

### **Application process**

- Application must be submitted at least 60 days before the funds are required.
- You can apply by completing the online application form available on the Mid Cornwall District website (<https://www.midcornwallscouts.org.uk/supportfund>)
- District Treasurer to circulate application to Finance Advisory Sub Team to review and ensure it meets the criteria. All applications are confidential, and names will not be disclosed
- If approved the application will be passed to the District Trustee Board to consider approval.
- Please don't assume the answer will automatically be "Yes" – funds are limited and applications may often be in competition with others.
- Values available will be decided by the District Trustee Board.
- The outcome of the decision will be communicated via email within one week of the board meeting detailing the decision made and where declined, the reasons for doing so.
- If you are not sure about anything, please ask the District Treasurer for advice.

## **3) Startup grants for new sections.**

### **Applications will be considered for:**

- New sections opening within Cornwall
- Funding support up to £500 per section i.e. if the group opens Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts then the group would be eligible for £2,000

### **Applications will not be considered:**

- If Headquarters are providing sufficient start up grants.
- For capital expenditure and investment on property.

- For repair or upkeep expenditure on property or equipment.
- For grants for a whole Section or Group to undertake an activity.
- For the repayment of loans, deficits, under-payments on events or any kind or retrospective funding of this nature.

#### **Application process**

- Application must be submitted at least 60 days before the funds are required.
- You can apply by completing the application form available on the Mid Cornwall District website (<https://www.midcornwallscouts.org.uk/supportfund>)
- District Treasurer to circulate application to Finance Advisory Sub Team to review and ensure it meets the criteria.
- The outcome of whether the Finance Advisory Sub Team can confirm criteria is met will be communicated via email within one week of the meeting detailing the decision made and where declined, the reasons for doing so.
- If you are not sure about anything, please ask the District Treasurer for advice

#### **How the Mid Cornwall District Scouts Support Fund will be financed**

- Any annual profits from the District Scout Shop will be transferred into the support fund.
- Annual contribution from district funds of 50p per young person from capitation.
- 10% of any sale of assets
- The amount of funding put into the Support Fund will be reviewed annually by the Finance Advisory Sub Team with a proposal submitted for approval by the District Trust Board.

The District Treasurer will report to the District Trustee Board on the recommendations and the number of young people, volunteers and sections supported through the support fund. The District Treasurer will report in the annual accounts a summary of the utilisation of the Support Fund providing the number of people helped and by how much without revealing any details of the individuals concerned.

#### **Links to forms**

[Financial Hardship](#)

[Expedition Funding](#)

[New Sections](#)