

1.0 Purpose

This policy sets out Grassroots Trust Limited’s (Grassroots Trust) grant decision-making criteria.

As a Corporate Society that operates to distribute net proceeds to the community, Grassroots Trust must, at least annually, review the criteria, methods, systems, and policies it uses for consideration of applications for the distribution of net proceeds (section 109, Gambling Act, 2003). The results of the review must be advertised via Grassroots Trust’s website.

2.0 Revision History

Date	Revision No.	
March 2012	1.0	New Document – Grants Policy
March 2014 – 2019	1.1	Annually Reviewed
October 2019	1.7	Additional clauses 4.4.4, 4.11.13 & 4.12.2
March – June 2020	1.8-1.9	Annual Review
April 2022	2.0	Annual Review
August 2023	2.1	Annual Review
August 2024	2.2	Additional clause 4.3.3

3.0 People/Areas Affected

- The Board of Directors
- Net Proceeds Committee
- All employees/contractors working for or on behalf of Grassroots Trust
- Grant Applicants/Recipients
- Department of Internal Affairs

4.0 Policy

4.1 Compliance

Grassroots Trust will comply with all aspects of the Gambling Act 2003.

4.2 Authorised Purpose

4.2.1 Grants will only be made in accordance with Grassroots Trust’s authorised purpose. The authorised purpose of Grassroots Trust is set out in the Authorised Purpose Policy.

4.3 Decision by Net Proceeds Committee

4.3.1 The Grassroots Trust Board of Directors will appoint at each Annual General Meeting the Net Proceeds Committee responsible for distributing net proceeds for authorised purposes as defined in the Authorised Purpose Policy.

- 4.3.2 The Grassroots Trust Board of Directors and Net Proceeds Committee meet at least monthly to consider compliant grant applications.
- 4.3.3 The term of the Net Proceeds Committee runs from the date of appointment to the following Annual General Meeting.
- 4.3.4 Complete funding applications received by the last day of the month will be tabled at the grants meeting held during the following month, unless exceptional circumstances exist. Any applications received after that date will be carried forward to the next meeting. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the grant application, by email by the end of the month in which it was tabled at a Board meeting. All funding results will be published on Grassroots Trust's website.
- 4.3.5 All final funding decisions are made by a quorum of at least three members of Grassroots Trust's Board of Directors.
- 4.3.6 Grant applications found to be non-compliant will not be approved. In this context, "non-compliant" means, grant applications that:
 - a. do not contain all the relevant information;
 - b. are retrospective;
 - c. do not comply with Grassroots Trust's authorised purpose; or
 - d. where the Applicant has received full funding from other source(s).
- 4.3.7 Non-compliance is determined by Grassroots Trust's contractors, based on the information supplied and independent checks undertaken.
- 4.3.8 An application for funding is considered "retrospective" if the Applicant has made payment on the goods and services that are subject to the grant application, prior to approval of the grant application by Grassroots Trust's Board of Directors. Dates applied for events and services that occur prior to the application being considered may also be deemed retrospective.

4.4 Grant Applications

- 4.4.1 Grants will not be approved unless the application is completed in full through Grassroots Trust's online application form and includes (but is not limited to):
 - a. The Applicant's name and contact details.
 - b. The type of Organisation i.e. school, charity, incorporated trust, incorporated society or affiliated sports or community group.
 - c. The Applicant's incorporated societies or registered charity number.
 - d. An affiliation letter dated within the last 12 months (affiliated sports or community groups only).
 - e. The specific purpose for the grant application.
 - f. The total amount of money sought.
 - g. For project/activity costs, at least two quotes as evidence of the total amount sought. This includes a preferred supplier quote and a competitive supplier quote or a market appraisal/valuation confirming that the total amount sought is reasonable. If an Event Management Company is being used, actual quotes from the supplier/s may also be requested.
 - h. For operational costs, the previous three months' worth of operational invoices (seasonal sports groups can provide invoices for the same timeframe the previous year).
 - i. For salary/wage contributions, a signed copy of the employees' contract and job description.

- j. Confirmation as to whether the Applicant has applied for the same specific purpose from another source.
- k. A Chair or Secretary signed resolution approving the application which includes the name of the Trust (Grassroots Trust), the purpose and the amount being applied for. The resolution must also include the date of the meeting where the application was discussed, a list of those committee/executive members who were present and those that were noted as apologies, and if a key person conflict is noted, that this key person abstained from all discussion regarding this application.
- l. Whether the Applicant is registered for GST and, if so, their GST number.
- m. The Applicant's bank account details including bank generated account details verified by the bank or a pre-printed deposit slip.
- n. A declaration by two authorised signatories confirming that:
 - The information provided in the application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge.
 - They have the authority to make the application on behalf of the Applicant.
 - The application has not been completed by a person who has any management or ownership interest in a Grassroots Trust Limited venue that hosts gaming machines ("a gaming machine venue key person").
 - When any grant money is obtained, the persons who decides how that money is spent will not be a Grassroots Trust Limited gaming machine venue key person.
 - If for any reason funds granted are required to be refunded to Grassroots Trust, that the Applicant will be liable for any debt collection costs incurred.
 - They have read, understand, and agree to adhere to the Conditions for Allocation of Funds, Audit and Inspection Requirements, Privacy Act Declaration and the Consent to Audit.
 - That they agree to allow Grassroots Trust to use their Organisations' name, logo, and images associated with the activity or project the grant would be supporting.
- o. Current photo identification of both authorised signatories in the form of a New Zealand drivers licence (both sides) or a New Zealand passport.

4.4.2 All applications will be assessed using Grassroots Trust's internal grant compliance process.

4.4.3 Grassroots Trust or employees/contractors working on behalf of the Trust may at any time request further documentation to ensure an application is compliant.

4.4.4 Grassroots Trust or employees/contractors working on behalf of the Trust may at any stage during the application process, randomly select applications to verify supplier quotes. If it is found that supplier quotes have been unlawfully obtained or edited, the following process will be followed:

- a. All incidents will be considered on a case by case basis.
- b. Minor incidents are likely to result in both the applying person and/or Organisation being declined for future funding.
- c. If the incident is of a serious nature, the incident will be referred to the Police and Department of Internal Affairs.

4.4.5 The grant application form is accessible via Grassroots Trust's website – www.grassrootstrust.co.nz

4.5 Record Keeping

4.5.1 The following records will be kept in a database format and published on Grassroots Trust's website:

- The Organisation's Name
- The amount of the grant
- Whether the grant has been accepted in full, declined in full, accepted in part or declined in part
- Any "interest" that a Grassroots Trust's net proceeds committee member has in relation to any successful grant application

4.5.2 The following additional records will be kept in various formats, but will not be published:

- The date the grant application was received
- The date the grant was made (the date of the meeting/decision)
- The name and contact details of the person completing the grant application
- The contact details of the grant Applicant
- The specific purpose of the grant
- The direct bank payment transaction details
- Grant request ID number
- The signatures of the persons approving the grant

4.5.3 The grant application and all supporting information will be retained by Grassroots Trust if the application is successful. Where the application is declined, the application will be archived.

4.6 Conflicts of Interest

4.6.1 The Net Proceeds Committee and Board of Directors must be fair and impartial and act in accordance with the principles of natural justice and with integrity at all times.

4.6.2 The best way to deal with conflicts of interest is to avoid them. If this appears problematic, disclosure or third-party evaluation is essential. Where informed waiver is not possible or desirable, stepping aside from the decision-making process is required.

4.6.3 When a Director, Net Proceeds Committee Member or senior staff member/contractor has an interest in any proposal considered by Grassroots Trust, that conflict of interest must be raised by the Director, Net Proceeds Committee Member or senior staff member/contractor and recorded in the Trust's minutes. The Director, Net Proceeds Committee Member or senior staff member/contractor will be excluded from all discussions of the net proceeds committee in relation to the proposal and will not be entitled to vote on the proposal.

4.6.4 A Director or Net Proceeds Committee member has an interest in a recipient of a grant if:

- the member may derive a financial benefit from the grant or may have a financial interest in the recipient; or
- the member is a part of the immediate family of the recipient; or
- where the recipient is an Organisation, club, society, or association, the member is:
 - an officer or a member of the recipient; or
 - a part of the immediate family of an officer or a member of the recipient; or
 - the member is, or has a professional relationship with the recipient; or
 - the member is, or has been:
 - a) employed by the recipient; or
 - b) indebted to the recipient; or
 - c) involved in business or financial dealings with the recipient; or

the member is otherwise connected to or involved with the recipient in a way that can reasonably be perceived as having influenced the decision to make the grant to the recipient. Part of the *immediate family* means a person who is the member's:

- spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner; or
- parent, child, sister, or brother; or
- who is the parent, child, sister, or brother of the member's spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner.

4.7 Payments

4.7.1 Generally, grants will be paid directly to the Grant Recipient by direct credit within one month of the application being approved. In instances where the funds have been provided for activities/projects that will not occur within the ensuing six months, these funds may be held until written confirmation is received to show that the project/activity is nearly underway. If these funds are not requested within the financial year that they were approved, the grant may be withdrawn.

4.8 GST

4.8.1 When a Grant Recipient is GST registered, a grant will only be made for the GST exclusive component.

4.8.2 When a Grant Recipient is not GST registered, a grant may be made for the full GST inclusive cost of the good or service.

4.9 Reasons

4.9.1 Grant Applicant's will be provided with reasons for Grassroots Trust's decision if Grassroots Trust decides to decline the application in full or only approve part of the application.

4.10 Complaints

4.10.1 Complaints can be made to Grassroots Trust's Executive Chairman in writing to PO Box 9019, Hamilton or by email info@grassrootstrust.co.nz

4.10.2 Grassroots Trust will acknowledge receipt of all complaints, advising complainants of their rights to complain to the Department of Internal Affairs if they are unsatisfied with the way their complaint has been handled.

4.10.3 Grassroots Trust will investigate all complaints and will respond in writing within 15 working days of receipt.

4.10.4 Complaints about the conduct of Grassroots Trust may also be made direct to the Secretary of the Department of Internal Affairs at: PO Box 10-095, Wellington or by email gambling@dia.govt.nz

4.11 Accountability and Audit Requirements

4.11.1 The accountability and audit requirements for grants made by Grassroots Trust are set out in the [Grants Accountability and Audit Policy](#).

4.12 Grant Promises Prohibited

- 4.12.1 Agreements promising to provide grants to potential Grant Recipients from proceeds that have not yet been generated will not be entered into (except as set out in paragraph 4.15).
- 4.12.2 Board members, Net Proceeds Committee members and all employees/contractors working on behalf of the Trust will not promise or imply the approval of particular grant applications prior to their proper consideration.

4.13 Grant Influence – Section 113

- 4.13.1 Grassroots Trust's venue key persons cannot have any input into or influence over Grassroots Trust's grant process. Venue key persons are as defined in Section 4 of the Gambling Act 2003.
- 4.13.2 Venue key persons cannot provide goods or services to third parties and be paid from grant money which is derived from Grassroots Trust. For example, a venue could not provide room hire to a hockey club if the hockey club plans to use grant proceeds to pay for the hire fee.
- 4.13.3 Venue key persons cannot be involved in decisions about who will provide goods or services to a third party, if payment is being made from grant money that is received from Grassroots Trust. For example, if a venue key person was also a committee member of a community organisation that received a grant from Grassroots Trust, the person could not have any input as to which painter the community organisation employs, if the painter is to be paid from grant money.

4.14 Venue Key Persons Conflict of Interest Register

- 4.14.1 Grassroots Trust will have an internal system to check that the venue key person requirements are adhered to. All grant applications and quotes will be checked by Grassroots Trust or employees/contractors working on behalf of the Trust against a key person register.
- 4.14.2 If any application is signed, supported by, or makes any reference to a venue key person the application will be declined.
- 4.14.3 If any application indicates that a venue key person has helped to obtain quotes or been involved in any decision as to how grant money will be spent, the grant will be declined.
- 4.14.4 If the application indicates that the venue key person will be providing goods or services to the Grant Recipient using the grant money, the grant will be declined.
- 4.14.5 Grassroots Trust's grant application will require the Applicant to formally declare that they will check that no payment will be made to any venue key person as follows:

Organisation Declaration

We declare that:

1. *The information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of our knowledge.*
2. *We have authority to make this application on behalf of the Applicant.*
3. *This application has not been completed by a person who has any management or ownership interest in a Grassroots Trust Limited venue that hosts gaming machines ("a gaming machine venue key person").*

4. *When any grant money is obtained, the persons who decide how that money is spent will not be a Grassroots Trust Limited gaming machine venue key person.*
5. *When any grant money is obtained, a check will be undertaken, and no payment will be made from grant money to any Grassroots Trust Limited gaming machine venue key person for any goods or services.*
6. *If for any reason funds granted are required to be refunded to Grassroots Trust, we agree that the Applicant will be liable for any debt collection costs incurred.*
7. *We have read and understand the Conditions for Allocation of Funds, Audit and Inspection requirements, Privacy Act Declaration, and the Consent to Audit.*
8. *We agree to allow Grassroots Trust to use our Organisations' name, logo, and images; associated with the activity or project the grant would be supporting.*

4.15 Grant Commitments – Multi Instalment Grants

4.15.1 Grants shall only be made from available net proceeds. However, grants may be made by instalments in one or more years, if the following conditions are met:

- a. The grant commitment must not exceed 4 years; and
- b. The grant Applicant must be made aware, on or before the time that the first instalment of the grant is paid, that payment of any future instalments of the grant is conditional on –
 - i. Grassroots Trust continuing to hold a Class 4 Operators licence; and
 - ii. Grassroots Trust continuing to have available net proceeds; and
 - iii. The specific approved purpose for which the grant was made continuing to be lawful and any surplus funds refunded to Grassroots Trust; and
- c. Each instalment of the grant must be re-confirmed by the Board of Directors before payment; and
- d. The grant Applicant must provide the Board of Directors with documentary evidence that previous instalments of the grant have been spent for their intended purpose; and
- e. Grassroots Trust must disclose the existence of multi instalment grants it has entered into in its financial accounts and publish the details of its multi instalment grants with its other grant information on its website.

4.15.2 Subsequent instalments are made in principle, i.e. the existence of the future instalments is strictly conditional upon the criteria being met.



Approved by Grassroots Trust Limited Board

9/10/24