

HISTORY OF THE FUND

The **Edinburgh and Lothian Trust Fund** is a registered Scottish charity (SC031561) with a history of almost 150 years, addressing poverty and inequality. It has its origins in the creation of Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (EVOC) (SC009944) in 1868. Over the years EVOC was asked to administer a number of trusts. These were legacies from individuals who wished to donate a sum of money for the benefit of voluntary organisations and individuals in need. Most of these small trusts were amalgamated in 2001 and a single Trust, known as Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Trust (EVOT), was formed. From that point, EVOT operated as a separate entity from EVOC and had its own charity registration and Board of Trustees (including some trustees in common with EVOC). A further two trusts were combined with EVOT in 2007. In 2014 the Trust took over the former Surplus Fire Fund and re-launched it as the Edinburgh Fire Fund.

In 2015 EVOT modernised its constitution and changed its name to The Edinburgh and Lothian Trust Fund, but its core purposes remain unchanged. These are the relief of poverty and the provision of financial assistance. As before, the Trust funds are restricted to beneficiaries in the City of Edinburgh and the Lothians.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EDINBURGH & LOTHIAN RESIDENTS

Further Information

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The Edinburgh and Lothian Trust Fund is a registered Scottish charity, No SC031561



ABOUT THE EDINBURGH & LOTHIAN TRUST FUND (THE TRUST)

The Edinburgh & Lothian Trust Fund is comprised largely of legacies from individuals who have donated a sum of money for the relief of poverty. The Trust's general aims are as follows:

- A The relief of poverty
- B To assist individuals or groups of individuals who, by reason of health, physical or mental disability or otherwise, are in necessitous circumstances;
- C To assist charitable organisations whose purposes are similar to those outlined in A and B above.

The Trust's funds are restricted to beneficiaries in the City of Edinburgh and the Lothians. There is an emphasis on awards to benefit children, young people and families.

The Trust also operates the Edinburgh Fire Fund for Edinburgh residents affected by a fire in their home. (A separate leaflet is available from the Trust). Finally, the Trust also administers funds on behalf of other trusts.

The total value of the Fund is over £6m. The Fund assets are invested and the income from investments is used to make grant awards. It is the policy of the Trust to preserve the capital sum to ensure an annual income for grant making.

Governance is by a group of Trustees, of whom a minority are appointed by Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (SC009944) and the majority are independent. The Trustees meet quarterly to consider grant applications, and provide general governance for the Trust.

Grants for Individuals

The Trust makes grants to individuals in need. Applications must be made through a recognised third party e.g. social worker, support worker, health visitor etc. Grants to individuals do not normally exceed £200 and the average award is under £100.

Grants for Voluntary Organisations

The Trust assists voluntary organisations whose purpose is social welfare and who:

- appear on the Scottish Charity Register
- have an annual income of less than £200,000

How do I apply to The Edinburgh & Lothian Trust Fund?

Individuals

Guidelines and a link to the online application form can be obtained on our website:
www.eltf.org.uk

Applications for individuals must be submitted digitally **via a post holder** in a local authority, health board, or voluntary sector agency.

Organisations

Guidelines and a link to the online application form can be obtained on our website:
www.eltf.org.uk

What happens next?

Individuals

Applications are assessed by the Trust Administrator and a Trustee. A decision is generally notified within 4 weeks.

Organisations

Applications are considered at quarterly meetings of the Trustees and thereafter decisions are usually notified within one week after the Trustees' meeting.

