

PESGB – AGM March 2021

Report on the Small Grants Scheme - UPDATE

The main reason for requesting Small Grants has overwhelmingly been for travel, accommodation and conference fees. Since the start of the pandemic, there have understandably been far fewer requests for funds. There have been discussions at various Finance and General Purposes meetings about potentially adjusting the parameters of the scheme to accommodate different requests. It was decided to retain the existing use of Small Grants funds, since it is likely there will be a surge of applications when conferences resume, especially given the hardship being faced by many individuals and by universities. It seems probable that funds to attend conferences will be even more difficult to obtain than in the past. It was also decided to retain the maximum grant amount of £750.00, in order to be able to award funds to as many members as possible.

Actions and Information:

1. The Small Grants Scheme will be relaunched at the virtual conference in September, with revised and updated Small Grants guidelines.
2. There will still be a requirement for one year's membership as eligibility for an application.
3. The 24-month regulation will be re-started from September 2021. This allows all eligible members to be awarded funds only once in a 24-month period.
4. Any outstanding unresolved issues with Small Grants awarded prior to the pandemic will be managed on an individual basis. Members who were awarded funds they could not use, may transfer these to a new event within the Small Grants guidelines, where appropriate.
5. The rolled-over funds = £15,905.36.
6. As before, the uptake of Small Grants and value of the scheme will be regularly monitored and reviewed at F&GP and Executive Council meetings, and adjustments made as required.

Carrie Winstanley
Small Grants Scheme
March 2021