

# Isles of Scilly Charitable Trust

comprising the Edward McDonald Fund and the Pilots Widows Fund

## Statement of Purpose

### Edward McDonald Fund

The charitable purposes which apply to the Edward McDonald Fund are drawn in extremely broad terms. Funds may be applied 'for such charitable institutions, organisations or purposes within the Isles of Scilly as the trustees think fit'.

The trustees have identified three priorities for the Edward McDonald Fund.

#### 1. Financial support for people in need

First and foremost, the Edward McDonald Fund provides financial support for people in need on the islands. This support is provided:

- proactively in the form of gifts, especially at Christmastime. Lists of recipients are compiled in consultation with health and social care professionals.
- reactively in response to applications to address particular cases of hardship.

Applications to address particular cases of hardship are usually made by health and social care professionals. If you, or someone you know, is struggling, please try to speak to a health or social care professional in the first instance.

Applications to address particular cases of hardship may be made at any time and will be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

#### 2. Community enrichment

The Edward McDonald Fund supports a range of on-island activities that enrich the lives of island residents. Grants awarded in 2023-24 included:

- £1,000 to the Council of the Isles of Scilly towards the cost of purchasing a new slide for the Garrison Play Park;
- £750 to the Five Islands Football Club to support the Plymouth Argyle summer camp; and
- £500 to the St Mary's Christmas Lights Fund.

Unless exceptional circumstances exist, the trustees will not consider applications where commercial operators will be the principal beneficiaries.

#### 3. Annual payments

Under the terms of its governing document, the Trust is required to make the following annual payments (originally prescribed by Edward McDonald in his will of 1922):

- £12 to the authorities of Old Town churchyard;
- £10 towards the provision of a treat for the schoolchildren of St Mary's; and
- £10 to the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

The trustees have agreed to uprate these amounts to reflect the changing value of money. Consequently the current annual payments are as follows:

- £600 to the Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of the Isles of Scilly;
- £500 to the Five Islands Academy; and
- £500 to the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

Unless exceptional circumstances exist, no other grants will be awarded to the Parochial Church Council, the Five Islands Academy or the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

#### Pilots Widows Fund

The Pilots Widows Fund must be used for charitable purposes associated with maritime endeavours on the islands.

In recognition of the long-standing relationship that it has with the fishing industry, the Pilots Widows Fund will continue to make a contribution towards the cost of life-saving equipment and the cost of training for local fishermen. This is an exception to the general provision that trustees will not consider applications where commercial operators will be the principal beneficiaries.

#### General provisions

Anyone can submit an application using the Trust's application form.

Each application will be considered on its merits. This will frequently involve a consideration of the number and range of people who are likely to benefit from a particular proposal.

With respect to clubs, groups or organisations:

- grants will not usually exceed £500 in any given year;
- grants will not exceed £1,000 in any given year unless exceptional circumstances exist; and
- evidence of spend will usually be required in the form of receipts or a written statement confirming how the funds were used.

The Trust operates on the basis of four-month application windows ending on 28/29 February, 30 June and 31 October (except for applications to address particular cases of hardship which are dealt with as a matter of urgency). We will usually be able to provide you with a decision no more than two weeks after the relevant deadline.

For the avoidance of any doubt, support for a project one year does not mean that similar funding will be made available for the same project next year.

This statement will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Last reviewed: August 2024