

BELL RESTORATION FUND

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Grants are awarded for work to bells, frames and fittings. Work to towers (except when linked to a bell project) is excluded.

Applications may be made for restoration work costing up to £75,000. Projects costing in excess of that figure may be considered on their merits. (added 12/18)

Applications for work costing £25,000 or less, including VAT, must be accompanied by a quotation from a bell hanger. In the exercise of due diligence every PCC should seek opinions and quotations from more than one expert. For projects in excess of £25,000 evidence must be provided that efforts were made to secure quotations from at least two bell hangers. (amended 7/26)

The cost of professional fees (eg architect) is not grant eligible.

Other major grants, legacies and donations will be taken into account.

The Guild Bell Restoration Officer must be satisfied that the proposed work is necessary and will be the best solution.

The proposed work must be supported by the PCC.

A faculty, if necessary, for the proposed work should have been, or will be, obtained.

Where the applicant proposes that their restoration project is carried out by a person(s) or firm of engineers or builders (the contractor(s)) who are not bell hangers and that project does not require either a faculty or Rule B permissions, the grant form must be accompanied by a letter from the incumbent or chair of the PCC stating that the PCC is satisfied that the proposed contractor(s) is/are competent to carry out the work which is the subject of the grant application. Grants may be released upon written confirmation to the BRO that the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the incumbent and PCC. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the BRO nor TDGR accept any responsibility for work which is not carried out by a recognised bell hanger and the latter are responsible for their work. (added 4.3.19)

Provision should be made for future regular maintenance.

Grant awards remain valid for two years and are subject to a satisfactory final inspection. Initial enquiries should be made to the Bell Restoration Officer. Applications are considered by the Standing Committee which usually meets in January, June and November. Grants are paid directly to the PCC on satisfactory completion of the project.