

It is important that the council has guidelines to enable it to make decisions on whether or not to make donations, and what amount should be assigned.

The following procedure should be followed:-

1. At the annual precept setting meeting the council should agree on the total being allocated to Section 137 for the forthcoming year. The total amount for Section 137 must be within the regulations prevailing at the time by NALC.
2. The broad policy should be to support local organisations within Hurworth Parish. National and international requests for funds should be declined.
3. In particular, the council should support voluntary organisations who enhance and maintain the parish environment and help and support community facilities within the parish. Examples of this are the Hurworth Community Association, Friends of the Community, Village Hall, locally based scout and guide groups and youth clubs based in the parish. Donations or grants to these organisations should be put into the financial plan under section 137.
4. Donation requests from other locally based organisations should be considered upon request. These could include Friends of Rockcliffe Court, Senior Citizen groups, local orchestra and bands, and church groups, where requirements are specified. The level of these unplanned donations should be limited to a maximum of £300 per item.
5. Where matched funding is available, the council should evaluate the opportunity, and if there is community appeal, then the full council must make formal proposals and decide at a full council meeting.

Any alteration to this procedure, or the setting aside of the above limitations must be done through a full council meeting.