Faith in Action Grants

What we fund

The information below provides an overview of Quakers in Britain Faith in Action grants.

Applications for between £200 and £2,000 will be considered.

We have money available each year to enable local activities that contribute to positive social change.

You can find definitions at the end of this document.

Examples of things Faith in Action grants could be used for:

• Quaker projects that contribute to social change. This could take many forms, for example, buying infrastructure for a community garden, paying for some targeted social media for a mutual aid hub or printing leaflets and banners for a campaign march.

• Events that sustain Quakers who are taking action for social justice. For example, booking a venue for a day retreat, getting materials for a skill share about nonviolence or using the money to enable a wide range of people to take part in your action or campaign.

Are you eligible?

Meeting the criteria below is a necessary condition for consideration, not a guarantee of funding.

Criteria

1. For a Quaker project or a project which Quakers are substantially involved with. In the case of Faith in Action grants, 'project' refers to any initiative, small or large. A project may be something as small as expenses or materials for an event, or as large as a longer-term nationwide campaign. The project should be initiated or supported by an individual, group or Quaker Recognised Body and known to an existing Quaker community. The project need not be Quaker-run (and collaborative projects are encouraged), but there should be significant Quaker involvement.
2. For work carried out in Britain.
3. Cannot be used for multi-year funding or staffing costs.

Priorities

Action takes many forms, and we will consider all applications. However, we will prioritise making Faith in Action grants available for activities that:

- Reflect positions and issues that have been corporately discerned by Britain Yearly Meeting
- Have been tested and/or have the support of a Quaker worshipping community (not necessarily a Local or Area Meeting)

- Are less likely to be eligible for other sources of funding
- Aim to address root causes, looking to find ways to remove problems rather than make them easier to live with
- Have clear objectives, and a sense of how to achieve them
- Are innovative and imaginative
- Have a good chance of making a difference
- Will help Quakers and wider movements for social change to be more effective, connected or confident in their action

We regret that funds do not allow us to fund all the initiatives that we may wish.

How to apply

You'll find the application form on the Grants – Project Grants section of the website. You can ask a Faith in Action coordinator for assistance or guidance. They are not involved in decision making.

Your application will be considered at the next available meeting of Quaker Peace & Social Witness (QPSW) grants group, which can mean that you will have to wait up to three months for a decision. In case of unsuccessful applications, non-financial support may still be available from the Faith in Action team.

Thank you for the work you are doing or hoping to do. We wish you every success.

Definitions

Concern – an idea or prompting by the Spirit that leads a Quaker to take on an issue or action as a gift from God. The Friend will probably bring their concern to their business meeting to be tested, that is to see if it is a true 'concern' or whether it is a leading, which could still turn into a 'concern'!

Testing a concern – a process of deliberation by a local or area meeting to examine whether a Friend's concern has religious validity and should be promoted and supported by that meeting.

Meeting for clearness – meeting of a group of experienced and knowledgeable Friends to help in the amicable settlement of disputes or to help Friends find clarity about a matter. It can be a useful stage of testing a concern or getting support.

Minutes – these are the record of the proceedings of a business meeting written by the clerk or convener of that meeting. Quaker minutes are written and agreed as the meeting proceeds with its business.

Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW) – the central peace and service department of British Friends at Quakers in Britain. It represents Quakers at national level on issues of peace and social justice. QPSW facilitates dialogue to build greater understanding of these issues, supports Friends to take action and disseminates outcomes, resources and ideas. QPSW works with Quaker and other partners to put this understanding into action on a variety of projects within Britain and around the world.

Priorities that have been corporately discerned – Quakers make decisions at local, area or yearly meetings. At the national, yearly decision-making events, and at the meetings of representatives, previously known as Meeting for Sufferings, Quaker minutes are written and agreed as the meeting proceeds with its business. These minutes are considered to have been corporately discerned.