



QUEEN VICTORIA FUND READING
Charity number 1212950

Grant making policy

1. This document summarises the Trustees' objectives following its re-founding as a grant making charity in 2025. From its original district nursing roots of 1897 and through various phases of institutional change, notably the creation of the National Health Service, the charity has retained a focus on health, especially the health of local residents experiencing financial difficulties. The current Trustees are committed to continuing this tradition, and to retaining a historic role as one of the leading health charities in the Greater Reading area. At the same time, QVFR will be supporting public health and health equity initiatives.

2. QVFR will do this by funding organisations rather than individuals and will develop its work both proactively and reactively. It will engage in support for health-focused projects proactively by helping to create partnerships to pursue creative local schemes, and reactively by funding projects in response to grant applications.

3. The charity's area of benefit will be "the Greater Reading area". This includes the Reading Borough and Earley Town Council areas.

4. Trustees anticipate that most grants made will be in the range £2000-£5000, in order to maximise the impact that can be achieved with their available funds. They will also consider applications in appropriate cases for smaller grants, below £2000, and may, in exceptional cases well known to the trustees, make grants which are larger than £5000. When a grant of over £5000 is approved, one trustee will normally be nominated to oversee expenditure and to monitor impact.

5. In its proactive work, QVFR will prioritise public health initiatives within its area of benefit which may be difficult to fund or seen to be underfunded. Examples of programmes which may be funded include action on health inequity, perinatal inequalities, positive action on obesity and weight loss, alcohol misuse, children's nourishment and child socialisation. QVFR will also consider funding initiatives which address mental health issues, including clinical depression and certain forms of addictive behaviours such as gambling.

6. QVFR will assist with making social prevention programmes more accessible, by making local venues available and by providing professional providers free of charge. Examples of this might include free local clubs for pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood advice and regular drop-in vaccination hubs.

7. QVFR will actively support prevention action, ranging from encouragement of exercise and physical activity to helping with anger management and lack of self worth.



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8. In its proactive approach, QVFR will seek to avoid duplication with important areas of charitable support which already have clear leaders in local charitable action. For this reason only, QVFR is unlikely to fund the following important health initiatives: cancer research, end-of-life care, autism, responses to domestic violence, health-related problems in public housing or homelessness, Alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis, visual impairment, and hearing impairment.

9. In its reactive work, QVFR will listen to, respond to, and work with not-for-profit formally constituted organisations active in the area of benefit. Applicants will be expected to be sympathetic to the broad framework set out in the paragraphs above. While all eight of the policy areas identified within the Marmot Principles (from the report 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives') will be of interest to the trustees, particular notice will be taken of applications which focus on the non-statutory aspects of early years development, healthier communities and ill-health prevention.

10. Applying organisations will be expected to understand fully the health issues which are of importance across the Greater Reading area, to have their own bank account and to have clearly identified leaders