

Report – Road Safety Trust Grant Round Autumn 2024

Grant funding of £10-50,000 is available from the Road Safety Trust.

This trust has given approx. £10M in grants since its inception in 2014.

If we do not apply in this round then it is likely there will be other rounds in 2025 but the theme will be different.

Common objectives for all grant programmes are:

1. Generate new and practical measures to reduce road deaths and injuries;
2. Research and translation of new ideas into measures;
3. Generate new knowledge on what works to save lives and prevent injury and the dissemination of that information;
4. **Support partnership working and collaboration.**

Any funded project must support at least one of the above outcomes but all will need to be, to some degree, a collaborative partnership.

Applicants must be UK based and include parish councils, developers, charities, universities and other not for profit agencies.

Theme for this round:

To address inequalities in road safety.

They will fund projects which trial, pilot and evaluate ways of improving road safety. Projects should have a practical focus that do not re-invent the wheel with a key objective being sharing learning so that it can be used elsewhere across the country.

They will not fund anything that they consider to be a Highways responsibility or pay for enforcement equipment or signage for standard road safety operations.

There are three key strands that they identify as an inequality:

- a) The impact of social determinants on local communities which increase their exposure to risk:
 - i. Illegal, dangerous and anti-social use of the roads, the effectiveness of current counter-measure and potential new methods for reduction;
 - ii. Rural areas and different age groups within such communities
 - iii. Access to and the use of technologies that make vehicles and roads safer
- b) Road safety issues for children with SEN and/or disabilities.
- c) Improve availability/quality and strategic use of demographic evidence and information alongside other safety related evidence to support practitioners and policy makers in respect of road safety.

The strand relevant to Little Harrowden would be (a). It may potentially cover all 3 subsections.

Any successful grant application will require all of the following:

1. 1 or more partners, eg school, steering group, road safety professionals.
2. Clear aims and objectives and details of how those objectives would be measured (qualitative, quantitative data collection, evaluation processes)
3. Detailed outlines of the road safety benefits, end results and how they would be measured.
4. Strong project management.
5. Clear pathways showing the routes to road safety practice, achieving impacts and making a difference
6. Additionally, a report as to how the project could be disseminated.

And all grants require an element of match funding. They can be cash or benefits in kind, eg staff time, volunteer time, physical costs, provision of goods or partner services. Another limitation may be the grant value compared with council income. It would need to be evidenced that the council is financially viable and has managed large pots of money in excess of the precept income.

The grant application will be detailed and will need to include:

- a) A well costed budget
- b) Other sources of funding
- c) Only project costs no core costs (eg staff/management time/wages, estate costs, building overheads)
- d) Monitoring, evaluation and dissemination costs (including training)

Top tips for successful grants are:

- 1. Start early
- 2. Aim to improve road safety
- 3. Engage with communities and partners before and during
- 4. Evaluate
- 5. Find match funding
- 6. Sense check the application or find others who will
- 7. Have a clear plan, clear outputs and stick to it.
- 8. Clear idea of plan to disseminate

Final decisions for small grants would be end Jan 2024.

Closing date 5pm, 01.11.24 so only 4 weeks to decide objectives, project plan, agree outcomes and evaluations and set out a programme of dissemination.