



Impact Report

2023 - 2024

Sir
George
Martin
Trust



Introduction

The Sir George Martin Trust was established in 1956 and is an independent grantmaker which aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people in West Yorkshire by giving grants to predominantly small, local, registered charities and churches who do community outreach work in the area.

OUR VALUES

The Sir George Martin Trust supports a wide range of local communities and issues, and places an emphasis on being approachable, supportive and flexible so that the grant application process is as positive as possible for grant seekers. The trustees aim to continue the legacy of Sir George in an inclusive and generous spirit.

www.sirgeorgemartintrust.org.uk

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THE YEAR IN SUMMARY

- We gave out £339,267 in grants to 128 charities, churches and special schools which supported thousands of West Yorkshire people in need
- The average sized grant was £2,651
- Our funding flexibility continued with 64% of all grants for core costs, 12% for a combination of core and capital costs and 24% for pure capital needs
- We funded 49% of all enquiries and applications



Purple Patch Arts

Focus on West Yorkshire



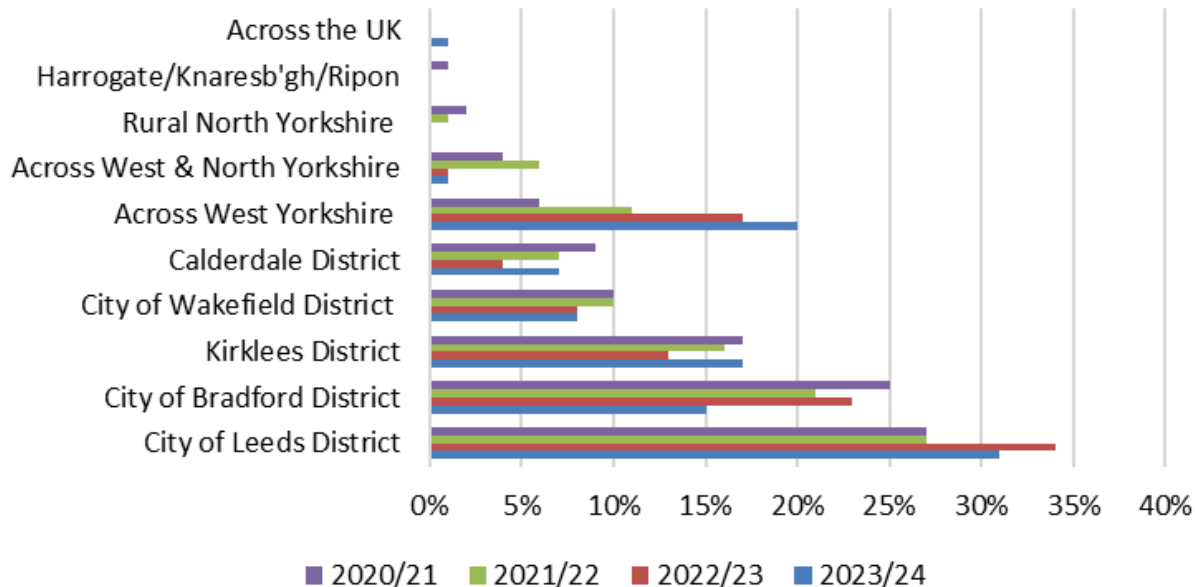
2023/24 Grantmaking

City of Leeds	31%
Kirklees	17%
City of Bradford	15%
City of Wakefield	8%
Calderdale	7%
Across West Yorkshire*	20%
Across West & North Yorkshire	1%
Across whole of UK	1%

*233% increase in grants to charities working across whole of region 2020/21 vs. 2023/24

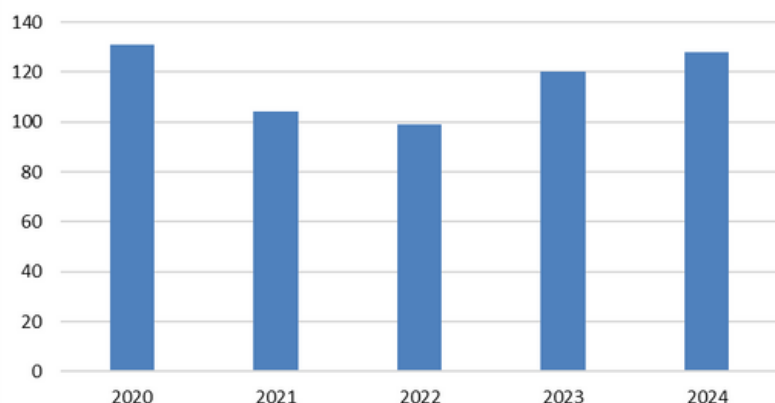
The five West Yorkshire districts

Geographic breakdown



The 2023/24 story

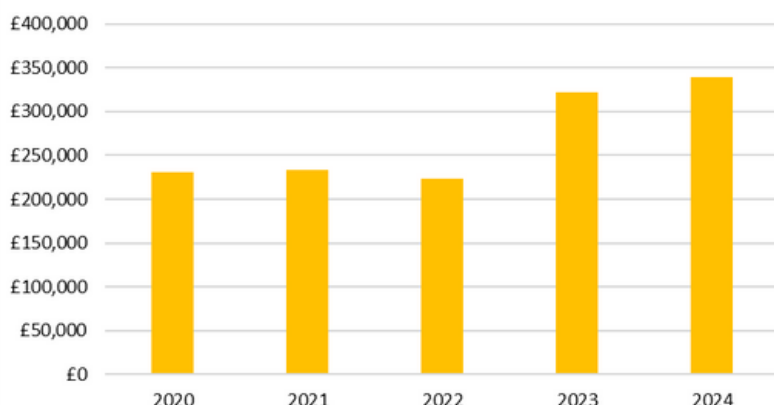
Number of Grants



The April 2023 - March 2024 period saw a strong, steady flow of enquiries and requests for funding. Thanks to the Denton Trust funds which were given to the Trust in March 2022, we were able to continue to give at increased levels compared to 2020 - 2022. A total of 128 grants were given during 2023-24, up from 120 in 2022-23 and 99 in 2021-22.

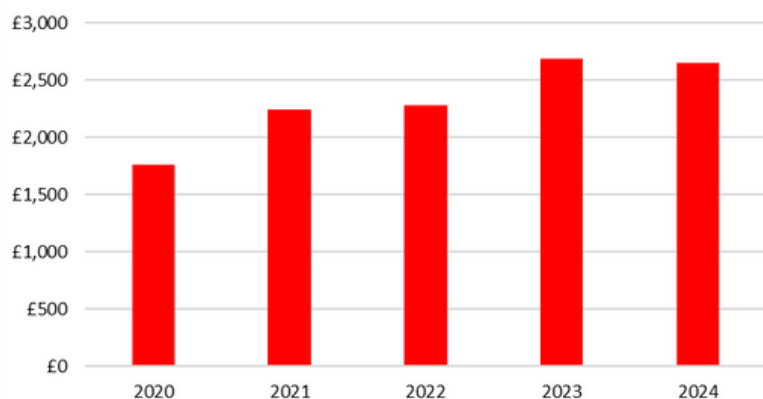
Sadly the cost of living crisis continued throughout the year. Many small charities struggled to meet increased demand and pay their own bills and staff, while most West Yorkshire local authorities had to reduce their funding for the third sector which meant an increased demand for funds from charitable trusts and foundations. The Denton Trust funds meant the Sir George Martin Trust were able to give out their largest total in grants ever.

Annual Grants £



With so many small, local charities and churches supporting their cash-strapped communities, the trustees felt it was more important than ever to continue increasing the average size of our grants. Thanks to CCLA Investment Management continuing to do a sterling job of maintaining the investment income for the Trust, the Trust were able to make the average sized grant £2,651, a 51% increase on 2020.

Average Grant Amount £



Who & what we supported

The Trust continued to be a 'generalist' funder, supporting a wide range of people and places in West Yorkshire, but who are all disadvantaged and/or vulnerable in some way.

For many years Youth Welfare & Education has been the number one cause which the Sir George Martin Trust supports and once again in 2023-24 young people were the top priority, followed closely by disability support and activities. The increase for this group is significant as disabled people were so hard-hit by Covid and its aftermath so it was fantastic to see so many disability activities and people bounce back.

The Trust maintained its reactive approach to grantmaking and the Trust Manager worked hard to ensure a constant flow of enquiries from across all five districts of the region by taking part in funding fairs and maintaining relationships with the local infrastructure support organisations and other funders.

The Trust maintained its flexible and helpful ethos, with an increasing number of grants going towards core funding. Over two thirds (64%) of 2023-24 grants supported running costs, 24% for capital needs and 12% of grants were for a combination of core and capital costs.

Adult Welfare & Relief of Poverty	15%
Advancement of Health/Saving Lives	17%
Amateur sport	1%
Church Outreach Projects	3%
Connecting Communities	1%
Disability Support & Activities	19%
Environment/Conservation/Heritage	1%
Infrastructure & Third Sector Support	4%
Local Community Centre/Village Hall	4%
Music/Arts/Culture	5%
Older People's Welfare	9%
Youth Welfare & Education	21%



Supporting & connecting communities across West Yorkshire

The Sir George Martin Trust continued with its 100% geographical focus on West Yorkshire people and charitable work. As in 2022-23, the number of grants to charities which worked across the whole of the region soared, with 20% of all 2023-24 grants supporting people across West Yorkshire.

INVICTUS WELLBEING

The Trust gave £4,000 to this relatively new charity which provides free mental health and wellbeing support for children and young people across West Yorkshire, with a particular focus on Calderdale and Bradford. The charity said: "The Sir George Martin Trust funding has been absolutely integral in underpinning our core services...the grant has made a significant difference. It has meant we have been able to help around 36 year 10 and 11's by fast-tracking their referrals from our waiting list and offer 1-2-1 sessions for 6-8 weeks."

JO COX FOUNDATION

This charity recently moved its head office from London to the Jo Cox Centre in Batley, demonstrating its commitment to making change happen in Yorkshire. The Trust gave a large grant a few years ago to help the charity appoint its first Yorkshire Outreach Worker and gave £5,000 in July 2023. The funds enabled the Jo Cox Foundation to increase its capacity within the team so that they could advance their work to deepen belonging, connection and social cohesion within West Yorkshire and it also enabled the charity to lever additional funding from Migration Yorkshire and the National Lottery Community Fund.

PURPLE PATCH ARTS

Purple Patch Arts provides innovative, inclusive, creative learning opportunities that improve the lives of learning-disabled and autistic people by expanding their understanding of, and engagement with, the world. The charity runs its Lifelong Learning Programmes at five West Yorkshire locations, providing unique, highly interactive activity sessions every weekday. The Trust's £2,800 grant was used to cover the salary costs of two Purple Patch staff to prepare and co-deliver their monthly Purple Patch Family and Carer Lifelong Learning Programme quiz nights.



Helping youngsters to thrive

Helping young people to thrive and lead a happier life has been a top priority for the Trust for decades and youngsters continue to be a primary focus for our funding, with 21% of all grants in 2023-24 supporting this group. The Trust gave 27 grants to help charities across West Yorkshire to support under 18s.

EAST BIERLEY COMMUNITY SPORTS ASSOCIATION

The Trust helped this Bradford charity by providing £3,000 to run rugby-based enrichment activities specifically for disadvantaged children from local Roma and South Asian communities. The charity said: "The grant enabled us to give those who have financial barriers to sport access some real health and well being benefits in a safe and comfortable environment." 6-13 year olds took part in the sports activities and their families had something to eat and learnt more about the local sports provisions.

KIRKLEES THEATRE TRUST (KTT)

The KTT is better known as the Lawrence Batley Theatre in Huddersfield and runs a range of community projects which provide creative opportunities, including for children and young people. The Sir George Martin Trust's £4,000 grant offset a deficit to ensure the charity could break even and the Young Company programme could continue into 2024. 63 disadvantaged youngsters took part and enjoyed learning from professional theatre practitioners and creating their own performances, boosting their confidence and love of the arts.

LS-TEN

LS-TEN is the largest indoor skate park in Leeds and houses a small independent school that specialises in supporting young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, as well as running a vast range of youth clubs and lessons in skateboarding, roller skating and BMX. The charity said: "It is hard to measure the incredible difference this project has made to our organisation. The £3,500 grant allowed us to take two cohorts of young people to different skate parks and give them a brand new skateboard...We were able to have discussions with them about skateboarding careers and how you can make a career out of something they love."



East Bierley Community Sports Association



LS-TEN

Funding getting out & about

The Sir George Martin Trust is a big supporter of outdoor activities and trips to help improve mental and physical wellbeing.

COACTIVE ARTS

The Trust gave £2,500 to this Wakefield-based charity which holds creative activities for local adults with learning disabilities. £1,899 of the funds contributed to core staffing costs for their summer holiday activities and trips, and the remaining funds went towards CoActive's annual insurance costs. The charity said: "The grant was very timely in enabling us to complete the 22/23 year having met our budget requirements and not carrying forward or needing to use our very modest reserves... The summer programme is essential for maintaining member confidence in the group - it reduced isolation and connected 25 member to other resources in the community."

EMPOWERED PEOPLE

The Trust has supported this Todmorden, Calderdale charity which is fully volunteer run for the past three years, helping local people with disabilities to enjoy the sport of cycling in the great outdoors. The £2,000 grant went towards the purchase of five new pilot bikes which are attached to a modified recumbent bike (places the rider in a laid-back reclining position) which can be propelled by leg or arm.

GROWING WORKS

This Kirklees charity works to tackle isolation and develop social and horticulture skills by providing opportunities to meet people in a relaxed, outdoor environment. They support over 500 people a year at sessions run in Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley. Growing Works said: "As a small charity we spend the majority of our time and resources delivering our services and supporting those who attend which leaves little room for reviewing processes, strengthening operating practices and finding ways to develop. The Sir George Martin Trust's £3,000 supported these crucial back-office functions, enabling us to spend time strengthening and streamlining our administration and reporting processes, as well as allowing us the time to explore the development potential of our main site."



Empowered People



CoActive Arts

Food provision is a life saver

As the cost of living crisis continued during 2023/24, funding food provision projects, activities where food and socialising are at the centre and the buildings that house this work was more important then ever.

ST JOHN THE DIVINE

Every year the Trust supports a number of West Yorkshire churches carrying out impactful community outreach work as they are located in the heart of the community and are well connected with those who maybe isolated or struggling to make ends meet. The Trust is particularly supportive of churches which are based in disadvantaged areas and need capital funds to improve their facilities. St John the Divine near Brighouse in Kirklees needed to install a servery to be able to more efficiently provide refreshments to visitors at community activities and events. The Sir George Martin Trust gave a grant of £2,500 which also helped to fund two new toilets.

HAPPY DAYS UK

This Halifax, Calderdale charity is the main supporter of homeless people in the district and also provides a wealth of food provision for hundreds of people living in poverty every week. The Trust supports a variety of food projects including food banks, food pantries, community supermarkets, lunch clubs and cafes. Our Trust Manager talks to applicants about why they have chosen the particular model, the beneficiaries needs and ensures that the food project will be financially sustainable for the long term. The Trust gave £4,000 towards the costs of Happy Days' community supermarket which provides customers with 15 items of their choice for £6, plus £1 of each shop is linked to their own credit union account to help them save. The charity said: "The grant has made a direct difference to our customers and it has helped us to sustain our essential services. When this grant was received, our food bank was heavily oversubscribed and creating a huge drain on the charity... the grant covered two months of food spending across the supermarket and cafe combined (compared to one month of food bank spending), showing that the move away from a food bank has made the charity more sustainable."



St John the Divine



Happy Days UK

Leeds City College Awards

For a second year the Trust runs its initiative with Leeds City College, to celebrate Adult Learners of Access to Health Science Professions.

The Trust's founder was extremely passionate about supporting the medical sector, and having left school at 16 the trustees felt it was important to recognise and celebrate hard working local people who have returned to education so they can get onto a degree course and secure their dream job in the medical and health science field.

Sir George Martin Trust trustee, Janet Martin, a former university lecturer came up with the awards initiative idea and working closely with the College, six fantastic winners were chosen by their tutors and won £500 from the Trust which could be spent on anything to help them continue their degree studies. Many of the winners continued to work full time and look after their family whilst studying at Leeds City College, which made them so deserving of the £500 award.



Analisa Fernandes Ogari and
Sir George Martin Trust trustee, Janet Martin





Organised 15 events and learning sessions attended by over 400 employees and trustees from 80 different funding and infrastructure support organisations

Launched new 2023/24 membership scheme, securing 66 members and secured two corporate supporters totalling £10,000

Solidified Yorkshire Funders' position as one of the top three UK regional networking and learning organisations for grantmakers

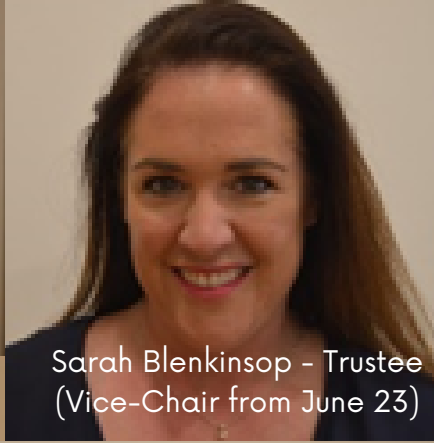
MORE THAN GRANTMAKING

For decades the Sir George Martin Trust has aimed to be an approachable and inclusive grant-maker, making regular in person visits to applicants and grant holders to ensure the Trustees and Trust Manager have a deeper level of insight into the charities, as well as sharing funder knowledge with grant seekers. As part of this pro-active and generous approach, the Trustees continued to support Yorkshire Funders and the Trust Manager being the charity's part time Coordinator. During 2023/24, the Coordinator worked with the Yorkshire Funders' trustees to develop a new income generation and staffing strategy so that in 2024/25 they would no longer be reliant on the Sir George Martin Trust for resourcing and capacity.

The Sir George Martin Trust team



Roger Marshall - Chair (retired June 23)



Sarah Blenkinsop - Trustee
(Vice-Chair from June 23)



Morven Whyte - Vice Chair
(Chair from June 23)



Martin Bethel QC - Trustee
(retired November 23)



Janet Martin - Trustee



Paul Taylor MBE - Trustee
(retired March 24)



Ailsa Rhodes MBE - Trustee



Haqueq Siddique - Trustee



Andrew Wriglesworth - Trustee



Liam Jagger - Trustee



Jason Kirk - Trustee



Carla Marshall - Trust Manager