

Approved by Council 21/05/05

PSPS Grant-Making Policy.

1. The existing policy of funding only capital expenditure on the fabric of those vessels which it is in the Society's remit to support, or projects which have an educational purpose, shall be maintained.
2. As its first priority, and in order to safeguard the future operational preservation of paddle steamers Waverley and Kingswear Castle, the Society shall establish and maintain a ring-fenced emergency reserve fund equivalent to the capital deemed necessary to fund one basic winter refit for each of these paddle steamers. The value of this fund shall be reviewed annually, and shall be set at £300,000 for the winter of 2004/05. The fund shall be used only if the relevant owning and operating companies are unable to cover refit costs. The existence of such a fund shall in no way reduce the responsibility of the vessels' owning and operating companies to aim to generate funds to cover refit costs themselves.
3. The Society is custodian of charitable funds and the Council of Management must exercise due diligence to ensure that such funds are used effectively. Therefore before any grant is made from this fund the Society's Council of Management should satisfy itself that the vessels' owning and operating companies are conducting themselves in an efficient manner. Should weaknesses in the management be agreed to exist and to be responsible for the need for capital funding, such weaknesses shall be addressed to the satisfaction of the Council of Management before any grant from this fund be made available, and the value of the grant reflected in an increased PSPS shareholding in the relevant owning company. Any such increase shall be irreversible.
4. Except in circumstances in which a grant from PSPS would be essential in allowing a paddle steamer to survive or to be returned to operational condition, grants made in any one year should not in total exceed interest received over the previous 12-month period together with the proceeds of the current year's fund-raising. Contributions to major refurbishment work on vessels owned by Paddle Steamer Kingswear Castle Trust and Waverley Steam Navigation Co. Limited, or grants given from donations provided for a specific purpose, and which it is within the Society's remit to support, are exempt from this condition.
5. Any grant in excess of £20,000 in respect of a paddle steamer other than those owned by Paddle Steamer Kingswear Castle Trust Ltd. or Waverley Steam Navigation Co. Limited shall be made only subsequent to an appropriate level of PSPS shareholding being obtained in the vessel's owning company or by another agreed constitutional method of influence. The level at which this requirement becomes relevant shall be reviewed annually.
6. The PSPS Council of Management should be satisfied that any project to be funded is realistic and likely to succeed, both in terms of the project itself and in terms of the capabilities of personnel entrusted with it. The Council should also be satisfied that any project to be funded is sustainable subsequent to its completion. Support should be conditional on Paddle Steamer Kingswear Castle Trust Ltd., Paddle Steamer Kingswear Castle Trust (Trading) Ltd., Waverley Excursions Ltd. and Waverley Steam Navigation Co. Limited having the opportunity to tender for any suitable work involved.
7. Should the Society agree to fund major capital work (i.e. over £20,000) on any vessel, a fund-raising campaign for the relevant project shall be undertaken and reserves should not be used without the existence of such a campaign.