**ATS Grant Funding Process**

1. **Programme Overview:**

The Transforming Lives Grant programme is for organisations that support those in the sport who are in need, for reasons of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage. It has been created to help groups seek a direct fund to support the costs such as a hardship fund, athletics equipment, start up kit for children & coaching fees.

ATS will provide grants of £250-£1,000 to grassroots organisations, clubs, groups and charities whose work is supporting those in athletics and running. In line with the Transforming Lives Project the Trustees will favour those supporting people in low income, who have a disability or those from ethnically and culturally diverse communities.

1. **Funding Amount:**

The total funding amount available for distribution during this cycle is **£5,000.** This amount has been allocated based on our budget approved by the Athletics Trust Scotland Board of Trustees.

1. **Grant Assessment Process:**

To ensure a fair and transparent distribution of grants, the following steps will be undertaken:

1. Application Submission:

Organisations will be invited to submit grant applications by email to info@athleticstrustscotland.org.uk. The application period will open on Monday 1st August and close on Monday 11th September 2023.

1. Initial Eligibility Review:

The Trustees will conduct an initial eligibility review of all received applications. This review will ensure that the applications meet the established criteria, which can be found [here.](https://athleticstrustscotland.org.uk/funding/)

1. Application Evaluation:

The Trustees will assess each eligible application based on predetermined evaluation criteria (see Evaluation Criteria document), which includes factors such as the impact of the proposed project, feasibility, alignment with ATS’s objectives, and financial need. The evaluation may be a thorough review of supporting documents and any additional information provided.

1. Funding Allocation:

Following the evaluation process, the Trustees will review the applications and make final decisions regarding the allocation of funds. Consideration will be given to distribute the grants across different categories, regions, and beneficiaries to ensure a broad impact and fair distribution.

1. Grant Notification and Feedback:

Successful applicants will be notified of their grant awards, and appropriate arrangements will be made for the disbursement of funds. Unsuccessful applicants will also be informed, and they may be provided with feedback on their applications to help them improve their future submissions.

1. **Reporting and Accountability:**

Grant recipients must use the grant within 12 months of receiving it. They will also be required to provide a progress report to ATS 12 months after receiving the grant, detailing the utilisation of funds, project milestones achieved, and any challenges encountered. This reporting will help track the impact of the grants and ensure accountability.