



The Fire Service Research  
& Training Trust

# Fire Service Research & Training Trust

Presentation to Fire & Rescue Statistics User Group

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Cath Reynolds

# Origins



The Fire Service Research  
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- Under the Fire Brigades Act of 1938 the UK insurance industry paid a lump sum to the Government in return for which it no longer contributed to certain local fire service expenditure.
- Part of the lump sum was distributed to local fire authorities at that time, while the remaining £285,000 (UK Pounds) was paid into the Trust to fund its purposes.
- The Trust did not operate during World War 2. The fire service was returned to local government in 1948 and grants have been made regularly in accordance with the terms of the original Declaration of Trust. Active management of investments for most of the Trust's life has offset inflation and increased the value of the amount in hand to around £3.5 million.

# Current Trustees



Sir Graham Meldrum (Chairman)

Dr Brian Allaway

Dr Vicki Harris

Cath Reynolds

Dr Debbie Smith

John Lancaster (Secretary)

# Aims

Within the objects of the Trust, the trustees aim to promote and assist:

- Research into methods of extinguishing fires and of protecting life and property from fire.
- Training Fire Service personnel.
- Improvements in community fire safety.
- Efficiency and effectiveness of the UK fire services as a whole.

# Applications

## What kind of application may be eligible?

- Promotes fire research, the development of fire service training or proposes to break new ground in fire prevention, fire protection or rescue techniques.
- Demonstrates there is no obvious alternative source of sufficient financing.
- Will directly or indirectly benefit the British public and/or promote the safety and effectiveness of its fire service personnel.
- Shows the applicant will be making a significant input of time, organisation and where appropriate, finance.
- Carries the endorsement of an academic body, professional association or public agency.

# Past grants

- Various diversity initiatives
- Fire Scholarships and bursaries awarded by arrangement with IFE.
- Funding for a Princes Trust national fire liaison officer.
- Research into effectiveness of home risk assessments.
- National database of historic buildings in Scotland.
- Reduction of physiological stress in firefighters.
- Research into high potential management development.
- Arson prevention projects.
- UK rescue training events.
- Research aimed at ensuring the health, fitness and operational performance of fire service personnel.
- Research to codify modern methods of construction.

# Making an application



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Section	Comments
Background	This section should describe the background to the bid, in particular explaining why the research/training is needed.
Purpose	This should be a statement of the overall objectives of the proposed work, paying particular attention to expected and achievable outcomes. Successful bids for grant, will be designed to make a significant quantified contribution to the objectives of the Trust
Outcomes	Every approved project will have a definable outcome specified, describing who will benefit from the research or training and how that application relates to the objectives of the Trust.
Planning	This should contain a preliminary outline of the project plan. It should be as concise as possible while containing enough information to convince Trustees of the specific, measurable, action planned, which is realistic and of a timely nature. The plan should specify appropriate and costed milestones, with desired outcomes for each stage. It should also highlight any risks to the project or the delivery of outcomes. An endorsement by an academic body, professional association or public agency will be taken into account by the Trustees, when applications are being considered.

# Making an application

Section	Comments
People	This should contain a brief review of the skills, experience, competencies and qualifications of those applying for the grant, where it is relevant to the grant application. It should also highlight any other relevant work they have undertaken and any potential conflicts of interest
Resourcing	All resourcing costs should be fully specified, in terms of human resources, equipment needs and any other financial requirements. It may be an advantage if an application has attracted some form of match funding and if this is the case it should be specified here.
Evaluating	The methodology to be used, in order to evaluate success in contributing to the objectives of the Trust, should be outlined in the grant application. It is expected that an appropriate evaluation will be included in both progress and final reports to the Trustees.
Reporting	In order to satisfy themselves that projects are progressing satisfactorily, Trustees will expect regular progress reports. These should be relatively concise, and submitted as appropriate to the length of the proposed research project. The precise timing of progress reports will be subject to the type of project, however, reports may be required at the completion of project phases, and the release of grant may be subject to the satisfactory completion of such reports. For longer, ongoing projects, an annual summary report may be appropriate. A final report, summarising the work and its achievements in terms of the objectives of the Trust, suitable for publication on the Trust website, will be required for all projects. Trustees will specify the reporting requirements when grants are approved.



# Get in touch



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