**Remedial Conservation Grant Scheme**

**Guidance notes for applicants**

AIM is grateful to the Pilgrim Trust for funding the **AIM Collections Care Grant Scheme**, **Remedial Conservation Grant Scheme** and the AIM ICON Pilgrim Trust **Collections Care Audit Scheme.**

These grants are intended to help small to medium size museums with the conservation of objects in their collections. Accessioned objects in any media are eligible. Whilst we expect museums to have a conservation plan, the object does not have to be the most at risk in the collection. However, the reason for your choice must be made clear in your application; for example, the object might be planned for use in a temporary exhibition. Conservation work should be carried out by a conservator chosen from the ICON register ([www.conservationregister.com](http://www.conservationregister.com)) unless there are exceptional circumstances where this is not possible.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible for an AIM Conservation Grant, museums must:

1. Be an AIM member.
2. Be an accredited museum or have received ‘Working Towards’ status, (if you are in the latter category AIM reserves the right to discuss your accreditation application with the relevant authority).
3. Be a registered Charity, an associated charity can receive the grant on the museum's behalf, if the museum itself is not a charity.
4. Have fewer than 50,000 visitors p.a. OR a turnover of less than £300,000 p.a. (Please note in the case of branch museums, the total turnover of the parent organisation must be less than £300,000 p.a.). Please base your visitor figures and turnover on an average year pre-2020.
5. Application to this scheme does not prevent museums applying to the Pilgrim Trust for other, unrelated projects.
6. Applicants may apply to the scheme more than once for different projects, we ask that previous award projects are completed before applying. Priority is given to applicants that have not previously received funding.

**Awards**

* The maximum grant awarded will be £10,000. It is expected that the average grant awarded will be around £5,000.
* Grants will be paid 50% on award and 50% on completion and receipt of the conservator’s treatment report, evidence of expenditure, article for publication and images.
* Applicants do not need to offer partnership funding although it will be welcome if they do.
* Bids may be made to part-fund larger schemes but not if that scheme is already being funded by the Pilgrim Trust.

**Eligible costs**

* Project costs may include the conservator’s labour and materials, transport (including specialised packing) and reassembly.
* The grant will NOT cover any costs for your own labour or staff time, nor for any subsequent exhibition.
* We cannot fund conservation treatment arising from accidental or wilful damage to museum objects, nor can we support applications for in situ building conservation or routine maintenance.
* Objects will need to be accessioned within the collections and owned by the organisation.
* If you are VAT Registered, recoverable VAT should be deducted from any invoices before claiming.

**Grant process**

* The AIM Programmes & Finance Officer will acknowledge receipt of applications, check that the project is eligible and may contact you to discuss if any additional data needed.
* Applications will be considered by a committee of AIM Trustees and independent experts.
* Applicants will be informed of the outcome within four weeks of each closing date.
* Unsuccessful applicants will be given reasons for the bid failure and an indication as to whether they can resubmit the same bid for any subsequent round.
* Successful applicants will receive a payment for 50% of the grant at the start of the project and 50% upon completion of the grant.

You may find it helpful to talk to your local Museums Development Officer (MDO) before making an application. They have considerable experience with grant applications and may be able to help with finding a suitable conservator or suggest how you might strengthen your application. We would be happy to advise you who best to contact for your area or visit: <https://mduk.org.uk/>

**Conditions of grant**

* The object must be the property of the applying museum (if the object is disposed of within 10 years the Pilgrim Trust has the right to reclaim the award).
* The object must be put on public display for an appropriate period, having due regard to its sensitivity and care.
* The award should be acknowledged on the appropriate label with the words *“Conserved with the aid of a grant from the AIM Pilgrim Trust Conservation Scheme”.*
* All museums must supply a copy of the conservation report and relevant photography.
* If requested, applicants should provide information to the scheme’s external evaluator and or case studies for AIM print or online publications.

**Applications**

Applications should be sent by email to the AIM Programmes and Finance Officer [tonia.collett@aim-museums.co.uk](mailto:tonia.collett@aim-museums.co.uk) in PDF format.

Contact details can be found on the AIM website [www.aim-museums.co.uk](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk).

***Projects should, ideally, be discussed with the AIM Programmes Officer or the Programmes Manager prior to application. Please contact the office by phone,*** ***0333 305 8060, or by email.***

**Mandatory enclosures (PDF versions.)**

* **Conservator’s Quotation and Treatment Proposal: we expect a conservator to have physically assessed the subject of the application and provided a quotation with details of how it will be treated**
* **Conservators CV**
* **Photos of the object’s present condition. Please ensure all photos make clear the scale and particular areas of conservation concern**
* **Organisation diagram: please indicate which posts, if any, are paid and the position of the project supervisor.**
* **Most recent annual report and accounts**

**Assessment criteria**

* **The importance of the object(s) to the museum and its place in the Conservation Plan.**
* **That the object(s) will be on display for an appropriate time (dependent on object type).**
* **That the project described is appropriate to achieve the aim of preserving or restoring the object.**
* **That the conservator is appropriate.**
* **That post restoration storage and care is appropriate.**

**Application form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Legal Name of Museum |  |
|  |  |
| Name of Museum if different from above |  |
|  |  |
| Address |  |
|  |  |
| Project Leader |  |
|  |  |
| Role/Title within Museum |  |
|  |  |
| Email |  |
|  |  |
| Phone |  |
|  |  |
| Registered Charity Number (if not a registered charity, please enclose a copy of the constitution) |  |
|  |  |
| Registered Company Number (if applicable) |  |
|  |  |
| Registered VAT Number (if applicable) |  |
|  |  |
| AIM Membership Number |  |
|  |  |
| Number of days open to the public (in a normal, pre-Covid calendar year) |  |
|  |  |
| Annual visitor numbers in an average, pre-2020, year |  |
|  |  |
| Annual turnover in an average, pre-2020, year |  |
|  |  |
| Accreditation status/number |  |
|  |  |
| If not Accredited, target date for achieving this? |  |
|  |  |
| Have you discussed your project with a member of the AIM team? |  |
|  |  |
| What is the total project cost? (N.B. if VAT registered, please exclude recoverable VAT from your costings) |  |
|  |  |
| How much money are you requesting from AIM? |  |
|  |  |
| If not the total project cost, where is the balance coming from and has this been secured? |  |
|  |  |
| Are the item/s to be conserved owned by the Museum/Trust? |  |
|  |  |
| What are the proposed start and end dates for the project? | Start:  End: |

**The Chair of Trustees or Company Secretary should sign the declaration below:**

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is true and accurate. I declare that I am authorised to make this application and accept the terms and conditions listed in the guidelines.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signed |  |
|  |  |
| Name |  |
|  |  |
| Position/Role |  |
|  |  |
| Date |  |

**Grant Proposal – About your project**

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| --- |
| **1. Project title** |
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| **2. Description of the project:** please give a brief description of your project. This should include the reason you wish to carry out the conservation, how it relates to your overall collection. Please describe the object’s current condition and explain why it was chosen for conservation. (up to 300 words) |
|  |
| **3. Urgency of the conservation required and the stability of the object.**  Is the object unstable or deteriorating rapidly? Is it required for the exhibition? Let us know the deadlines. (up to 300 words) |
|  |
| **4. Heritage importance and significance of the object:** please describe the heritage importance and significance of the object/s and its/their place within the conservation plan. If you have any evidence of its heritage merits from outside your organisation, please provide it. (up to 300 words) |
|  |
| **5. Description of Museum:** please give a brief description of your museum, including what you are a museum of, when you were founded, whether you are volunteer, or staff run etc. (up to 50 words) |
|  |
| **6. That the object(s) will be on display for an appropriate time (dependent on object type).** Please describe how the object will be displayed, exhibited or stored, post conservation, give details of how the object will be accessed/viewed by the public over the next five years. You will need to provide details on the post conservation conditions and **how you will achieve them**. If the object is not going to be on permanent display indicate the length of the time it will be on display or its rotation period. Please give the environmental conditions in terms of temperature, relative humidity, light, and security of the area where the object will be exhibited/stored in the future. (up to 300 words) |
|  |
| **7. That the project is appropriate to achieve the aim of preserving or restoring the object**  Details of the planned conservation work with quote for cost: please Include/attach the proposed treatment plan and quotation. (up to 200 words) |
|  |
| **8. That the conservator is appropriate**  Please give details of the Icon registered conservator and CV of the proposed conservator: if your quote is not from a conservator on the ICON register you will need to give reasons for this, as well as details of the skills and experience of the proposed conservator. (up to 200 words) |
|  |
| **9. Has the object(s) ever had conservation treatment before?** |
|  |
| **10. Images of object (s)** |
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