

**METROPOLITAN PUBLIC  
GARDENS ASSOCIATION**  
Founded 1882



**GRANT GUIDELINES**

The Metropolitan Public Gardens Association is able to fund a number of modest grants to enhance and preserve public open spaces within London's 33 Boroughs.

**Who we fund:**

**Grants can be awarded to:**

Organisations, amenity groups and friends groups who maintain and improve public open spaces.

It is important that applications should be concerned only with greenspaces which are open to the public. These might include:

- archaeological sites
- burial grounds
- church grounds
- city farms
- commons
- community gardens
- playgrounds
- public parks
- public squares
- recreational spaces
- street planting
- townscape features

Garden areas in institutions which the public can visit. These might include

- art galleries
- educational trusts
- historic houses
- hospices
- hospitals
- libraries
- museums
- schools/colleges
- workplace gardens
- youth clubs

Housing Estate Gardens if there is public access.

We also support other charities with a similar remit to ours. Those which we currently support are:

- London in Bloom
- London Children's Flower Society
- Open Garden Squares Weekend
- The London Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

**What we fund:**

**Grants are awarded for the following:**

- The planting of trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, bulbs, seeds and accompanying growing material (such as compost) as part of a carefully planned planting scheme
- The provision of raised beds and troughs in connection with the above
- The provision of benches
- The provision of tool sheds
- The provision of tools

## **How to apply**

Fill in the application form as fully as possible – photographs and plans can be pasted into the word document or supplied separately. You will need to include a scale (or dimensioned) plan of the area, photographs, a detailed list of the proposed plants, soil improvers and sundries with accurate costings. As much detail about your project is helpful, including information about the site conditions such as whether it is sunny or shady, dry or wet soil conditions etc.

With regard to benches, we require that they are secured safely into the ground and that an engraved plaque is attached to the bench inscribed as follows;

DONATED BY  
METROPOLITAN PUBLIC GARDENS ASSOCIATION  
(MONTH YEAR)

Applications should be emailed to [secretary@mpga.org.uk](mailto:secretary@mpga.org.uk)

Please contact the Secretary if you need further assistance with your application, including help with suppliers for plants, tools and benches.

## **What we do not fund:**

**We are unable to support the following:**

- costs relating to personnel – volunteers, gardeners, researchers etc
- any building or architectural materials including paving, fencing, sculptures, garden statuary or ephemera
- any costs relating to administration or maintenance
- any costs associated with the maintenance of trees or shrubs such as pruning or crown lifting
- the provision of construction materials
- training

## **How much are our grants**

Our grants range from a few hundred pounds up to £1,500 according to the size of the site.

## **When to apply**

Meetings of the Executive Committee take place four times a year when the applications are considered. Deadlines for each meeting are as follows:

End of February  
End of May  
End of August  
End of November

## **Site Visits**

Each grant application is examined on its merits and site visits are frequently made by the Grants Committee to assess the application.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All Grants are only to be used for the project specified in the application. In the event that the specified project does not proceed (i.e. due to a shortfall in the total project cost) then you are required to return, in total, the MPGA grant awarded.