

Responses to Members' Queries on the Work of the Nationwide Foundation
From the Nationwide Foundation's Board of Trustees

"The Nationwide Foundation's Board of Trustees recently invited members to provide feedback or ask a question about the Foundation's work. All the responses received related to how the Foundation selects charities for support. In answer to this, the Foundation is a registered charity (no: 1065552) and so must operate in accordance with its charitable objects and achieve public benefit. The Foundation was created, and is funded by the Nationwide Building Society and as such, has always sought to help people and communities in need. It currently focuses support on housing and finance issues affecting disadvantaged groups. The current criteria, like past criteria, were determined following a strategic review of the Foundation's grant making. These take place approximately every three years and enable the Foundation to identify gaps where it can focus its grant support for maximum benefit. During strategic reviews the Trustees consider:

- The available budget and how best to deploy this 'nationwide'
- Research into areas of need which are not well supported by other funders, or government.

The Foundation is currently focusing its housing and finance related support on charities which help older people and survivors of domestic abuse. An example of work funded is being undertaken by Age Concern Wirral which is assisting those affected by early onset dementia and their families. Considerations include help to arrange power of attorney, maximise income, particularly where the sufferer has been the main breadwinner, and help with housing/living arrangements which address care needs.

The Foundation has won and been shortlisted for awards for its grant making:

- Third Sector Excellence – innovation by trusts and foundations category, shortlisted nominee 2010
- Charity Times – grant making category 2006
- International Visual Communications Award 2006
- Third Sector Excellence – overall strategy category, shortlisted nominee 2006

The Foundation invites all members to encourage eligible charities to apply for a grant. Further information about the Foundation, including the current funding criteria, grant application forms and charities previously supported, is available on the Foundation's website: www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk"

The Nationwide Foundation's Board of Trustees, July 2010