



The Gatton Trust Limited

Financial Policy and Procedures

**This policy was originated by Louise Miller
Updated and approved March 2023**

It is next due for re-approval during Spring 2025

The Gatton Trust Ltd Financial Policy

This document sets out the procedures for the day-to-day management of The Gatton Trust's finances. The policy ensures that:

- There are consistent and transparent procedures in place to ensure that assets are safeguarded and to prevent misappropriation and misallocation of monies.
- The organisation's assets are used to the best advantage.
- The controls are appropriate for the level and type of activity, to ensure efficient and professional management.

1. Bank Accounts

- Bank accounts in the name of the organisation are opened or closed only with the full approval of the Board/Management Committee.
- There shall always be proper approval for movements between, and payments from, bank accounts.
- Two authorised signatories, who shall be unrelated to one another, are required to approve any direct debit or standing order.
- All documentation shall be retained and payments shall be monitored to ensure that the arrangement is cancelled when the organisation stops using the goods or services being supplied.

2. Cheques

- The authorised cheque signatories are listed on the following page. Each signatory has the responsibility to make certain that cheques are made out to the correct payee and for the correct amount.
- A minimum of two signatories is required on all cheques.
- No signatory may sign a cheque payable to themselves or to a spouse/partner or relative.
- Where two signatories are authorising a payment, those individuals shall not be related to one another.
- No blank cheques may be signed.
- All cheques are hand written and as far as practicable, drawn up by a person other than a signatory.

3. Debit / Credit Cards

- The credit card will be used by the Chief Executive only or by her permission. Agreement from a trustee will be required for purchases over £500 and items falling outside the budget

4. Electronic (Internet) banking

- Payment by electronic banking will require the agreement of two people.
- Payments of up to £1000, or payments to RAAS for payroll can be agreed by one signatory and Lucy Narramore, Head of Finance.
- Other payments must be agreed by two signatories.

5. Payment of Expenses

- The payment of expenses includes expenses for travel and other out-of-pocket expenses, as agreed in advance.
- Any mileage rate paid will not be above HMRC rates (thus not resulting in a tax or national insurance liability for the organisation or the claimant).
- There shall be a clear requirement to complete expenses claims and to provide receipts.
- Expense claims shall contain a self-declaration that the claim is accurate and incurred in connection with the business of the organisation.
- Expenses claims shall be authorised by someone other than the claimant

- Reimbursement should be made by cheque or bank transfer as far as possible, to minimise cash payments.

6. Cash

Payments in cash should be kept to a minimum due to the greater risk that handling cash presents and difficulties that can arise in establishing correctness & control over cash transactions.

Where payments are made in cash, the following procedures will be followed:

- Cash payments shall be for small amounts only
- Cash shall be paid from a petty cash float specifically kept for such payments, and not from incoming cash or by way of direct withdrawal from the bank account
- Supporting documentation for the cash payment shall be provided and should be authorised by someone other than the person who maintains the petty cash or the person making the payment.

7. Checks on Expenditure

All expenditure of the organisation's funds must be properly accounted for and in accordance with the objectives of the organisation.

All payments should be promptly recorded, including details of the nature of the payment, supported by relevant receipts or invoices.

Regular checks must be made to ensure records are being accurately maintained and that there are no discrepancies.

LIST OF APPROVED CHEQUE SIGNATORIES

David Frank – Chair

Peter Dawson - Trustee

Louise Miller – Chief Executive

Margaret Kippen – Trustee

Liz Lowe –Bursar RAAS and Trustee