Trust

GRANT WRITING TOP TIPS

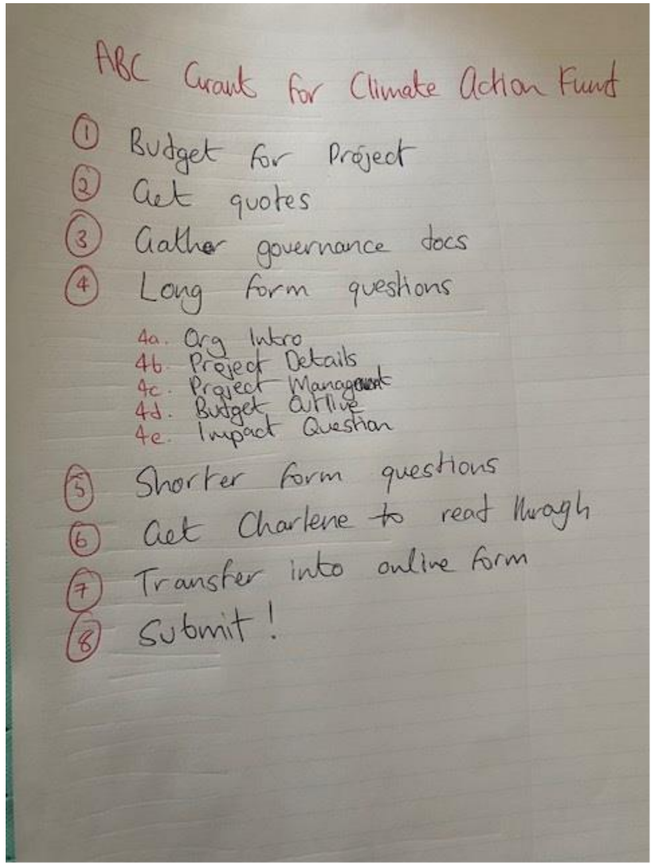
Joanne Ryan, Trust Grant Writing

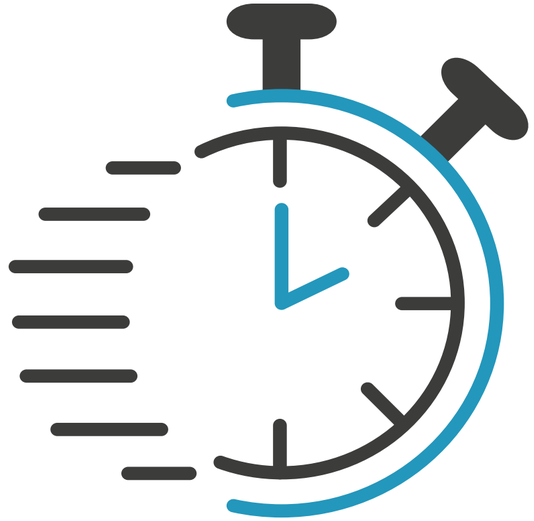
ONE WORD

Pop in the chat one word that comes to mind
when you think of grant writing...

- **DON’T LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE**

- Make a realistic plan
- Register if you need to
- Break it down into smaller pieces
- Delegate if possible
- Give yourself a fake deadline!





2. DO READ THE FULL APPLICATION CRITERIA

- Read the criteria and guidelines
- Attend any webinars
- Ask questions
- Use their language
- Don’t just fire ahead

3. DON’T SHOEHORN A PROJECT IN

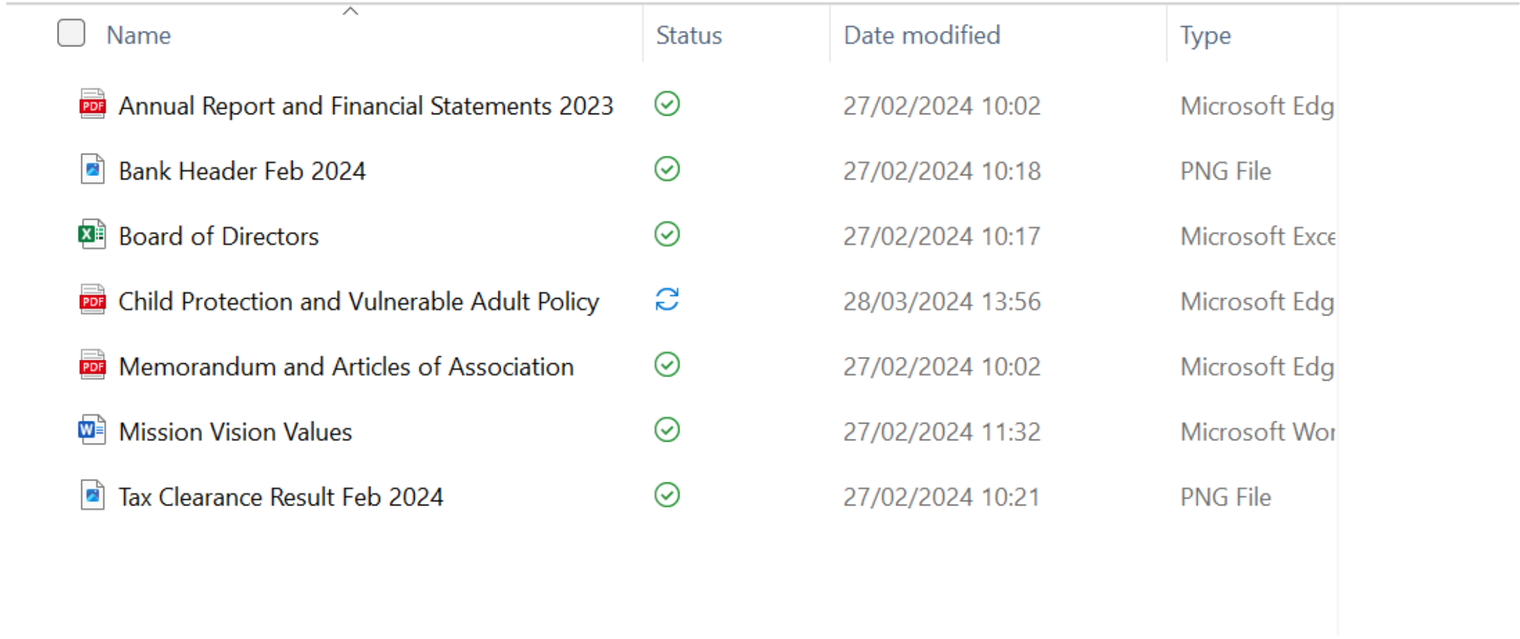
- Don’t make a project fit
- Don’t “hope for the best”
- Don’t chase the money
- Assess if it is worth it

4. DO INCLUDE ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

- Keep a folder of documents handy
- Make sure your documents are up to date
- Gather the documents early

4a. PREP YOUR DOCUMENT FOLDER

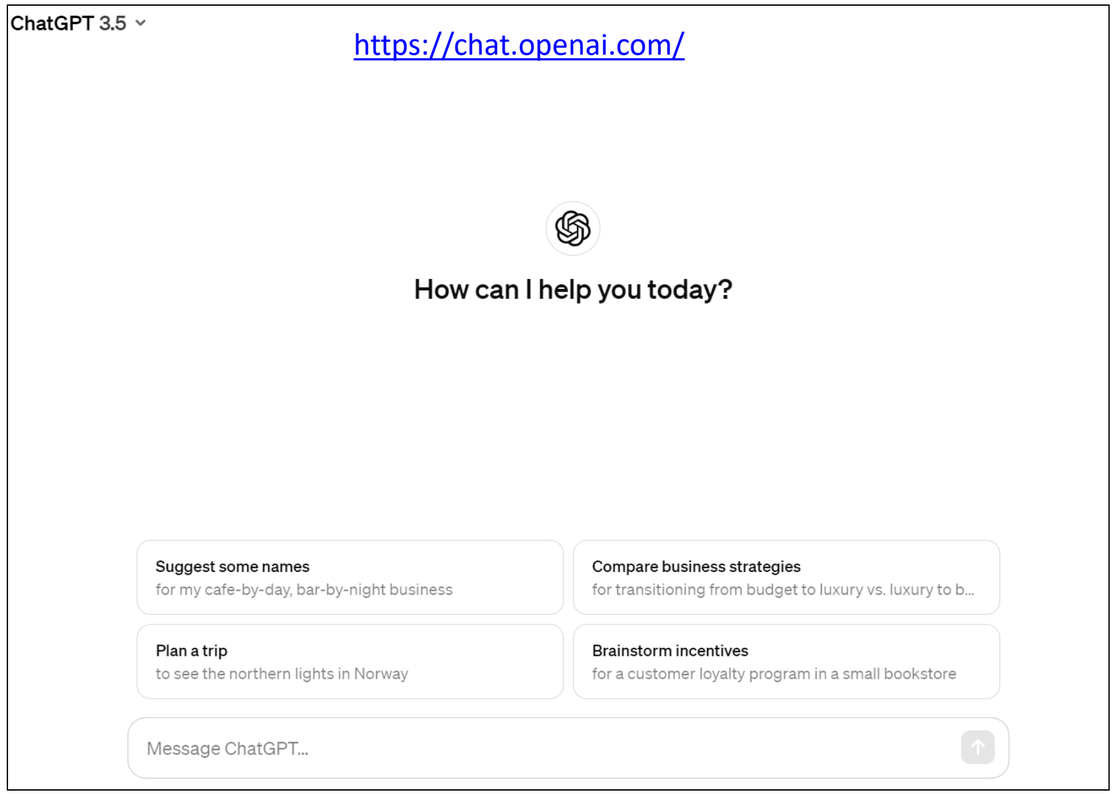
- Annual Reports
- Financial Statements
- TCAN
- Bank Header
- Board of Directors



5. DON’T JUST COPY AND PASTE

- Don’t be tempted to send the same application
- Tailor to the fund priorities
- Use their language
- Don’t rely on ChatGPT

5a. ENGINEERING AI



You

- Name of charity – ABC Charity
- Location XYZ Community Centre
- Purpose – free childcare for women trying to access training to start their own businesses in disadvantages area
- Ad hoc high quality childcare support to take away barriers to women accessing education

Please write this in the first person, in UK English, to describe my charity in a grant application

ChatGPT

ABC Charity, located within the XYZ Community Centre, is dedicated to providing free childcare services to women in disadvantaged areas who are striving to access training and initiate their entrepreneurial journeys. Our purpose is clear: to remove barriers hindering women's access to education and economic independence by offering ad hoc, high-quality childcare support. By alleviating the childcare burden, we empower these women to focus on their studies and business pursuits without distraction. Our efforts extend beyond practical support; we aim to foster a supportive community that champions women's empowerment and resilience. At ABC Charity, we believe in creating a more inclusive and equitable society, one empowered woman at a time.

6. DO REALLY THINK ABOUT THE BUDGET

- How much do you really need?
- How much will it actually cost?
- Do we need matched funding?
- Is the timeline realistic

7. DON’T USE JARGON

- The Granny Rule
- No acronyms or sector-specific language
- Write a jargon-y draft first
- Clarity is key
- Outputs v Outcomes v Impact
- Practice elevator pitch

8. DO GET SOMEONE TO READ IT

- Ask someone outside of the project to read it
- Book a specific time
- Don’t take offense to feedback!

9. DON’T BULLSH*T

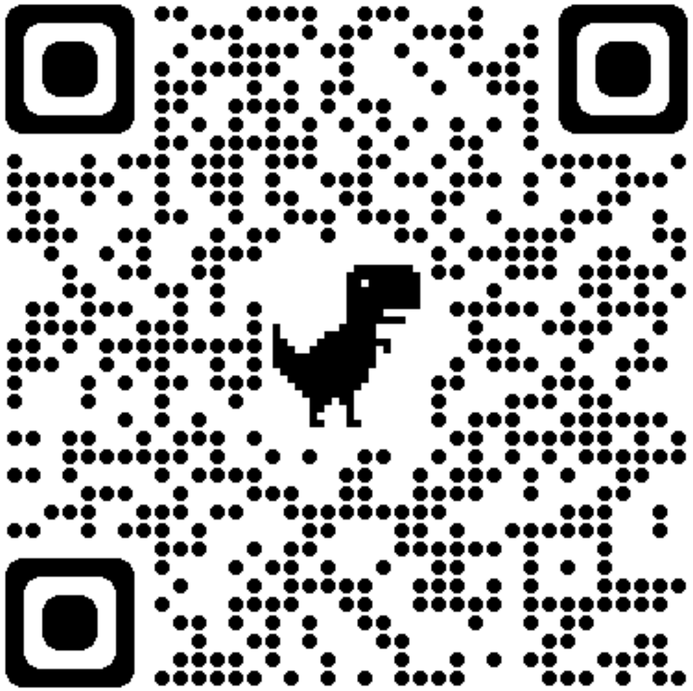
- Be prepared to deliver
- Use real evidence
- SMART Goals

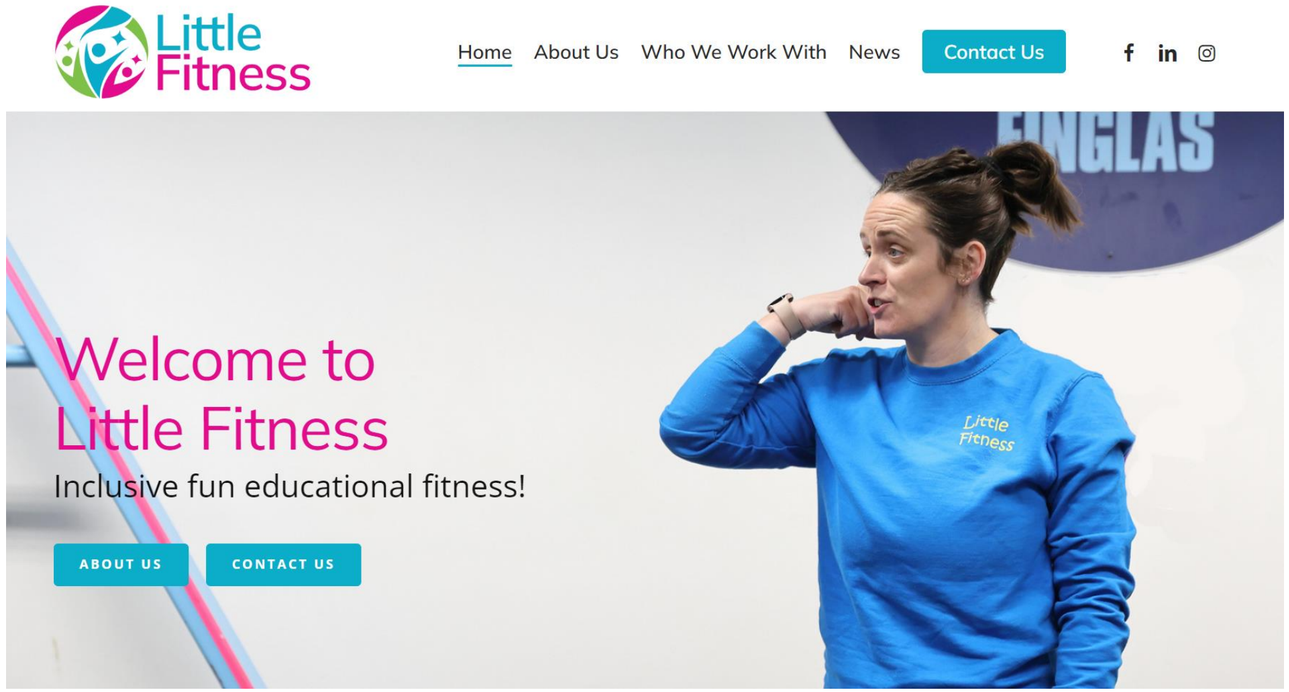
10. DO GET FEEDBACK

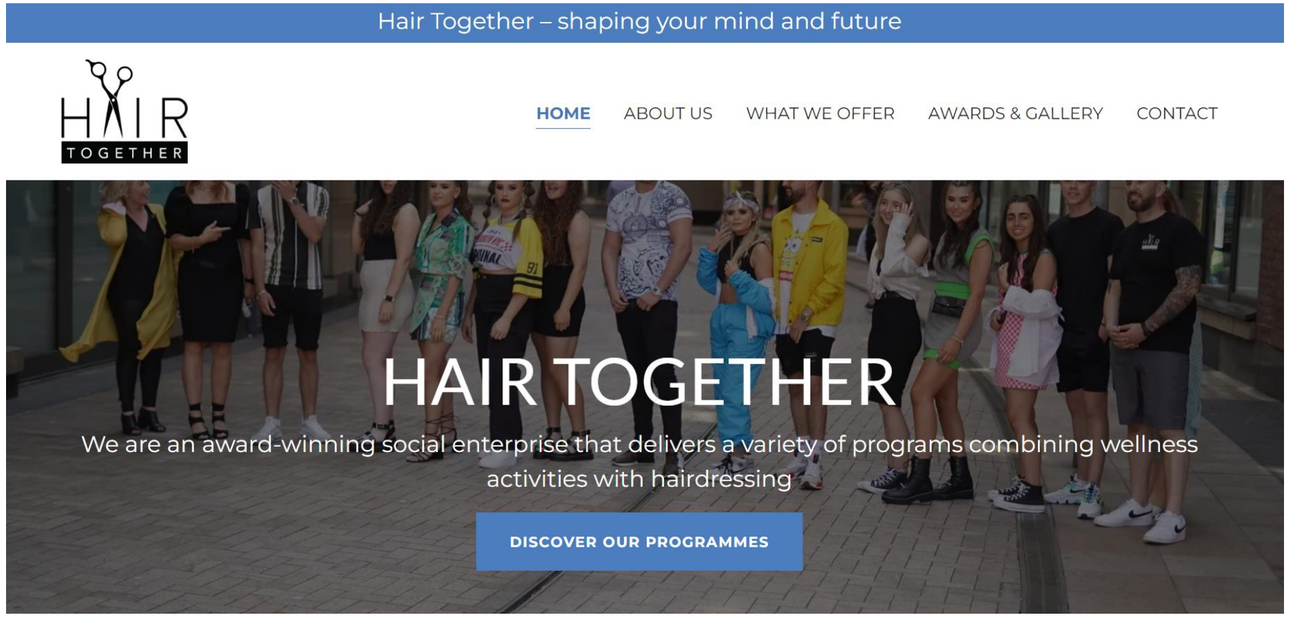
- Get feedback whether you get funding or not
- Learn from it, make notes
- Talk to each other
- Feed back to them

WHERE TO FIND GRANTS?

- The Wheel / Fundingpoint
- Local Authorities
- PPN / LDC / Partnerships
- Activelink
- LinkedIn / Instagram
- Gov.ie
- Annual Reports (other orgs)
- Direct Funders (newsletters)
- https://grantsandfunding.ie/
- Tell everyone!







SUCCESS STORIES

- Very clear purpose
- Programmes that can be scaled
- Measurable
- Very considered when they approach funding
- Great at reporting & PR

THANK YOU

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USEFUL LINKS

- https://www.socialentrepreneurs.ie/
- https://activelink.ie/
- https://www.carmichaelireland.ie/
- https://www.wheel.ie/
- https://rethinkireland.ie/
- https://www.communityfoundation.ie/
- https://www.gov.ie/en/help/departments/
- https://www.artscouncil.ie/funding/
- https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding
- https://grantsandfunding.ie/

ELEVATOR PITCH QUESTIONS

- What is the problem?
- Who is having the problem?
- How could you solve the problem?
- Why are you the best solution?
- What have you already done?