The Seabird Group
Research Grant Guidelines & Conditions
(June 2022 version)

1. The Seabird Group supports projects on seabirds, focussing in particular on the research, survey and conservation of seabirds. Priority is given to Seabird Group members working on Atlantic seabirds. In addition, grants may be awarded for the promotion of seabirds to the general public. The group does not support projects that are not related to seabirds and would not normally consider supporting projects requiring a grant commitment of more than 3 consecutive years.

2. Funds available are limited; therefore not all grant applications submitted will be successful. We aim to fund 5-6 grants a year. The current maximum grant is £500 per project.

3. Applications will be considered from any individual or group. Applicants must state whether or not they have applied for, or intend to apply for, or have received grant aid from other sources, as this may be taken into consideration in determining the level of grant awarded.

4. Applicants who are awarded a research grant from The Seabird Group are not eligible to apply for a new grant for one year (i.e. two rounds) after the award of their grant.

5. We particularly encourage projects which will increase knowledge of seabird populations in areas where existing data are poor, assist in the development of ongoing monitoring, or develop new methods that can improve estimates of seabird numbers.

6. If the project is to be conducted outside the applicant's country of residence/study, at least one local collaborator should be involved in the project and named in the application.

7. Details of all methods should be stated in the application form; grants will not usually be awarded where methods are not clear.

8. Grants for the ringing of seabirds can be awarded. The aims of the ringing operation must be described, including the previous experience of the applicant(s). Any equipment purchased may remain the property of the ringer.

9. A report must be produced at the end of the grant; if the grant is for more than one year, annual progress reports must be produced. Reports should be ~800-1000 words in length and ideally contain one or two photos and/or figures. Reports will usually be published in

the Seabird Group newsletter. Alternatively, we accept submissions to our journal SEABIRD if appropriate.

10. The Seabird Group must be acknowledged in all outputs relating to the project.

11. Grants can cover costs for travel (including boats), subsistence, and equipment, but cannot cover staff costs or the purchase of vehicles. For environmental reasons, projects which require a substantial of travel, especially high-carbon travel, are unlikely to be funded.

12. Grants are awarded on the assumption that successful applicants will apply for, or have already obtained, appropriate licences to conduct the work (e.g. ringing permits, BTO Special Methods Technical Panel, Schedule 1). We also expect all grant awardees to secure landowners' permission before the work begins. Awardees are also responsible for organising appropriate health & safety assessments. We encourage applicants to include ethical considerations of their work in the application. We may contact applicants to ask for more information if reviewers feel there is a lack of detail about ethical considerations.

13. Applications should be made electronically using the form provided on our website. There are two calls each year, with deadlines on 31st October and 28th/29th February. The grant applications are assessed annually in November and March. We aim to inform applicants of the outcome of their application within six weeks.

14. Applications should be detailed enough to allow a decision to be made on the award of the grant with respect to the conditions outlined. Insufficient detail will result in the grant not being awarded.

15. End of grant reports must contain sufficient detail to provide an assessment of whether the objectives have been met as stated in the grant application, be they partially or wholly met.