

Advice on the use of AI in grant applications

The use of AI tools is increasing across home and work settings, including in the preparation of grant, job and tender applications.

Groundwork UK recognises that AI can help organisations assemble and review information that might be useful in applying for a grant. We also know that using AI tools might help some organisations apply for funds where they may not have been able to or found it difficult previously. We welcome applicants using whatever tools and resources they need to support their proposals. However, we also know that content generated using AI may not always reflect the specific experience, evidence or context needed for a strong application. We therefore offer the following guidance for those using AI when applying for funds we manage.

Guidance

Applicants should review any AI-generated content carefully to ensure it is relevant, accurate and appropriate to the question being asked. Carefully check that the content generated:

- answers each question directly
 - accurately reflects your organisation's work
 - clearly explains what you are proposing to deliver and how.
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- AI tools should be used responsibly and in line with relevant legal and regulatory requirements.
 - Personal or confidential information should not be shared with generative AI tools unless there is explicit permission to do so.
 - Applicants remain responsible for the accuracy and honesty of the information included in their application or report.
 - Information shared with Groundwork UK should reflect the applicant's own work, context and contribution.
 - Any use of generative AI outputs in an application or report should be acknowledged where required.
 - Applicants should follow any additional AI-related guidance provided by Groundwork UK in contracts, grant agreements or application materials.

As an organisation with strong ethical values and environmental commitments, we understand the challenges inherent in the rapid development and spread of AI technology. We have made the judgement that the benefits of AI to our own organisation, and our ability to deliver our charitable purpose, are significant, but that we will only use AI where it genuinely brings significant value. We will also keep this position under review as the technology and the regulations around it continue to evolve.

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