



Benevolent & Children' Fund News

September 2025



The Catenian Benevolent Fund – Benevolent & Children's Fund (catenianbenevolence.org)

The Trustees of the Benevolent Fund meet six times per year and the most recent meeting was on 16th September 2025. Five Trustees were present in person and two by video conference.

Sixteen awards were made, with grants totalling £130,736 and loans £243,635, in total £374,371. The Emergency Committee had been called into action four times since the previous meeting in July. Loan repayments received amounted to £42,794.

Seven cases were reviewed. These are cases where a loan has been made previously and remains outstanding. The Trustees review such cases at intervals of no longer than two years. Occasionally, a beneficiary might offer to start making repayments: more often, it is appropriate to offer additional assistance: most often the file is put away for a further review in two years time.

A further 15 cases were considered, either as a result of actions arising from previous meetings or from correspondence received.

RESERVES

	18/07/2025	14/09/2025
Equities	£5,481,995	£5,576,283
Bonds	£116,731	£1,080,193
Property Fund	£997,755	£997,755
Total	£6,596,482	£7,654,231
Cash held for investment	£1,132,658	£194,017
Cash at Bank	£135,191	£71,614
Total Reserves	£7,864,331	£7,919,862

There had been three transactions in the portfolio since the previous meeting.

All three transactions took place on 4th August and transferred £974,474 from cash available for investment into Gilts.

To summarise the Trustees' activity in the first half of the financial year, i.e. April-September 2025:

Thirteen grants awarded - £168,721;
Loan repayments of £58,560;
Six thank you letters received;

Nineteen loans awarded - £675,776;
Twenty nine loans reviewed;
888 items of correspondence received;
696 items of correspondence sent.

CHANGE TO A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (CIO)

Following discussions with the Association Secretary at the Trustees' and Keith Ainsworth at the previous Trustees' meeting in July, draft amendments to the CIO Constitution had been received from the Association Secretary just before the September meeting. They were considered in detail by the Trustees at their September meeting. An agreed position was reached on each of the eight amendments subject to consideration of them by their legal advisers.