



**Macclesfield Town Council
Community grant feedback form
End of project report**

It is a condition of Macclesfield Town Council community grants that a report of how the grant was used is given to the council on request.

Therefore, when requested, you are asked to complete the below form and return to the Assistant Town Clerk. If you have not yet spent the entire grant, we are asking you to return this form with a progress report and an explanation of when the money will be spent.

The form will be shared with the Finance Committee, in committee papers and on our website.

Name of organisation	Macclesfield Youth Brass Band
Contact name	Sandie Critchley
Date grant awarded	4 th March 2025
Amount awarded	£2,000

Please describe how your grant was used:

The grant from Macclesfield Town Council was used to subsidise the cost of our international tour to Belgium, celebrating the 20th anniversary of Macclesfield Youth Brass Band. Specifically, the funds helped to reduce participation costs for our young musicians and supported the travel and accommodation expenses of our essential volunteers. This ensured that all members, regardless of financial circumstances, could take part. The support directly enabled us to perform at four prestigious venues, including the Menin Gate Ceremony in Ypres, representing both our band and the Macclesfield community on an international stage.

How many people benefited from your project/activity or attended if it was an event?

Thirty-one young players and accompanying adult volunteers directly benefited from the tour experience. Audiences at our concerts in Ostend, Diksmuide, Ghent, and Ypres totalled several hundred people across the trip, with performances free and open to all. In addition, the wider community in Macclesfield benefited through the inspiration and pride generated by our band representing the town internationally, which will continue as we share our experiences through future local concerts and outreach.

What was the outcome of your grant?

The grant allowed us to deliver a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our young musicians, providing both musical development and a cultural exchange experience. By making the trip financially accessible, the grant ensured inclusivity and strengthened the band's ethos of equal opportunity. The outcome was enhanced confidence, teamwork, and personal growth for our young people, alongside greater visibility for Macclesfield Youth Brass Band on an international platform. Our performances, particularly at the Menin Gate, were deeply moving and will have a lasting impact on participants, audiences, and our organisation.

What have you learned from this project?

We have learned how valuable it is to combine strong planning with community support to enrich projects of this scale. The tour was always part of our 20th anniversary celebrations, but the council's contribution helped strengthen our fundraising efforts and made the experience more inclusive by reducing costs for families. We also saw first-hand how transformative international opportunities can be for young people, building their confidence, teamwork, and personal growth as well as developing their musical ability. Above all, the project highlighted the power of music to create connections across cultures and demonstrated the pride our community takes in supporting its young people.

Please insert at least one photograph of your project/event here:



Please also attach evidence of the promotion you have carried out for this project (press articles/screenshots of social media posts etc).



Please tick this box if you consent to the photographs you have provided being shared with the Finance Committee, on publicly available finance committee documents and on the

Macclesfield Town Council website



Please return this form to helena.gowler@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk