



Landscapes for All Fund Funding Criteria and Guidance Notes for Applicants 2024

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1. **Important dates**

- Applications will be accepted from March to September 2024 – or until the funding runs out. We encourage early submission to help avoid disappointment.
- All funded activities must be completed and agreed evidence submitted by the end of December 2024.

2. **How the fund works**

The application process is designed to support applicants to present a strong application and ensure a consistent approach across all applications, for example, on budget presentation and grant acknowledgement/ publicity.

3. **How much can you apply for?**

- 3.1 The panel will award up to £2,000 per application.
- 3.2 Grants are awarded for up to 100% of overall project costs.

4. **Who can apply?**

- 4.1 The Fund is open to organisations and groups from the public, private or voluntary sectors. Whilst applications from individuals are not precluded, there needs to be wider public benefit and it is expected that in most cases applications will be submitted on behalf of organisations, groups of people or partnerships.
- 4.2 Applicants may come from within or outside the designated Area of Outstanding National Beauty (now branded, and referred to from hereon, as the National Landscape). Activities

must be based in either the Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape or the Dedham Vale National Landscape.

4.3 Applications must meet the Criteria of the Fund to enable visits and activities for people or groups who would not normally visit rural places and spend time in nature within the Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape or the Dedham Vale National Landscape.

4.4 Applicants need to have a bank account for full grant payment to be invoiced from and paid into. If this is not possible, the applicant may request to nominate a partner organisation to provide a bank account for project purposes.

5. What Landscapes for All funds

Funding can be used for practical costs, such as travel, and to help people learn about and better appreciate the countryside. The following list is not all encompassing but gives examples of what costs the Landscapes for All Fund may support: practical work, events, activities, training, equipment, materials, technology, interpretation, publicity, contract work, professional services or staff time.

6. What makes a strong project?

Successful applications must clearly demonstrate benefits to people who would not normally visit or spend time in nature either because they may not know what opportunities are available for them to enjoy nature and/or have particular needs which are preventing them from enjoying nature. Note the Equality Act 2010 characteristics: age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

7. Introduction to the Landscapes for All Fund

7.1 As part of the Celebrating 50 Years project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, a fund of £10,000 has been made available to distribute. To be shared between the Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths and Dedham Vale National Landscapes. The funding does not have to be spread evenly between the two National Landscapes.

7.2 The Government commissioned Landscapes Review of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks (2019) identified the need to engage with a broader range of society in delivering AONB purpose. The National Landscapes are committed to equality of opportunities to access the Landscapes for All Fund and seek to attract applications from the widest range of society possible.

7.3 Projects funded by the Landscapes for All Fund will share the vision for a sustainable future, as summarised in each National Landscape Management Plan and pledged in The Colchester Declaration in 2019 by the National Association for AONBs (now branded and referred to as the National Landscapes Association).

8. Basic Criteria Required to Pass First Sift

8.1 The activity will take place within the National Landscape.

8.2 The activity will benefit people who would not normally visit rural places and spend time in nature.

8.3 The activity can be completed and all invoices and evaluation can be submitted to the National Landscape Team by end of December 2024.

8.4 The project costs seem fair and reasonable.

9. Mandatory Criteria

- 9.1 For community groups only - the applicant can provide details of two people who will sign the Funding Agreement on behalf of their organisation. The Funding Agreement may be signed by one person representing a business or professional organisation.
- 9.2 The applicant has demonstrated sufficient experience and understanding to deliver the activity and adhere to the conditions of the fund.
- 9.3 The applicant has submitted accurate costings from which an 'Approved Budget' can be agreed.
- 9.4 The applicant has sufficient funds (either because the full cost of the activity can be covered by the fund or because match funding has been secured) to completely pay for the activity.
- 9.5 The funding will be paid into a community group or business bank account.
- 9.6 The applicant has provided sufficient details to create outputs and outcomes for the 'Checklist' (a form prepared in collaboration between the applicant and the Grant Officer setting out the conditions on which funding is being offered) as well as agreeing how they will evaluate the activity and acknowledge the grant.
- 9.7 The applicant has demonstrated a commitment to acknowledging the grant from the NHLF and National Landscape Team.
- 9.8 The applicant has demonstrated an understanding of the importance of submitting evidence of achieving the outputs and outcomes.

10. Project costs

- 10.1 Money may be released up front – i.e. before the project is started. This is to help with the issue of cash flow for community groups and smaller organisations – towards whom the funding is targeted.

What the applicant contributes

- 10.2 Applicants can apply for 100% of the total costs.
- 10.3 We welcome 'in kind' help (e.g. volunteer time or the loan of equipment, premises or land). If appropriate, we can help the applicant calculate 'in kind' contributions and include in the project costs for the Panel to be fully informed in the decision making process.

Volunteer time 'in kind' values for budget presentation table		
Volunteer contribution	Examples	Value per day based on 7.5hr day
Unskilled	Event steward	£75
Semi-Skilled	Event leader, project management	£150
Professional	Legal, accounting	£375

VAT

- 10.4 If the application is from a VAT registered organisation the Landscapes for All Fund cannot meet any VAT costs (i.e. use figures excluding VAT).

for the safe delivery of the project must in place. Your delivery must not conflict with any Government or other statutory body advice.

12.3 Any proposed changes from your original application must be agreed in writing.

12.4 Unless otherwise agreed in writing all projects must be completed and agreed evidence submitted to the National Landscape Team by end of December 2024.

13. Monitoring

13.1 It is important for the National Landscape Team to meet obligations to the grant funders and it is a requirement that your evidence is submitted by the end of December 2024.

13.2 The National Landscape must receive a completed 'Checklist' with agreed evidence, such as invoices, proof of expenditure, photos and feedback to be emailed to LandscapesForAllFund@suffolkandessex-NL.org.uk by the end of December 2024.

14. Acknowledgement and Publicity

14.1 Projects must comply with the 2024 Publicity Guidance for Grant Funded Projects. This document provides guidance on:

- Publicity conditions and expectations of the Landscape for All Fund
- Acknowledgement of your grant award
- Mandatory use of National Lottery Heritage Fund and National Landscape logos
- Proof-reading by the National Landscape Team of project materials/publicity before release
- Use of digital platforms

14.2 The National Landscape reserve the right to use any material submitted for publicity purposes.

15. Payment of Grant

15.1 Grants will normally be paid in advance using a Payment Voucher by Bacs, using the bank account details submitted by the applicant prior to signing the Funding Agreement.

15.2 The National Landscape will monitor the progress of projects. If this monitoring highlights difficulties with the project there may be the need for discussion and negotiation. It is the desired intention to help all projects reach a satisfactory conclusion, but the National Landscape team and Grant Panel will wish to safeguard the wise and legitimate use of the Fund.

16. Links

- For more about applying to the Landscapes for All Fund and other National Landscape grant giving programmes
www.dedhamvale-nl.org.uk or www.coastandheaths-nl.org.uk
- Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape Management Plan
www.coastandheaths-nl.org.uk/managing/management-plan/
- Dedham Vale National Landscape & Stour Valley Management Plan
www.dedhamvale-nl.org.uk/managing/management-plan/
- National Landscapes Association Colchester Declaration
www.national-landscapes.org.uk/the-colchester-declaration
- The Landscapes Review of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks (the Glover Review)
www.coastandheaths-nl.org.uk/managing/reference-library/landscapes-review/

17. How to submit your application

Completed applications (preferably typed, or if not, clearly written) should be submitted on the application form to LandscapesForAllFund@suffolkandessex-NL.org.uk. We will accept

applications until the end of September 2024 or until the funding runs out. Call 01394 445224 to speak to a member of our Team about the Landscapes for All fund.