Nature Networks Fund (round four)

See all updates

Awarding grants from £50,000 to £1million, this fund aims to strengthen the resilience of Wales' network of protected land and marine sites.

Page last updated: 19 February 2025.

Important

Nature Networks Fund (round 4) is no longer accepting applications.

Explore our available funding.

Is this the right programme for you?

- Are you an individual or organisation working with natural heritage in Wales?
- Do you need funding for planning or delivering a nature-based project?
- Does your project focus on improving wildlife and biodiversity in Wales in and around the network of protected sites?
- Do you require a grant between £50,000 and £1m?

If you answered yes to these questions, then the Nature Networks Fund is for you.

Overview

The Nature Networks Fund aims is to improve the condition and resilience of **Wales' network of protected land and marine sites**. It is a key element of the delivery of the Welsh Government's wider Nature Networks Programme.

Improving the condition of and connectivity between protected sites enables them to function better as **nature networks** . Nature networks are vital, resilient areas where habitats and species can thrive and expand. Restoring connectivity in these networks will:

- prevent further declines in species and habitat condition
- support nature recovery
- enhance capacity to adapt to the climate crisis

The protection of sites is reliant on strong organisations, good governance and robust project planning. Therefore, the Nature Networks Fund will also **support project development and capacity building** for future nature recovery projects. This work may include (but is not restricted to):

- partnership development
- landowner/community consultation and engagement

- ecological surveying
- feasibility studies
- scheme design
- other preparatory work for future capital projects

Capacity building can help project developers and partners to demonstrate outcomes, create robust business models that have the potential to attract investment and provide an evidence base to support effective management approaches.

This fund also supports the active involvement of communities in and around protected sites. This can be fundamental to the long-term success of nature recovery projects, as well as often having wider benefits for health and wellbeing for people.

You can submit a maximum of **two** applications to the Nature Networks Fund: one up to £250k and one £250k to £1m. Projects should be completed before 31 March 2028.

Things you need to know

- Your project must not start before we make a decision.
- For projects of £50,000 to £250,000 **you must first submit a Project Enquiry**. You may then be invited to make a full application.
- For projects over £250,000 **you must first submit an Expression of Interest**. You may then be invited to make a full application.
- We provide lots of good practice guidance. You can read the guidance that is relevant to you to help you develop and manage your project.

Webinar

We will be hosting a webinar for the Nature Networks Fund (round four) on 11 July 2024 10am-11.30am.

Book here

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Aims of the fund

Through the Nature Networks Fund, we want to support:

- Action on protected sites or the ecological networks that support them. This can include action outside of protected sites that will benefit the network as a whole (see ‘What we expect from projects’ below). The project should also demonstrate the sustainable management of natural resources across Wales.
- Action that local communities can actively participate in and benefit from. This includes supporting active involvement with a diverse range of people and communities (particularly under-served groups). Community involvement should increase the network of people engaged with nature, and build the resilience of protected sites and their ecological networks.

- Development activity that enables organisations to build their capacity and evidence base to plan future nature recovery projects. This could include building capability to continue reaching under-served communities or to attract financial investment into scaling up delivery of nature recovery projects.

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What is the protected sites network?

The protected sites network covers Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, National Nature Reserves, Ramsar sites and Marine Conservation Zones.

To check whether an area of land or sea is included within these definitions, please visit the Natural Resources Wales website and the Wales Environmental Information Portal.

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What we expect from projects

Activities must deliver direct benefits to the protected site network now or in the future. This will usually involve improvements directly on a site or on surrounding areas that will improve the condition of features and connectivity of sites. It can also include:

- improvements to accessibility of a site
- supporting organisations to reach under-served communities
- supporting organisations or individuals who are (or will be in the future) involved with projects on sites and/or ecological networks that support them. This could include planning, staffing, training, apprenticeships, green financing, acquiring evidence through surveys, governance reviews and so on.

Projects can operate on land/sea both within and outside of the protected sites themselves. For example, projects outside of protected sites might:

- improve ecological connectivity between specific protected sites
- act to benefit habitats or species outside of protected sites where they are also features of associated protected sites
- focus on a species which isn't a feature of a site, so long as it delivers benefits to the condition, connectivity or ecosystem functioning of specific sites and their features
- benefit a habitat or species which currently isn't a feature of a site, but which evidence suggests could become so
- be based around areas which are not currently statutorily protected, but which have similarly high biodiversity importance
- reduce external impacts on protected sites to improve condition, for example from nitrogen deposition or colonisation of INNS
- restore ecosystem functions around protected sites at a landscape scale

In each of these cases, an application must include an evidence-based justification for the project's eligibility. The specific sites and features benefiting from the project should be named and the ecological rationale behind it explained.

You will be expected to demonstrate that your planned project delivers against the management objectives or conservation objectives for the relevant site.

We will be looking to fund a combination of capital and revenue activity across a portfolio of projects. To understand more, please see 'Preparing your application' below.

Identifying potential sites for connectivity

Action to improve connectivity between protected sites will be most effective if it is located to enhance existing patterns of connectivity in the landscape. Action is likely to be most effective if it consolidates, expands or makes linkages between habitat networks.

The Nature Networks Map is available to help with this and can be accessed through DataMap Wales and Wales Environmental Information Portal.

- DataMap Wales: Habitat Networks and Priority Ecological Networks
- Wales Environmental Information Portal. Open the Environmental Data Map Series Builder StoryMap, then click on the 'Ecosystem Resilience' tab.

The maps show modelled networks for a range of habitats that indicate how well habitat patches are likely to be connected across Wales and the Priority Ecological Networks. They indicate likely existing connectivity specifically between and around protected sites for different habitats. The maps also present a generic buffer around all protected sites to draw attention to the importance of action in close proximity to existing sites.

It is important to note that these maps are modelled outputs and are intended to inform, rather than to prescribe where action goes. Other model outputs may be available, and there are other connecting features in the landscape, such as watercourses, hedges or even road verges, that could be considered when planning projects.

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Application deadline and key dates

- programme opens 8 July 2024
- application deadlines:
    - £50,000 to £250,000 Project Enquiry deadline: **12 noon on 22 July 2024**
    - £50,000 to £250,000 Application deadline: **12 noon on 1 October 2024**
    - £250,000 to £1m Expressions of Interest deadline: **12 noon on 16 August 2024**
    - £250,000 to £1m Application deadline: **12 noon on 8 November 2024**
- applicants will be informed of decisions by 28 February 2025
- projects must be complete by 31 March 2028

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Who can apply?

The scheme is open to all private landowners and organisations working with natural heritage in Wales. You must demonstrate that you are aware of and have, or be working towards obtaining, the right permissions, licences and consents to undertake activity on the protected site network or surrounding areas. The area you are improving must be in Wales, but you/your organisation can be based anywhere in the UK.

Partnerships

We encourage you to work with other people to develop and carry out your project.

A partner is another organisation or third-party body that is integral to the delivery of your project.

Partners are not subcontractors. They will take on an active role in the project and will be involved in the project. They will help to report on the project, attend regular partnership meetings and support project evaluation.

If you plan to work with any other organisations to carry out a significant proportion of your project you must formalise your relationship with a partnership agreement.

Private owners of heritage

As a private owner of heritage you must demonstrate that the public benefit of your project outweighs any private gain.

- If the owner of the heritage is not making the application, we will ask them to sign up to the terms and conditions of your grant.

We will not fund:

- works that can reasonably be considered as the statutory duty of the owner
- the purchase of buildings or land
- construction of new buildings

Working on private land

Many designated habitats and species occur on land that is owned by private individuals or for-profit organisations. Projects can deliver works or activities on private land so long as any public benefit clearly outweighs any potential private gain and provided subsidy control rules are not breached.

For example, we could fund the restoration of hedgerows or create farm ponds, provided they do not add financial value to the land or convey any significant indirect financial benefit that could breach subsidy control rules.

When working on private land, we understand there may be limits to public access. We do, however, encourage public access whenever practical. We also accept that physical access may not always be appropriate or desirable for habitat conservation reasons. If improved access is possible, you may also wish to apply for funding for new infrastructure, for example paths or hides, that can help accommodate increased public access.

Works can take place on land owned by a government department or arm's length body provided they do not financially benefit from any investment. If an environmental charity or partnership were to undertake work on such land, then it can only be for works that would not be covered by any statutory responsibility.

Licences, permissions and consents

Applicants must demonstrate in their application that they are aware of, and working towards obtaining, the relevant permissions and licenses to carry out their project.

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Preparing your application

What costs can you apply for?

If you are applying for a project under £250,000 you can apply for a Development project, a Capital project or a combination of both in a single application. You may not make more than one application under £250,000.

Applications over £250,000 should be for Capital projects only. You may not make more than one application over £250,000.

It is important that you identify in your application which of your project costs are capital and which are revenue. Across the whole portfolio of projects, we are looking to fund a balanced combination of capital and revenue activity.

Development projects

These projects should contain a majority of revenue funding. You can include some capital costs, but capital work should not be the focus of the project.

Capital projects

These projects should include a majority of capital funding and should focus on capital works. You can include some revenue costs within these projects.

Capital costs

The following are examples of capital costs and not an exhaustive list:

- the purchase of items associated with land management activities, such as trees, hedge plants, fencing and capital works items required to deliver the outcomes
- general costs incurred in installing the capital works, which include contractor costs for labour and use of equipment

- the purchase of machinery and equipment up to the market value of the asset
- the purchase, design and installation of interpretation panels, including translation costs
- the acquisition or development of computer software and acquisitions of patents, licenses, copyrights and trademarks
- consultant and architect fees, other technical design costs, site surveys and professional fees such as fees related to environmental and economic sustainability
- Planning application fees and costs. Fees incurred for statutory permissions, licences and consents are eligible, provided they are essential for the delivery of the capital project. These can be incurred before the start of the project but must be incurred after March 2025 and must be evidenced in the same way as other expenditure.
- contingency funding for additional capital costs (we recommend approximately 10% contingency)
- inflation funding to allow for cost increases in future years of project delivery

Revenue costs

- staff time
- full cost recovery or core organisational costs towards project delivery
- activity costs (events, refreshments, room hire, etc)
- evaluation
- project planning (feasibility studies, ecological surveying or baselining, landowner/community consultation, governance reviews, consultancy advice on green finance)
- training and apprenticeships costs
- translation costs
- contingency funding for additional revenue costs (we recommend approximately 10% contingency)

Ineligible costs

You may not include costs for:

- ongoing maintenance or running costs beyond the duration of the project.
- Acquisition of land

Match funding

There are no requirements for cash or non-cash contributions for the Nature Networks Fund. However, any cash, non-cash or volunteer contributions you provide can add to the impact and value for money of your project, which will be considered in assessment.

You may not use this grant as match funding for a project from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, or vice versa.

Supporting documents

The following supporting documents must be uploaded with your application form. File sizes should be smaller than 20MB. **Please note** that some of the supporting documents required for this programme are different to those stated in the online application form.

For this programme, we require the following documents:

- Audited or verified accounts (mandatory if you are an organisation). If you are an individual, a newly formed organisation or do not have accounts less than 12 months old, we will require bank statements in the same name as your application for the last three full months.
- For capital projects you must provide copies of any documents relevant to your ownership. This could be Land Registry ownership documents, or a lease or heads of terms.
- Project plan (mandatory for all projects). Please use our project plan template.
- partnership agreement (mandatory if you are working in a partnership)
- job descriptions (mandatory if you are creating new jobs or apprenticeships as part of your project)
- briefs for commissioned work (if applicable)
- images, including at least one map showing the locations of capital works
- A spreadsheet detailing the cost breakdown in the Project costs section of the application. Please separate costs into Capital and Revenue. Please use our project costs template.
- Spreadsheet detailing outstanding permissions (use template provided)
- calculation of full cost recovery (if applicable)
- evidence of support, such as letters, emails or videos of support (optional)
- Project management structure (mandatory for applications over £250,000). This should outline your project management structure so we know who will make decisions and how you will control change during your project.
- Main risks document for after the project is completed (mandatory for applications over £250,000). This should outline the main risks facing the project after it has been completed and how they will be managed.
- A map showing the location of the site on a regional scale, and a ShapeFile, Tab File or KML showing your project site(s) as polygons (mandatory for all projects)

Welsh Language

You must include the Welsh language in all aspects of your work. Tell us how you will promote and support the Welsh language and reflect the bilingual nature of Wales.

Make sure that translations are included in your project plan and project budget under the ‘Other’ costs category within the project costs section of the application.

For further information see our Welsh bilingual project guidance.

Promotion and acknowledgment of funding

This funding is provided by the Welsh Government. As part of your grant you must acknowledge your funding on social media, through press releases, and by displaying **our partnership logo**. Please read our Welsh Government acknowledgement guidance.

Planning early, and allocating appropriate budget, will help you to meet our requirements and acknowledge your grant in ways that are creative and suited to your project.

Please include budget for acknowledgement in the ‘Publicity and promotions’ costs category within the project costs section of the application. We recommend you base these costs on quotes from potential suppliers.

Use our acknowledgement guidance to plan your activities proportionate to the size of your grant.

Evaluation and reporting

We recommend that you consider evaluation from the beginning of your project. The more carefully projects budget for their evaluation, the higher the quality of the final report. You can find further information in our evaluation guidance.

At the end of your project, we will expect you to submit an evaluation report. This needs to be submitted before we pay the last 20% of your grant. This should include details of how ecosystem resilience and/or habitat connectivity has benefitted (or will benefit in the future) from the investment. You should share relevant monitoring data and methodology.

We will also expect you to share geo-spatial and other data on where your project has worked to enhance NRW data sets. Further guidance will be supplied on this if you are awarded a grant.

Full cost recovery

If you are an organisation in the voluntary sector (for example, you might have a board of trustees and be funded by grants and donations), we can cover a proportion of your organisation's overheads through full cost recovery.

Full cost recovery means securing funding for all the costs involved in running a project. This means that you can request funding for direct project costs as well as a proportionate share of your organisation's fixed costs.

This may include costs that partly support the project, but also support other projects or activities that your organisation provides, such as salaries of staff working across projects in administration, management, HR, or fundraising, office costs such as rent or utilities and legal or audit fees.

Funding that covers some of your running costs can be important for your sustainability, so we encourage you to consider including this in your budget in the 'Full costs recovery' costs category if you are eligible.

Recognised guidance on calculating the full cost recovery amount that applies to your project is available from organisations such as The National Lottery Community Fund.

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How to apply

Please note: Do not proceed straight to an application. You must first submit a Project Enquiry or an Expression of Interest so we can provide you with early feedback on your project proposal.

Grants from £50,000 to £250,000

For grants between £50,000 and £250,000, you must submit a Project Enquiry. Please refer to our Project Enquiry help notes for more information on how to complete your form.

The deadline for Project Enquiries is **12 noon on 22 July 2024.**

We will use the information you provide to decide whether or not to invite you to submit a full application. An invitation to apply does not guarantee a grant from us in the future, but does indicate that we see potential in your initial proposals.

If your Project Enquiry is successful you must submit your full application by **12 noon on 1 October 2024.**

Go to our online service to apply.

Grants of £250,000 to £1million

Expression of interest

We ask all applicants for a grant between **£250,000 and £1million** to complete a short **Expression of Interest form**. Please refer to our Expression of Interest help notes for more information on how to complete your form.

You must submit your Expression of Interest by the deadline of **12 noon on 16 August 2024.**

We will use the information you provide to decide whether or not to invite you to submit a full application. An invitation to apply does not guarantee grant from us in the future, but does indicate that we see potential in your initial proposals.

We aim to respond to your Expression of Interest within 20 working days. If you are successful you must submit your full application by **12 noon on 8 November 2024.**

Go to our online service to apply.

Help notes and templates

Please note: the Heritage Fund uses the same application forms across a variety of our programmes. Some questions need to be answered differently for this programme, so before you apply, you must carefully read the application help notes to understand what information is required where. Please **do not** use the help icons embedded in the online form.

We have designed the application process to be as straightforward as possible and we are requesting only the information we need. Use these resources to inform your application:

- Project Enquiry help notes
- Expression of Interest help notes
- Project costs and project plan templates
- Application questions: £50,000 to £250,000
- Application questions: £250,0000 to £1million
- Receiving your grant: £50,000 to £250,000
- Receiving your grant: £250,0000 to £1million

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How we assess your application

When we assess your application we will consider a range of factors including:

- the contribution your project makes to improving the condition of the protected sites network in Wales
- your plans for ensuring everyone has opportunities to learn, develop new skills and explore nature, regardless of background or personal circumstances
- whether your organisation will develop and sustain skills and capacity to ensure a long-term future for protected sites in Wales
- the number of jobs/apprenticeships/traineeships offered, especially for young people
- how your project's impact will be sustained

Balancing criteria

If we receive more good quality applications than we can fund, we will prioritise projects which will:

- work in areas that most strongly support the delivery of Resilient Ecological Networks within the Nature Networks Programme as identified from the Nature Networks Map
- represent a geographical, biodiversity and lead organisation spread across Wales and across all previous rounds of Nature Networks funding
- provide a balanced combination of capital and revenue projects across the portfolio

Considering risk

When assessing your application, we will make a measured judgement on the potential risks to your project and current organisational risks – and we will look to see if you have identified these and told us how you will mitigate against them.

All projects will face threats and opportunities that you need to identify and manage. We want you to be realistic about the risks your project and organisation may face so that you are in a good position to manage and deliver the project successfully.

You should also carefully consider inflation and contingency costs within your application.

Inflation for capital projects is likely to remain high for the foreseeable future. You should account for inflation based on the project timescale, plus other factors such as materials used, labour demands and location.

The types of risk and problems you should consider are:

- financial: for example, a reduced contribution from another funding source
- organisational: for example, a shortage of people with the skills you need or staff needed to work on other projects
- economic: for example, an unexpected rise in the cost of materials
- technical: for example, discovering unexpected protected species on your site
- social: for example, negative responses to consultation or a lack of interest from your target audience
- management: for example, a significant change in the project team
- legal: for example, subsidy control, or changes in law that make the project impractical
- environmental: for example, difficulties in finding sources of timber from well managed forests

Assessment time

We aim to make decisions on projects of £50,000 to £250,000 by the end of December 2024, and on projects of £250,000 to £1m by the end of February 2025.

Please note: we cannot start assessing your application until all the required checks are completed and we receive all the required supporting information.

If your application is successful

We will provide additional guidance on our monitoring requirements and legal conditions at the point of award.

All grants under £250,000 will be paid in three instalments. You will receive 50% of your grant once you have received permission to start your project. You will receive the next 30% at the midpoint of your project, when the first 50% has been spent. We withhold the final 20% of your grant until the project is completed.

Grants of £250,000 and over will be paid in arrears, in regular instalments, on receipt of evidence of expenditure.

You must wait to receive permission from us before beginning your project.

If your application is unsuccessful

The assessment process is competitive and we cannot fund all of the good quality applications that we receive.

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Legal and policy requirements

Ownership

We expect you to own any property (land, buildings, heritage items or intellectual property) on which you spend the grant or have a lease that meets our requirements.

You must own the freehold or have a lease with at least five years left to run after the Project Completion Date.

The Project Completion Date is the date we let you know that we have recorded the Project as complete.

All leases must meet the following requirements:

- we do not accept leases with break clauses (these give one or more parties to the lease the right to end the lease in certain circumstances)
- we do not accept leases with forfeiture on insolvency clauses (these give the landlord the right to end the lease if the tenant becomes insolvent)
- you may be able to sell on, sublet the whole or part, and mortgage your lease but if we award you a grant, you must first have our permission to do any of these

If the subject of your project is land that is owned by a third party or multiple third parties we will usually expect the owner to become a joint grantee. In some situations, rather than make the owner a joint grantee, we may ask them to

sign an additional letter agreeing to comply with any terms and conditions that relate to their property.

In this instance, a legal agreement should also be put in place between each land or building owner and the grantee. There is no prescribed form of agreement but we have specific requirements which should be included in any third party owner agreements.

At a minimum, the agreements should include the following:

- confirmation as to how the land is held (freehold or leasehold)
- a description of the property (including plans)
- covenants on the part of the owner to maintain the property and provide public access in accordance with the terms of the grant (as applicable)
- a provision that any onward disposal should be subject to the third party agreement
- confirmation that the agreement will last from the start of the work on the third party land until five years following the Project Completion Date for grants of £50,000-£250,000, and ten years following the Project Completion Date for grants of £250,000-£1m

The agreements will need to be completed and in place before any grant monies are released for work on any land or building owned by a third party.

We do accept applications for landscape and nature projects that are on both public and privately owned land, provided that public benefit outweighs any private gain for the individual land owner(s) where they are private individuals or for-profit organisations.

Digital works

We have specific requirements for digital works produced as part of any project.

This covers anything you create in your project in a digital format that is designed to give access to heritage and/or help people engage with, and learn about, heritage.

For example, this could include photographs, text, software, web and app content, databases, 3D models, sound and video recordings. Items created in the management of the project, for example emails between team members and records of meetings, are not included in the requirement.

We ask you to share your digital outputs under an open licence. Our default open licence is CC-BY 4.0. This helps remove barriers to the use and reuse of funded works, enabling greater engagement with the UK’s heritage. It also helps to ensure others give proper credit to your work.

Our regulations around digital works vary depending on grant size.

Read further guidance on producing digital materials as part of a project.

Procurement

You must follow our procurement guidelines. As an overview, projects with any single goods, works or services worth more than £9,999 (excluding VAT), should get at least three competitive tenders/quotes. For all goods, works and services worth more than £50,000 (excluding VAT), you must provide proof of competitive tendering procedures.

Your proof should be a report on the tenders you have received, together with your decision on which to accept. You must give full reasons if you do not select the lowest tender. Depending on the nature of your organisation and project you may be required to comply with UK Procurement Legislation.

If a project partner is providing goods or services paid for through the grant, then you need to tell us why they have been chosen and why an open tender process is not appropriate. We will consider whether this is the best way to carry out your project and expect you to show value for money and meet any relevant legal requirements.

If you are unsure about your obligations, we advise you to take professional or legal advice. If you have already procured goods, works or services for the project that are worth more than £9,999, (excluding VAT), you will need to tell us how you did it. We cannot pay your grant if you have not followed the correct procedure.

Staff recruitment

You must also openly advertise all project staff posts, with the following exceptions:

- You have a suitably qualified member of staff on your payroll that you are moving into a project post.
- You are extending the hours of a suitably qualified member of staff on your payroll so that they can work on the project. In this case we will fund the cost of the additional hours spent on the project and you will need to tell us about their role.

In these instances, you still need to provide a job description for the post that explains work the appointed staff member will carry out in the context of your project.

We are committed to ensuring that the heritage sector is inclusive and sustainable. You must use at least the Living Wage rate (and London Living Wage where applicable) for all project staff. Please show evidence of budgeting for at least the Living Wage rates in your staff costs and budgets.

Procedures to recruit consultants and contractors must be fair and open and keep to the relevant equality legislation.

Subsidy control

If your application is successful, it is important to remember our grant comes from public funds and is subject to the Subsidy Control Act 2022. We ask that you familiarise yourself with the key requirements.

A subsidy is where a public authority provides financial support from public money that gives an economic advantage to the recipient, where that recipient can be considered to be engaged in economic activities. The majority of our grants will either not be a subsidy or will be able to proceed as a lawful subsidy which meets the requirements of the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

As a public body it is our responsibility to make the final determination of whether your grant is a subsidy and/or apply relevant exemptions as necessary and our subsidy control assessment is an important part of the application process. In preparing your application you should consider whether any particular subsidy control exemption is required for your project. We will expect your grant to comply with the principles of the subsidy control regime including the Act and published Statutory Guidance. If you are unsure whether your project will satisfy the relevant requirements you should seek independent legal advice.

We reserve the right to impose further requirements and seek further information in this respect and we will expect you to provide us with any assistance we may reasonably require in completing a subsidy control assessment.

Government embargoes and sanctions

Our grants must not be used to fund organisations who are supporting extremism, criminal activity and/or who are subject to government embargoes and sanctions.

You must follow all legislation and regulations that apply to your project and carry out your own due diligence on any funds, contracts or individuals linked to places that may be subject to government embargoes and sanctions.

If your project is affected, please contact your Investment Manager or local office. We reserve the right to withhold grant payments if we consider public funds are at risk.

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Contact us

If you have a question about the Nature Networks Fund (round 4), please get in touch with us at natur@heritagefund.org.uk.

If you require further help with your application, find out more about the types of assistance and support we can provide.

If you want to find out about our complaints process, please visit our Customer Service page.

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Managing your data

The Heritage Fund and Welsh Government will be joint data controllers for any personal data you provide in relation to your grant application or request for grant funding. We will process it in line with our public task and the official authority vested in us to prevent fraud and money laundering, and to verify identities.

Your personal and grant related data will be shared with another data controller, Welsh Government, and any contractor appointed by Welsh Government to undertake external evaluation of Nature Networks to review the impact, performance and costs of the scheme. You will be informed when an external evaluation is taking place and will have the opportunity to opt out.

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Guidance updates

We will regularly review this guidance and respond to user feedback. We reserve the right to make changes as required. We will communicate any changes as quickly as possible via this webpage.

