

# England, London & South: committee decisions

## September 2024

15/10/2024

[See all updates](#)

Schedule of decisions for The National Lottery Heritage Fund Committee for England, London & South meeting on 17 September 2024.

[Funding decisions](#)

### SFF grant increases

#### Uncovering Ham Hill's past for its future

Applicant: Somerset Council

Project description: To set in place a range of measures to increase visitor awareness and engagement and understand the diversity of those visitors. To support new groups to visit, enjoy, learn about, engage and benefit from Ham Hill Europe's largest Iron Age Hill. In parallel to increase the land management work to conserve the hillfort and in so doing increase the quality of the site's habitats and wildlife value.

Decision: Award grant increase of £552,794 to make a total grant of £2,152,794 (70%)

### SFF delivery round applications?

#### Exmoor Pioneers – Past, Present and Future

Applicant: Exmoor National Park Authority

Project description: To lead the way on nature recovery and to help heritage at risk in the heart of Exmoor. To engender the skills required to sustain the landscape and engage with new audiences.

Decision: Award delivery grant of £1,227,803

#### Restoring the heritage of the iconic Crystal Palace Park for all

Applicant: The London Borough of Bromley Council

Project description: To secure the future of the 200-acre Grade II\* listed park and to restore the Geological Court where the Grade I listed dinosaur sculptures are situated. To create a new information centre and destination playground, improve accessibility and enhance biodiversity. To be a hub for activity, where people explore, relax, play and learn and for the Crystal Palace Park Trust to grow in resilience.

Decision: Award delivery grant of £4,695,649

## **Downs to the Sea: Recovery & Resilience in Wetland Habitats**

Applicant: South Downs National Park Trust

Project description: To contribute to nature's recovery and enable urgent works to internationally designated wetlands, reduce flood risk, support biodiversity and offer space for recreation. To engage and connect with under-represented audiences and reach a more diverse audience. To raise awareness and celebrate the vital role that water plays and to leave a legacy to support the need for recovery and resilience for both people and nature.

Decision: Award delivery grant of £1,693,187

## **Whose Hoo**

Applicant: Medway Council

Project description: To restore the Hoo Peninsula's heritage, habitats and landscapes and work with local communities to increase long-term resilience. To connect through physical routes and trails, community activities, interpretation, learning, events and marketing. Through collective research, skills and training, increase understanding and knowledge to nurture future custodians. To manage conservation work and project governance to create a new foundation to build upon.

Decision: Award a delivery round grant of £2,943,041

## **Heritage 2033 development round applications for discussion and decision**

### **Reconnecting the Rooms**

Applicant: The National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty

Project description: To restore the purpose of Bath Assembly Rooms as a 21st century building of diverse social assembly, serving its local community in new ways. To bring people together to reduce loneliness, improve connection with the city's heritage, develop skills and deliver public benefit. To celebrate personal heritage and honour communities from all backgrounds that were, and remain, integral to Bath's history.

Decision: Award a development grant of £237,234 (73%) and a potential delivery award of £902,740 (82%)

### **Speaking for Ourselves: The Living History of the Care-Experienced Movement**

Applicant: Thomas Coram Foundation for Children (Formerly Foundling Hospital)

Project description: To uncover the history of the movement and present it through interactive web content. To produce a library of interviews, create intergenerational audio content and develop accessible and informative educational resources for professionals and children. To curate engaging public activities and events, create support for further social change and tell the story of the care-experienced movement and its place in the ongoing development of children's rights in the UK.

Decision: Award a development grant of £82,127 (89%) and a potential delivery grant of £954,651 (89%)

## **Nature Connection Dorset**

Applicant: Dorset Wildlife Trust

Project description: Through the themes of Wildlife Connections, Community Connections and Personal Connections, this project aims to facilitate communities to play an active role to conserve and enhance their natural heritage, and to enable local people to participate in a shared vision for nature recovery in Dorset.

Decision: Reject

## **Rivers Run Through Us**

Applicant: Devon County Council (on behalf of Blackdown Hills National Landscape Partnership)

Project description: To take a holistic, collaborative approach to revitalise the natural heritage of the river Axe, its tributaries and valleys, through a stronger connection between people and heritage, farmers and consumers, rural and townsfolk, soil and water. The project is to focus on three themes: River, Soil and People, to nurture community action, monitor river health, restore soils and habitats and reach out to empower everyone to find the connection with the river and its heritage.

Decision: Award development round grant of £250,630 (70%) and a potential delivery grant of £1,237,391 (70%)

## **Reconnecting Bernwood, Otmoor and the Ray**

Applicant: Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

Project description: To reconnect heritage, nature and people through river restoration, habitat creation, landowner and community engagement. To reinvigorate cultural and natural heritage through 13 integrated projects to secure Ray valley as a nationally important wetland complex, with accessible greenspaces for the wellbeing of local people.

Decision: Award a development round grant of £512,182 (90%) a potential delivery grant of £3,633,264 (88%)

## **Organ Rescue, Restoration and Outreach for St Martin's Church and the Kensal Rise community**

Applicant: Parochial Church Council of St Martin Kensal Rise

Project description: To restore the St Martin's Grade II\* listed organ, attract a wider audience and to inspire new players. To engage with the local community to participate, restore and appreciate the organ's music, mechanism, artisanry and technology. To highlight its part in local history from the first congregation to people who still worship at the church in Kensal Green today.

Decision: Reject