Heritage and culture at the heart of Wales' great



Aberystwyth

£1.5million National Lottery investment to promote a partnership approach to regeneration in Wales.

We all know Wales is full of great places. A new National Lottery-supported programme is to promote the use of culture and heritage as driving forces to help make these places even greater.

The Great Place Scheme, launched in Wales today, is designed by HLF and partners to promote intelligent investment in place-based regeneration.

Thanks to National Lottery players, grants of £100,000 to £500,000 will encourage applicants to work together to consider how to enhance the role of culture and heritage within society and use them to tackle such wide-ranging issues as poverty, inequality, employment, education and health.

[quote=Kay Andrews, UK trustee and chair of HLF in Wales]“The Great Place Scheme is an opportunity and a challenge for local leaders to work together and put culture right at the heart of their plans.”[/quote]

The Great Place Scheme can include everything from town and city-wide initiatives to smaller, rural proposals and between five and eight projects will be funded across Wales.

The activities could range from using arts and heritage in the provision of local education and health services to increasing people's skills and the development of local strategies to maximise community benefit through cultural events.

Kay Andrews, UK trustee and chair of HLF in Wales, said: "An area's culture is important not just for its own sake; this scheme will show how it can also boost jobs and local economies, improve education and life chances and promote community cohesion and well-being.

"Using National Lottery players' money we are promoting a step-change in thinking and it is a natural progression from some initiatives already in place such as the Welsh Government's Fusion programme and the Arts Council's Ideas, People, Places programme. We look forward to hearing how communities across Wales want to use their own heritage to shape an exciting future for everyone who lives there."

How to apply

Applications will need to be led by a not-for-profit organisation and projects will need to demonstrate a contribution to growth in the local economy.

An expression of interest should be submitted by mid August 2017 with final applications submitted by December 2017.

Funding decisions will be made in March 2018.

Visit the Great Place Scheme website.



The village of Braemar in the Highlands of Scotland Damian Shields



great places

Gloucester Cathedral

Revealed: the 16 places destined for greatness