Green Recovery Challenge Fund

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs | The National Lottery Heritage Fund | Environment Agency | NATURAL ENGLAND

Expression of Interest guide and questions

How to submit your Expression of Interest form in the Defra Green Recovery Challenge Fund through the online application portal.

If you are not already registered on the portal you will need to register prior to submission.

The Expression of Interest form (EOI) is mandatory for anyone thinking of applying to the Fund for a grant above £250,000. We will use the information you provide in the EOI to decide whether or not to invite you to submit a full application. An invitation to apply does not guarantee a grant from us but does indicate that we see potential in your initial proposals.

We will aim to respond to all EOIs within ten working days of the deadline. If we decide to invite you to apply, you will then have three weeks to submit a full application.

You must read the application guidance before submitting this form. This can be found on our website.

To submit, please complete the form on our application portal. If you decide to copy and paste text directly into your application, please review your application before submission and make changes where necessary to ensure you do not exceed the stated word count limit of 800 words. You will be able to save this document as you work on it.

Please note, the National Lottery Heritage Fund uses a single EOI form for all of the programmes that we administer. Some questions do not need to be answered for the Green Recovery Challenge Fund, so read this guide to understand what information is required where.

Summary

Name of your organisation

Project Title

- Enter the project title as: GRCF2020: then a short descriptive title (max 10 words)

Section one: your organisation

1a. Name and address of your organisation

1b. Is the address of your project the same as the address of your organisation?

Y/N

If no: enter the postcode of your project and then click search. If your project will take place across different locations, please use the postcode where most of the project will take place. **Your project activity must take place in England.**

1c. Details of main contact person

Name

Position

Is the address of the main contact person the same as the address in 1a?

Y/N

*If no: e*nter the address of the main contact.

Daytime phone number, including area code

Alternative phone number

Email address

Tell us about any particular communication needs this contact has. Please note that there is a limit of 50 words for this question.

For projects based in Wales, which language should we use to communicate with the main contact?

- Not applicable

1d. Legal status of your organisation

- Select organisation type.

  To be eligible for this programme, you should be an environmental charity and/or in partnership with at least one environmental charity. More information on eligibility can be found in the main guidance.

1e. Do you consider your organisation's mission and objectives to be:

Please select the options that apply:

- Black or minority ethnic-led
- Disabililty-led
- LGBT+- led

- Female-led
- Young people-led

And in NI only:

Leave blank. Projects based in Northern Ireland are not eligible to apply to this Fund.

1f. Where did you hear about the Fund?

- Please pick from list

Section two: project proposal

2a. Please tell us about your project. In particular, please try to cover:

Please use the following headings, using bullet points for each.

The Project

- Why your project is needed
- What sites the project will work on: location, size, and any designations.
- What the project will do (capital work and activities)
- Which of the following three themes the project will contribute to, and how (your project may meet more than one):

    a. Nature conservation and restoration
    b. Nature-based solutions
    c. Connecting people with nature

- If any elements within the project are innovative, why you consider them to be so.

Employment

- How your project will create and/or retain jobs. Please specifically mention any jobs for young people (16-24).

Readiness to deliver

(Please note: we expect projects to be ready to deliver if awarded a grant)

- What survey, design and consultation work has been completed to date?
- What further detailed planning work is required, including any statutory permissions, consents or licenses which will need to be obtained in advance of delivery?
- Timescales, including key milestones

- What are the main risks to delivery and achieving completion by March 2022?
- If you plan to work in a partnership, who are your partners and do you have all partners in place?

Costs

- Short breakdown of headline items of expenditure, indicating costs per partner
- Partnership funding if applicable (note that you do not need to have match funding to apply to this fund, although we encourage you to include it if it helps you to deliver better value for money against the Fund's outcomes)
- If you think there may be State Aid issues for us to consider, please flag this.

  Further information about State Aid is available in the full scheme guidance, and on GOV.UK (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-aid-the-basics.) We will ask organisations invited to make a full application to ensure that they have considered and checked their projects against State Aid rules, but it is helpful for you to flag to us now if you are aware of any issues that we may need to work with you on if invited to proceed.

This section of the form has a total word count of **800 words.** Use of bullet points is recommended. Please note that dashes in the text count as whole words.

2b. **How much are you likely to ask for from us?**

This figure should be between £250,001 and £5,000,000. Please see full scheme guidance for full information on eligible costs.

2c. When are you likely to submit a full application if invited to do so?

Write N/A in here.

If you are invited to make a full application, the deadline for receipt will be noon on 26 October 2020.

You should be ready to start your project by December 2020 and funding must be spent (including evaluation and final reporting) by March 2022.

Section 3: Submission

Click Submit