



Resilient Heritage £3,000 - £10,000

Notes on completion

Summary

Name of your organisation

Tees Valley Nature Partnership

Project title

In no more than 15 words, please choose a title which you think best describes your project. This will be seen externally, on our website and by our decision makers so please ensure that you choose a title that you are happy for a wide range of people to see.

Tees Valley Nature Partnership building a resilient partnership to conserve and enhance our natural environment.

Reference number

RH-17-02832

Project summary

In no more than 200 words, summarise your project. We will use this text to tell people about your project, including our decision takers who will see your description as part of the assessment process.

We wish to commission a thorough independent review of the Tees Valley Nature Partnership (TVNP). This will inform partners so they are better able to decide and be accountable for the action and practical next steps needed to ensure the future sustainability of the Partnership.

The review will consider the need for our partnership, what we can offer and what we can achieve. It will result in a Partnership that is confident, sufficiently resourced, accountable and able to work alongside the key shapers in the Tees Valley such as the Tees Valley Combined Authority (Local Enterprise Partnership) and health and well-being boards to assist them in delivering positive change in the Tees Valley.

Have you received any advice from us before making your application?

Yes

Please tell us who you received advice from.

Zelda Baveystock

Is this your first application to the Heritage Lottery Fund?

Yes

How did you hear about this grants programme? Please pick from list or specify below.

Word of mouth

Section one: Your organisation

1a Address of your organisation:

Address line 1	Margrove Park Heritage Centre
Address line 2	Margrove Park
Address line 3	Boosbeck
Town / city	SALTBURN-BY-THE-SEA
County	Cleveland
Postcode	TS12 3BZ

1b Is the address of your project the same as the address in 1a?

Yes

Local Authority within which the project will take place

Redcar and Cleveland

Constituency within which the project will take place

Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland

1c Details of main contact person

Name

Rachel Murtagh

Position

Tees Valley Nature Partnership Officer

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

Yes

Daytime phone number, including area code

01287 636382

Alternative phone number

07971838668

Email address

tvnp@teeswildlife.org

1d The legal status of your organisation

Please select one of the following:

Organisation not in the public sector

Please select one of the following:

Other

Please specify

Registered Charity

Describe your organisation's main purpose and regular activities.

- Describe the purpose and aims of your organisation.
- Tell us how many paid staff and volunteers work for your organisation (if you do not know the exact number, give an estimate).
- Describe your organisation's regular activities and explain how they are funded.
- Tell us who usually gets involved in activities run by your organisation

The Tees Valley Wildlife Trust (TVWT) as 'host' organisation is applying for the grant on behalf of the TVNP. The following answers therefore apply to the TVWT.

TVWT is an independent charity, but also part of a network of 47 Wildlife Trusts. The overarching mission of TVWT is to create a better future for both wildlife and society, connecting people with the green spaces surrounding them in unique ways, making them more enjoyable and accessible for all.

The core activities of TVWT are in nature conservation and education. Working with volunteers, school children, families, community groups, local businesses and authorities across the Tees Valley on TVWT sites and taking learning projects out to different communities. The projects equip people with the skills and knowledge to tackle and raise awareness of important environmental issues, ensuring that the social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits of the Trust's work are experienced by as many people as possible.

The charitable objects described in its Memorandum and Articles of Association are essentially:

- To conserve the wildlife and geological interest of the Tees Valley
- To increase awareness and understanding of nature conservation
- To establish and manage nature reserves
- To promote the principles and practice of sustainable development.

Funding for the Trust's work comes from project grants, income earned through conservation land management and education work, and donations made primarily through Trust membership.

The TVWT has 20 employees, 120 active volunteers and long-term support from 5000 members.

If applicable, how many board members does your organisation have?

12

How much did your organisation spend in the last financial year?

£621,440

What level of unrestricted funds is there in your organisation's reserves?

£161,083

If your organisation is any of the following, please provide the information shown.

Company - give registration number**Registered Charity in England, Scotland or Wales - give registration number**

511068

Charity recognised by HM Revenue and Customs in Northern Ireland - give reference number**1e Approximately what proportion of your organisation's regular activities involves looking after or engaging people with heritage?**

81-100%

1f Will your project be delivered by a partnership?

Yes

Who are your partners? Please provide a named contact from each organisation and ensure that a representative from each has been added to the end of the Declaration in Section Eight.

Of the 37 partners the following organisations own land, that is included in the project area: The named contact is listed in section eight. Darlington Borough Council, Stockton Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, Tees Valley Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Woodland Trust, Forestry Commission, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds – RSPB

1g Are you VAT registered?

No

Section two: The heritage**2a What is the heritage your organisation focuses on? Please note there is a 300 word limit for this question.**

Tees Valley Nature Partnership focuses on the natural heritage of the Tees Valley including all the statutory and non-statutory designated sites; access routes and all other 'Green Infrastructure' within the area. In addition, all the natural heritage which is not site specific from migratory bird species to garden hedgehogs. The TVNP is a strategic partnership, the member organisations are directly responsible for the management of heritage.

The coast and estuary are of specific importance. The Heritage Coast of North Yorkshire and Cleveland to the south and the Durham Heritage Coast which adjoins Hartlepool and extends north. Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast area has such importance that it has multiple designations: Ramsar site (wetland of international importance); Important Bird Area (IBA, places of international significance for the conservation of birds); Special Protection Area (SPA, European designation under the Birds Directive) there is currently a proposal for a significant extension to this SPA area; Teesmouth National Nature Reserve (NNR) and six SSSI. All the designations have varying boundaries but there is some over-lap.

In addition to these coastal statutory designations there is also another IBA (Hartlepool north shore area); Special Area of Conservation (SAC, European designation – North York Moors) and a further 25 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Further afield in the Tees Valley there are 206 Local Wildlife Sites, in 2016, 113 of these were recorded as being in positive management; 25 Local Geological Sites; 28 Local Nature Reserves; 15 Tees Valley Wildlife Trust nature reserves: One RSPB reserve; seven Country Parks; five areas of community woodland (under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000); seven Doorstep Greens and five Millennium Greens as well as many more wild green spaces that are valued by people and wildlife alike.

Section three: Your project

3a Describe what your project will do

A two-phase project is proposed. Firstly, commission an independent review of our partnership to help partners decide on the practical next steps to ensure the sustainability of the partnership. This will examine the following:

- a review of governance and an audit of partners in particular steering group members skills, and capacity to implement changes. Including an examination of the weaknesses identified in the Heritage Strength Checker e.g. the over reliance on staff for direction and leadership.
- advice and support from a mentor to review our business and operating model and support the development of a new business plan for the partnership including implementing key stages.
- exploration of alternative income streams for the partnership including investigating new approaches to fundraising, trading or other income generating activities and the production of a fully costed financial plan for the forthcoming year with at least a five-year projected forecast.

Running con-currently will be three further areas of work:

- Fact finding visits by the Chair and staff member to three comparable Local Nature Partnerships.
- 1 half day workshop to engage the steering group with the proposals and a further half day workshop to involve members of the wider partnership.
- Mentoring and/or training for the LNP staff and steering group members where identified over the project period.

Secondly to sustain the successful proposals generated in phase one we would look to apply for a second Resilient Heritage grant to implement a second phase project. This is not being included at this point as the actions are reliant on the outcomes of phase one. It could include but would not be limited to:

- Production of a fit for purpose business plan/work programme or similar document/s identified in phase one.
- Production of a marketing and communications strategy.
- Trial models for income generation. This could include; services supplied to local authorities and the Combined Authority, membership fees etc.
- Training for staff and partnership organisations.

3b Explain what need and opportunity your project will address

The partnership was officially recognised in 2012 but had a two-year hiatus from 2014 and was re-launched in April 2016.

The two-year hiatus was caused mostly due to the uncertainty of how natural heritage services particularly at a Tees Valley scale should be organised and funded. This was at a time when the local authorities were experiencing significant funding cuts, and reorganisation to services as well.

From April 2016, a three-year funding commitment to April 2019 from the five Tees Valley local authorities and Tees Valley Wildlife Trust is secured. There is no firm indication as to whether this funding will continue. In the Strength Checker report, this was cited as our weakest score.

We primarily see the 'issues or challenges' that have created the need for this funding are around the partnership and the lack of commitment from partners to provide time and skills rather than purely financial support which alone will not deliver the aims of the TVNP.

One year on from the re-launch we wish to ensure a continuity of delivery and build a strong, effective and creative partnership. We have undertaken the Resilient Heritage Strength Checker and received an overall score of 43%. The sustainability score was 40% with the recommendation we 'should identify the key areas to improve and a plan to implement this. This may require external support.'

3c Why is it essential for the project to go ahead now?

We wish to complete the full project before the April 2019 funding commitment ends and allow time for the changes to be initiated and bedded in.

3d Why do you need Lottery funding?

The partnership has core funding covering administration costs but cannot finance a project of this magnitude.

3e What work and/or consultation have you undertaken to prepare for this project and why?

The proposal to pursue a review of the partnership was agreed by the Tees Valley Nature Partnership Steering Group at the spring meeting on May 17th, 2017. Following this the TVNP Officer with the support of the Chair and another Steering Group member undertook the Resilient Heritage Strength Checker.

Section four: Project outcomes

In this section, tell us about the difference that your project will make for heritage, people and communities.

4a What difference will your project make for heritage (if applicable)?

The project will **build the partnerships capacity** to implement changes recommended in the review and needed to strengthen itself making it more robust and sustainable. It will **raise the profile of the LNP** identifying it as the 'go-to' organisation for advice on strategic planning and projects involving the natural environment ensuring a consistent approach for the protection, enhancement and management of the natural heritage. This will **build confidence amongst partners and other strategic organisations** i.e. the Tees Valley Combined Authority (Local Enterprise Partnership) and public health. TVNP will have a greater capacity to seize opportunities, promote and lobby for a healthy environment and support projects that deliver improved natural heritage outcomes resulting in the natural heritage of the Tees Valley being better managed.

4b What difference will your project make for people (if applicable)?

Partners (there are 37 organisations) and staff involved in the partnership will get the opportunity for **professional development** through:

- training for partners will be investigated to address any skills gaps that may be identified.
- mentoring opportunity with advice and guidance on how their existing skill base can be used to its greatest potential to support the partnership including looking at committing their time to ensure the partnerships success.

The project is designed to be an inclusive process and will build greater confidence, a sense of renewed enthusiasm and a commitment to work collectively for the partnership.

4c What difference will your project make for communities (if applicable)?

It is essential to consider the Nature Partnership not only in the context of the natural environment but also the wider social environment of the Tees Valley. The Department for Communities and Local Government published their Index of Multiple Deprivation in 2015. The Tees Valley ranks second after Liverpool City region as the most deprived area in England with Middlesbrough ranked as the most deprived Local Authority area in England, Hartlepool is also in the top 20.

There is significant and growing evidence on the physical and mental health benefits of green spaces. Research shows that access to green space is associated with better health outcomes and income-related inequality in health is less pronounced where people have access to green space.

According to WHO: Urban Green Spaces and Health – A Review of Evidence (2016) urban green space has health benefits, particularly for economically deprived communities...It is essential that all populations have adequate access to green space, particularly for disadvantaged communities..., the need for green space and its value for health and well being is universal.

To support our local communities to access, engage with and value our natural heritage it is essential that we build a more resilient partnership. This will result in a strategic partnership that has a greater capacity to influence decision makers and budget holders to understand and invest in our natural heritage, and build our capacity to take the lead on strategic natural heritage initiatives.

The work will define,

1. why there is a need for TVNP,
2. what TVNP can offer, and
3. what TVNP can achieve.

Resulting in a confident, sufficiently resourced and accountable body that will work alongside key decision makers in the Tees Valley.

Without this co-ordinated, strategic and Tees Valley wide approach the natural environment and the opportunities it offers for the health and well being of our communities could be over looked and underfunded.

Section five: After the project ends

5a Tell us how you will sustain the outcomes after your project ends?

Please note there is a 200 word limit for this question.

The proposal of a **two-phase project** is designed to initiate then support the on-going sustainability of the partnership. This application – phase one, aims to identify what needs to change and how we are going to do this. The steering group/board meet quarterly so they will be tasked with monitoring the progress of the changes. The Resilient Heritage Strength Checker identified that ‘there are some significant gaps in strategy and plans’. By developing a robust business model with clearer achievable objectives and targets that are monitored measured and published we are confident the outcomes will be sustained and developed into the future. We would look potentially to a second Resilient Heritage application to implement a phase two project.

Section six: Project timetable

6a Tell us when your project will start and finish.

Project start date

Month	November	Year	2017
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Project finish date

Month	June	Year	2018
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Section seven: Project costs

Please use the 'Description' column to describe your costs in more detail.

There is a limit of 20 words per 'description' when completing the cost tables. If you need to provide a more detailed explanation and breakdown of your costs there is a facility at the end of the application form to upload supporting documents.

The HLF Grant Request field will be filled in automatically to the nearest £100. With this in mind, please make sure that the total project income exactly matches the total project costs or the system will not allow you to proceed.

7a In this section, tell us how much it will cost to deliver your project.

Cost Heading	Description	How much (£)	Non recoverable VAT	Total (£)
Professional Fees	Consultants fee to conduct review	5000	1000	6000
Training for staff	Fact finding visits to 3 LNPs for 1 staff & I Chair	1250		1250
Training for staff	Mentoring: 5 days at £450/day	1875	375	2250
Training for volunteers	Two half-day workshops: One for 16 steering group members, another for 37 partner organisations.	500		500
Total		8625	1375	10000

7b Project income

Source of funding	Description	Secured?	Value
HLF grant request			10000
Total			10000

7c Financial summary

Total project costs	10000
Total project income	
HLF grant request	10000
HLF grant %	100

7d Are there any non-cash contributions or volunteer time to help carry out your project?

Description of non-cash contributions	Estimated value (£)
Venue for workshops	250
Total	250

Description of volunteers' task	Number of days	£ per day (as per our guidance)	Estimated value (£)
Total			

Section eight: Additional information and declaration

This part of the form aims to collect the information we need to report on the range of organisations we fund. We will not use this information to assess your application. We encourage you to be as specific as possible about the people your organisation represents.

If your organisation represents the interests of a particular group, such as young people or disabled people, tell us which by filling in the tables below.

If you are based in Northern Ireland, where legislation requires us to report in detail on the organisations we fund, please complete the tables in full, as applicable.

If you are based outside Northern Ireland and your organisation represents the interests of a wide range of people and not any particular group, mark this box only.

Age

Disabled people

Ethnicity

Marital or civil partnership status

People with dependants (for example, children or elderly relatives)

People living in households with incomes below the national average, or people living in the most deprived local-authority wards in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.

Community background (Northern Ireland only)

Religious belief

Gender

Sexual orientation

Declaration

a) Terms of Grant

You must read the standard terms of grant for this programme on our website.

By completing this Declaration, you are confirming that your organisation accepts these terms. For partnership projects, all partners must confirm that they accept the standard terms of grant by adding a contact at the end of the declaration.

b) Freedom of Information and Data Protection

We are committed to being as open as possible. This includes being clear about how we assess and make decisions on our grants and how we will use your application form and other documents you give us. As a public organisation we have to follow the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

When you complete the Declaration at the end of the application form, you are confirming that you understand the Heritage Lottery Fund's legal responsibilities under the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and have no objection to us releasing sections 2, 3 and 4 of the application form to anyone who asks to see them. If there is any information in these sections of the form that you don't want made publicly available, please explain your reasons below:

We will take these into account when we respond to any request for access to those sections. We may also be asked to release other information contained elsewhere in the form and we will respond to these requests after taking account of your rights and expectations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Data Protection Act 1998. In those cases, we will always consult you first. The Heritage Lottery Fund will not be responsible for any loss or damage you suffer as a result of HLF meeting these responsibilities.

When you complete the Declaration you also agree that we will use this application form and the other information you give us, including any personal information covered by the Data Protection Act 1998, for the following purposes:

- To decide whether to give you a grant.
- To provide copies to other individuals or organisations who are helping us to assess, monitor and evaluate grants.
- To share information with organisations and individuals working with us with a legitimate interest in Lottery applications and grants or specific funding programmes.
- To hold in a database and use for statistical purposes.
- If we offer you a grant, we will publish information about you relating to the activity we have funded, including the amount of the grant and the activity it was for. This information may appear in our press releases, in our print and online publications, and in the publications or websites of relevant Government departments and any partner organisations who have funded the activity with us.
- If we offer you a grant, you will support our work to demonstrate the value of heritage by contributing (when asked) to publicity activities during the period we provide funding for and participating in activities to share learning, for which we may put other grantees in contact with you.

We may contact you from time to time to keep you informed about the work of the Heritage Lottery Fund

Tick this box if you do not wish to be kept informed of our work

I confirm that the organisation named on this application has given me the authority to complete this application on its behalf.

I confirm that the activity in the application falls within the purposes and legal powers of the organisation.

I confirm that the organisation has the power to accept and pay back the grant.

I confirm that if the organisation receives a grant, we will keep to the standard terms of grant, and any further terms or conditions as set out in the grant notification letter, or in any contract prepared specifically for the project.

I confirm that, as far as I know, the information in this application is true and correct.

I confirm that I agree with the **above statements.**

Name	Rachel Murtagh
Organisation	Tees Valley Wildlife Trust (on behalf of Tees Valley Nature Partnership)
Position	Tees Valley Nature Partnership Officer
Date	07/09/2017

Are you applying on behalf of a partnership?

Yes

Please add the details of additional contacts below:

Timothy Crawshaw	Darlington Borough Council	Built & Natural Environment Manager	07/09/2017
Sarah Scarr	Hartlepool Borough Council	Heritage and Countryside Manager	07/09/2017
Paul Clarke	Middlesbrough Borough Council	Head of Planning	07/09/2017
Kevin Wilson	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	Natural Heritage Manager	07/09/2017
Graham Clingan	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Greenspace Strategy & Partnership Manager	07/09/2017
Jeremy Garside	Tees Valley Wildlife Trust	Chief Executive	07/09/2017
Glyn Bateman	Natural England	Manager, Northumbria Area Team	07/09/2017
Christina Taylor	RSPB	Conservation Officer (North East & Cumbria)	07/09/2017
Jim Smith	Forestry Commission	Local Partnership Advisor	07/09/2017
Richard O'Callaghan	Woodland Trust	Regional External Affairs Officer - North	07/09/2017

Section nine: Supporting documents

Please provide all of the documents listed unless they are not applicable to your project. You will be asked to indicate how you are sending these documents to us - as hard copy or electronically.

If you attach more than 10 documents, or if the total size of the attachments exceeds 20 megabytes, you will not be able to save or submit your form. If you have more documents or very large documents, please email them to your local HLF office.

1. Copy of your organisation's constitution (formal rules), unless you are a public organisation or registered charity*. If your application is on behalf of a partnership or consortium, please refer to the programme application guidance for more information on what you need to provide.

If you have sent a copy of your constitution with a previous grant application (since April 2008) and no changes have been made to it, you do not need to send it again. Tell us the reference number of the previous application.

Not applicable

2. Copies of your agreements with project partners, signed by everyone involved, setting out how the project will be managed;

Electronic

3. Copy of your organisation's accounts for the last financial year. This does not apply to public organisations*;

Not applicable

4. Briefs for internally and externally commissioned work;

Electronic

5. A small selection of images that help illustrate your project. If your project involves physical heritage, please provide a selection of photographs, a location map and, if applicable, a simple site map or plan. It would be helpful if these are in digital format;

Electronic

6. Letters of support (no more than six), from other current funders for example;

Not applicable

7. A copy of the report from the Resilient Heritage strength checker if you have used this tool. If you have completed other diagnostic tools or audits please include the documentation relating to these.

Electronic

Please now attach supporting documents.

*** If you have not yet formed your organisation, please send us the constitution and accounts of the organisation who is making the application on your behalf.**

When you have completed the form click the submit button to submit the form to the server. You can view what you have entered by clicking the draft print button above.