

Big Lottery – Partnerships Funding

1. What you want to do and why

Starting in the national ‘Year of Green Action’ we want to develop a programme in our next phase of our partnership to:

Harness public love & concern for nature, grow involvement in our partnership and extend our strategic influence to protect and enhance the environment of the Tees Valley for all.

Appendix 1 shows an info-graphic of our proposal. We propose a 3-pronged approach:

What?	Why? - Desired Outcome
Raise the profile of TVNP	More residents, schools, organisations and business are involved with our partner organisations and TVNP. Nature is celebrated and valued. Local pride and involvement in nature is increased. TVNP is the go-to hub on nature & the environment in the Tees Valley.
Build the capacity of local groups	Groups are more confident and better able to work for nature and add their voice. Community leaders are supported, enabled and confident to engage with local decision makers.
Build capacity of the partnership	Well-resourced to use our unified voice to better effect to influence and champion the environment of the Tees Valley to local decision makers (e.g. The Mayor, Local Enterprise Partnership, Tees Valley Combined Authority, Public Health, Local authorities etc) and regional and national bodies. Exemplar Local Nature Partnership facilitating communication and action working bottom up and top down.

Fig 1: The What and the Why of our proposal

This builds on our work in 2018 when (with the help of an HLF Resilient Heritage grant) we commissioned a thorough independent review of our Partnership. This has shaped our forth-coming business plan and ambitions for the next 3 years.

2. What difference you think your idea will make

- Thriving and sustainable local nature partnership for the Tees Valley.
- More effective and inclusive unified voice for local nature/environment.
- Improved places and spaces that matter to people.
- Stronger relationships across communities of interest and influence.
- Greater public involvement in local nature and environment issues.
- Greater competency/effectiveness of local people and groups to lobby and work for the environment.
- A higher profile for nature and the environment on the local strategic agenda.
- More influence with local decision makers and therefore greater action.



3. How people and communities are involved in your project

This proposal has been shaped by our 2018 review which included workshops, 1:1 interviews and on-line surveys with members of our 32 partner organisations. It builds on our existing connections and feedback from other programmes.

Sample questions	Selection of answers
Best features of the current partnership?	The most inclusive & comprehensive forum for promoting nature conservation in the area, and the one with the highest level of strategic support from local authorities. /The range of partners involved. This increases opportunities for joint working and extending the scope of project to restore and conserve our natural heritage. /
Is there anything else TVNP could look at? If so, what?	Ensuring local communities are involved and on-board/ Increase public awareness of TVNP. / can go from ‘just managing’ to being proactive and

And why is this important to your organisation	develop some high-profile new projects that would add value to everyday lives and make us a distinctive area to live within.
Is there anything else you would like to add about the future of the TVNP?	I hope it continues and works with local groups to enhance the whole of the Tees Valley area. /Keep up the good work/ More direct action would be advantageous.

Fig 2: 2018 Partnership Survey Feedback

- Further involvement of partners, in particular local groups in the design of the programme if we progress to full application stage.
- Proposal includes small grants (funded by local authority contribution?) decisions panel made up of local group leaders.
- Broader community involvement through 'Raising the profile of the TVNP' activities in the programme.

4. The background to your organisation, how you were formed and what is the organisations legal status

<https://teesvalleynaturepartnership.org.uk/about-us/what-are-local-nature-partnerships/>

The partnership is currently hosted by Tees Valley Wildlife Trust. We are not a legally defined partnership.

Originally born from a national initiative, there are 47 LNPs in England. We have always involved local groups and relied on local funding. We intend on building on this strength with the help and support of the Big Lottery.

5. The length of your project budget and how much funding you'll need from us

Minimum of 3 Years. However, our preferred option would be 5 years. Experience so far and feedback from our partners has shown it takes time to nurture meaningful relationships, build trust, commitment and capacity.

Funding source	Estimated Costs		
	Total amount yr1	Total amount/3 years	Total amount/ 5 years
Big Lottery Contribution	£105,500	£316,500	£474,750
Local Authority contribution	£21,200	£62,024	£101,130
Host contribution	£5,300	£15,507	£25,211
One off project funding	£10,000	£20,000	£40,000
Estimated total budget	£142,000	£414,031	£641,091

Fig 3: Estimated costs of our proposal

We had an initial 3-year funding commitment from the 5 Tees Valley local authorities to March 2019. They have just extended this for another year to March 2020. Our small unitary local authorities have been disproportionately hit by austerity. They service some of the most deprived communities in England giving smaller council income with high budget demands. With support from the Big Lottery we could greatly add value to their contribution and encourage a commitment for the full 3-years of this project. We have proposed an element of 'income for management' to test longer term income generation so we are not fully reliant on local authority contributions in the longer term.

6. The model of your partnership

We have a main steering group, working groups and task and finish groups when the need arises.

<https://teesvalleynaturepartnership.org.uk/about-us/structure-of-the-tees-valley-nature-partnership/>

7. How your idea fits in with other local activities

As well as our partner organisations we work closely with other networks and programmes including: [Your Tees Catchment Partnership](#), who we jointly host an annual [Tees Nature conference](#) with; [Tees Valley Wild Green Places](#) who work directly with 40 local groups; [River Tees Re-discovered](#) landscape partnership. We have just partnered with Sport England [South Tees Delivery Pilot](#). Other activities we wish to form links with include the [Festival of Thrift](#) (that had a footfall of 45,000 in 2017) and [MIMA](#).

BIG LOTTERY – PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAMME - PROPOSAL



Harness public love & concern for nature. Grow involvement - extend our influence

A Tees Valley where more people are connected to bigger and better wildlife rich spaces



GROWING PUBLIC INTEREST IN NATURE

- Residents & schools
- local businesses
- Local politicians

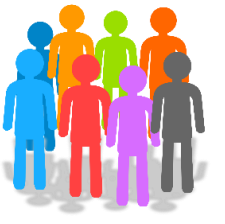


TVNP

- Local Groups/orgs
- Agencies & authorities
- 3rd Sector/charities

Our Purpose

- Unified voice
- Delivery framework
- Influence



Raise the profile of TVNP			
ACTIVITIES:	Marketing & promotion • Expert guidance • Social media • Website	Environment Awards • Different categories • Local sponsors?	Feedback map • interactive
	Links with industry		
RESOURCES:	Estimates Marketing consultant £15k yr1 Env. awards scheme £5k/yr Marketing & promo materials £5k/yr Promo campaign £2k yr1		

Build the capacity of local groups			
Training * Planning system * Funding * Marketing & promotion * Data collection	Communication * On-line forum * Newsletters * Conference	Leadership * Cross partner mentoring * Advice & support	Small grant scheme * Administered by TVNP * Community decision panel
Estimates Training budget £2k/yr Conference costs £2k/yr Small grant scheme £30k/yr Expenses for mentors £1k/yr			

Build the capacity of the partnership			
Resources * Mapping * Data	Income 4 management * Test income streams * Chargeable services?	Communication * CPD for professionals * Annual reports etc.	Expertise & Leadership * Natural Capital * Public health
Estimates Mapping £1k yr1 Data host £2k/yr Training budget £2k/yr Consultants fees £20k Support Staff x 2 £65k/yr			