

# Invitation to submit projects to **Connect2**

## Living Landmarks People's Millions programme



Sustrans is delighted to have been short-listed by the Big Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks People's Millions Programme. We are now preparing a detailed list of projects to be considered for this major award of funding and are seeking your help.

**Connect2**, as our Living Landmarks programme is known, will overcome some of the barriers that prevent people walking and cycling within their local area as part of their everyday journeys.

Roads, canals, rivers, railways and housing developments for example, can all make journeys longer and more hazardous than they need be. In some cases they can make those journeys impossible.



**Connect2** is committed to solving 50 typical, everyday barriers to people's local mobility. We want to see people benefiting from good local access by using the highest quality design, concept and linking routes so that walking and cycling become the easiest way to move around the local area. **Connect2** will help engender a sense of pride and community ownership in the local environment.

**Connect2** is inspired by local community support and involvement. This leaflet is being widely distributed to enable local councils, groups and communities to be involved from the very start by suggesting projects that they wish to see added to the **Connect2** programme. Details of where to send your ideas, and the information we need, is set out on the back of this leaflet.



Sustrans has applied for £42.9m for **Connect2** but our programme is by no means assured. The Big Lottery Fund will assess the six projects now on the shortlist to decide which should go forward to a televised vote in October 2007. The public will then choose the winner!

I hope that you are able to help us by suggesting a winning **Connect2** project.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Grimshaw".

John Grimshaw  
Sustrans



### **Connect2 short-listed for a Big Lottery Funded Living Landmarks Award**

**Connect2** will create new links and bridges for pedestrians and cyclists across physical barriers. It will contribute to and enhance public space and, through the endorsement, support and leadership of the local community, will engender a sense of local pride.

If you don't already know who we are, Sustrans is the charity behind the National Cycle Network, and we will have worked with many of you to ensure the success of the Network in communities throughout the UK. We would like to see a world in which people can choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment, and **Connect2** is one of the many practical ways in which we are achieving this. Our other projects include **Safe Routes to Schools**, and **Bike It**, a project working directly with children in schools to help them develop the skills to cycle to school. Our **Active Travel** programme is also working to promote physical fitness through daily walking and cycling for local journeys.

The **Connect2** programme lies at the heart of all this work. If you can't cross the road, the railway or the river you can't even begin to make your journey on foot or bike – and you might not be able to make your journey at all. If you can't avoid the main road, and can't make a shortcut, you may as well stay in your car. If your children aren't independent and able

to walk and cycle around their area on their own they may not be getting the exercise they need and you are trapped as a chauffeur all day.

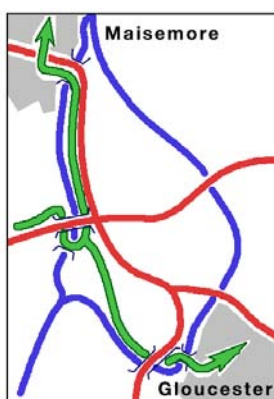
The **Connect2** programme aims to put in place 50 projects that overcome these challenges and make a real change in their local area. The links might comprise some or all of the following, and more besides.



- **A crossing of a heavily trafficked road** This might be by a new bridge, a complete rearrangement of the road, or even a light-controlled crossing. Whatever the solution, we anticipate putting in place a network of paths focussing on this crossing, and creating an attractive space either side so that it becomes a memorable part of the public's local map of their area.
- **A crossing of a railway** This might be under or over, and will certainly resolve a long-standing barrier to movement through the area.
- **River crossings** will always be bridges, although there might be a case for floating walkways.
- **Housing and land barriers** often block the way of a good route, particularly direct ways through parks and public spaces where the original access gateways give onto what are now busy roads.

- **Remote Settlements**

or villages are often cut off from their local towns because the only way is a main road that is both unattractive and unsafe. A new route parallel to the main road is required to resolve this. Our newly opened path from Gloucester to Maisemore is just such a case in point.



- **Links** are needed to town centres, schools and railway stations. **Connect2** projects will not deal with just one feature of a journey but should go all the way from the residential area to a real destination. They will make use of existing routes where these are available and of good quality.



The **Connect2** project aims to work through exemplary local community involvement. We see this as more than consultation on a given scheme, rather as an empowering of

local community groups to enable them to bring forward excellent routes as their own. Sustrans, through the **Connect2** programme, will support each project to ensure it happens, that land agreements are reached, that planning procedures are followed and that funds are raised. We envisage that each project will be managed by a **Local Connect2 Project Steering Group** to lead the public support for the programme, and we particularly hope that our **Bike It** programme will work with a number of local schools.

**Connect2** will pursue a good quality public space, whether small or large. We will work with artists who will hold local workshops in each community to consider the overall setting for each new bridge or link, including landscaping or public art. In particular, we hope that **Connect2** will set new patterns for how to make really wonderful and memorable public spaces.

**Connect2** will be much more than the sum of its constituent local projects. We aim to devise a whole series of national initiatives to ensure that each single project gets all the support it needs, if necessary from the experience of similar projects. At the same time, we will encourage a programme of twinning so that local people from one project are welcome at the others. Ultimately we hope that the public will see the whole programme of 50 or more projects as a single group. All this free and open public space, available for all, will enhance lives and make local journeys more accessible and attractive.





The following information should be provided in as much detail as possible. Please answer all questions.

- Name of the project
- Describe your project: what is the problem; why is it a problem; what is the solution that you are suggesting; how many people are affected?
- Address or location (please provide a map showing the project and the wider area affected showing the exact location of the problem/solution and details of how the project will link to where people live, the local schools, stations, the town centre(s), etc.)
- Give details of community need: what (if any) local groups are supportive of the project – please provide as much information as possible about the nature of the group(s) and any contact details; how will the community benefit from the project; what work has been done to involve the community; are there any objections to the project that you are aware of?
- Do you know of any local, regional or national policies or plans that support this project? Please give details.
- Do any detailed designs or studies about the project already exist?
- Do you know who owns the land needed for the project and whether they are supportive?

- Do you know if the project has planning consent?
- Do you have any estimates of the cost of the whole project or any specific elements of the project?
- Are you aware of any funding that has already been raised for the project?

Please send your project, its material and this information **by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2006** to:  
Robin Lapworth at Sustrans, 2 Cathedral Square,  
College Green, Bristol, BS1 5DD.

For general background information on the Living Landmarks programme see:  
[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_livinglandmarks](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_livinglandmarks)

For any queries regarding your **Connect2** application, please telephone Robin on:  
0117 926 8893 or e-mail [connect2@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:connect2@sustrans.org.uk)

We have a few months to prepare our final submission to the Big Lottery Fund. They require our detailed proposals by the end of May 2007 so they can prepare for the television vote in October that year. If we are successful, monies could be awarded shortly after.

Sustrans will make every effort to include your proposal. Where we cannot because we are not sure that it best fits the criteria, or because we are overwhelmed with the number of applications, we will let you know why and do our best to find another way for you to realise your project and your hopes.