

Love Your Network - Grant Fund Guidelines

Community fund for small projects that benefit people or wildlife on traffic-free National Cycle Network routes in Scotland.

Minimum grant £100; Maximum grant: £750.

Communities play a crucial role in encouraging others to walk and cycle for more of the journeys they make every day, by making areas more enjoyable or interesting to travel through. The Love Your Network grant fund supports communities to make physical improvements to traffic-free sections of National Cycle Network, by providing Love Your Network grants towards practical projects which will benefit people or wildlife.

How much money can a group apply for?

Minimum grant funding: £100
Maximum grant funding: £750

On exception, we may consider funding projects to a value upwards of £750. If you have a bigger project that would have a measurable positive impact on users of a National Cycle Network route, please talk to us.

What is eligible for funding?

Examples of costs which have been covered with a Love Your Network grant are below. This is NOT an exhaustive list, and applications can include things which do not appear here:

- Litter-picking equipment
- Bike trailers for transporting tools and equipment
- Protective equipment
- Hand tools
- Power tools
- Native plants

Please note: projects which take place on a traffic-free section of a numbered National Cycle Network route will be given priority.

What is not eligible for funding?

- Staff time or wages
- Fuel costs

- The construction of paths
- Structural repairs to existing infrastructure, e.g. walls, bridges etc.
- Installation of artwork or interpretation boards (please see ArtRoots fund for this)

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list. Sustrans holds the right to refuse applications which contain elements not listed here.

Community involvement

The fund exists to support voluntary action by communities on traffic-free National Cycle Network routes, so please include an outline of community involvement in your application.

It is generally assumed that there will be an equal volunteer in-kind contribution to the amount of funding applied for. A monetary value is put to the time spent by volunteers. The standard day rates are shown in the table below:

Type of work	Activity	Day rate
Unskilled volunteer task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting • Using hand tools e.g. spade, loppers, rake • Mixing cement by hand • Administration tasks 	£50
Skilled volunteer task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating mechanical tools e.g. strimmer, cement mixer, hammer drill • Operating large machinery e.g. digger, forklift 	£150

Who can apply for funding?

Love Your Network grants are available to registered charities, social enterprises and other constituted community groups. Individuals and profit-making companies may not apply for grants.

Local authorities may apply for funding on behalf of a community group that is not constituted.

Deadline for applications

Friday 8th May 2020

How do I apply?

You can start your application for funding by completing the online form [here](#). Your application will be assigned to one of our staff members who will contact you for an initial discussion about your project and to arrange a site visit if your project is eligible.

Permissions

Landowner permission may be required for your project if you are making changes to land or environment through tool use or management, or operating machinery on their land. Please confirm with the relevant authority whether you will need permission for your proposed project and obtain this in writing in advance of applying.

Where we have maintenance responsibility or where there are complex land management arrangements in place, we may not be able to support your bid.

Application assessment and awarding of grants

If you are successful in being awarded a Love Your Network grant, you will need to enter into a legal contract with Sustrans as a condition of the funding being provided and we will issue an offer letter that sets out the line of action to be followed which must be signed by both Sustrans and a representative of the community group before the release of any funds. Following this, you will be required to identify one further person within your group, and both representatives will register on our grant portal to authorise the application and submit a grant claim.

You will receive 100% of funding upfront but will be required to complete a feedback form on your project.

Final report

The final report asks for the impact of your project, the volunteer in-kind contribution, before and after photos, and for feedback on your experience obtaining a grant. A copy is available on request.

Terms & conditions

By applying for this grant you agree to

- Spend the money as outlined in your application or tell us if that changes
- Provide feedback on your project
- Agree to us contacting you throughout the duration of your project

If you have any queries please contact our Network Engagement Coordinator (Volunteering), Laura White, on laura.white@sustrans.org.uk or phone **0131 346 3016**

Sustrans is the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. We connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute.

Join us on our journey. www.sustrans.org.uk