

Supporting Sustainable Living Grant Scheme: Information Sheet

The Supporting Sustainable Living Grant Scheme will run from 1 April 2011 for at least the next 2 years.

Aim

To bring about long-term changes in lifestyle that will reduce Wales' greenhouse gas emissions and help organisations and communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Eligibility

It is open to organisations from all sectors that are legally constituted or incorporated with their own bank account. Individuals cannot apply. All project activities must take place in Wales.

Criteria

Applications must:

- be based on evidence, or a recognised model or theory, that suggests that the proposed activities will be successful in changing behaviour
- deliver, or have the clear potential to deliver, either reductions in greenhouse gas emissions or tangible adaptation measures
- be able to demonstrate how project outputs (interventions) and outcomes (behaviour changes and resulting impact on scheme aims) will be measured and evaluated

Applicants must also demonstrate:

- value for money
- commitment to sustainable development principles in project delivery

Grant Amount

It is expected that the majority of grants will range between £5,000 and £15,000. However in exceptional circumstances this figure can rise to up to £35,000.

Grants can fund project design, delivery and evaluation. This includes project materials and equipment, translation, printing, training, consultants and specialist advice, venue hire, volunteer expenses etc. It can also pay for staff time provided that this is not already paid for by another funding arrangement.

Match Funding

- Grants can usually only cover 75% of the overall costs of a project with at least 25% of funding coming from non-Welsh Government sources.
- Occasionally these requirements may be waived in exceptional circumstances.
- Volunteer time can be counted as match funding at £6.50/hour.

Grant Timeframe

Grants must usually be spent within the financial year in which they are awarded. There will be regular deadlines and Grants Panel meetings.

Grant Framework

The main grant stream has 3 stages. Applicants can enter at any stage depending on their circumstances. Progression onto the next stage will be by invitation depending on project outcomes and availability of funds. The 3 stages are:

Stage 1: Project Development Grants:

To help applicants to explore areas where they could act to tackle climate change and to identify the methods, tools and budget that they will need to achieve the biggest impact.

Stage 2: Implementation Grants:

To help applicants to trial projects that are aimed at changing specific behaviours or lifestyle choices that will tackle the causes and consequences of climate change.

Stage 3: Replication Grants:

For applicants that have already successfully trialled one behaviour change project to roll it out to other areas or on a larger scale.

Training and Fact-finding:

To attend training courses, bring in external trainers or consultants, or undertake relevant fact-finding visits.

Monitoring Requirements

Grant recipients will be monitored at 6-monthly intervals and be required to submit Interim and/or End-of Project reports which will include an evaluation framework. They will also be expected to make delivery plans available so their successful behaviour change projects may replicated in other areas.

Grant recipients will be required to keep receipts and records of expenditure but these do not have to be submitted to Environment Wales for audit unless specifically requested.

Deadlines

Completed signed applications must be received in hard copy, with all requested supporting information, at the Environment Wales office in Cardiff by 5pm on the following dates:

7 February 2012

11 April 2012

20 June 2012

A further deadline may be announced if funds permit.

What next?

If you have a project that you think would be suitable for this scheme and would like to talk to a Development Officer, please email jlucoq@environment-wales.org with brief details of the project and your contact details. You will be contacted by a Development Officer within 7 working days.