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Community Paths Grant Scheme Guidance Notes



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Community Paths Grant Scheme Guidance Notes

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1. Our Community Paths Funding

Our funding provides communities with the resources they need to upgrade, promote and maintain community paths close to where they live by:

- Creating new volunteering opportunities for everyone;
- Bringing communities together to work and learn from each other;
- Creating better places for people to explore and enjoy;
- Creating links that people can use as part of their everyday travel;
- Improving communities' health and wellbeing by getting people more physically active outdoors and in contact with nature.

Our priorities

We will give priority to projects which will engage and empower:

- young people
- people on low incomes
- people with poor physical or mental health, or people who are experiencing exclusion
- communities in or close to our towns or cities, particularly those in the 20% most deprived areas (see [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#))
- communities to get more physically active outdoors
- take action to address climate change

Who can apply for our grant?

Our grant scheme is open to any constituted community group who have their own bank account.

Community organisations and registered community charities such as community councils, development trusts and community woodland groups working in Scotland can also apply for our funding.

How much can you apply for?

You can apply for a grant of up to a maximum grant of £1,500.

Working with Volunteers

It is a condition of our funding that you must match the amount you have applied for with a volunteer 'in kind' contribution. Your project must involve at least 8 volunteers who must each contribute a minimum of 5 hours to your project.

Use our standard day rates in Appendix 1 to work out the in-kind contribution which volunteers will give to your project.

What can you spend our grant on?

Our funding can be used to:

- improve and maintain existing paths
- buy tools, materials and insurance
- hire a contractor, plant and machinery
- install signage and way markers
- produce new leaflets or promotional materials which use the [Path Grading System](#)
- buy and plant native trees and shrubs,
- sow a wildflower meadow

What can't you spend our grant on?

Our funding cannot be used to:

- reprint existing leaflets or promotional materials
- cover the costs of staff time
- install litter or dog fouling bins
- create paths in community gardens or growing spaces
- cover project costs or activities that have already occurred
- buy and plant non-native trees, shrubs and plants

Deadlines and timescales

Complete and return

- An Expression of Interest via the www.grantsforall.org.uk website by 5pm on **24 May 2021**.
- A Full Application via the www.grantsforall.org.uk website before 5pm on **14 June 2021**.
- Your Final report before **21 Feb 2022**.

Do you need advice or support with your application?

If you have any questions simply get in touch with us. We have a dedicated team who can give you advice and support throughout all the stages of your project, contact us on communitypaths@pathsforall.org.uk

2. How do you apply for our funding?

Once you have read this document, if your organisation/group meets the eligibility criteria and has a relevant project proposal, register at www.grantsforall.org.uk

- You should then complete and submit the Expression of Interest online.
- If your EOI is eligible, you will receive an email from the system to say so, and you'll gain access to the full Application form.
- The Full Application, and accompanying documents, should then be submitted online.
- Full Applications will be reviewed, and applicants notified as to whether their proposal has been successful, rejected, or requires amendments.

Step 1 – Register on Grants for All

The application process can be accessed via the Grants for All system at: www.grantsforall.org.uk.

On your first visit to the site, if you are not an existing user/no one in your organisation is an existing user, click on '**Register for a grant**'.

Select **Active Environments**, then enter the following details about your organisation, as well as your personal contact details.

Organisation Details

- Choose from the list which organisation type you are
- Enter the name of your organisation
- Enter the address, town/city, postcode and telephone number of your organisation

Personal Details

- Your name
- The email address you would like to be contacted on (you will use this for login)
- Your role within your organisation
- Your telephone number(s)
- Your correspondence address
- Your postcode

You also must create a password more than 8 characters long, you will use this to access the Grant for All system.

When you have completed this step you will receive a verification email to allow you to log into the Grants for All system.

Step 2 – Accessing the Grants for All System

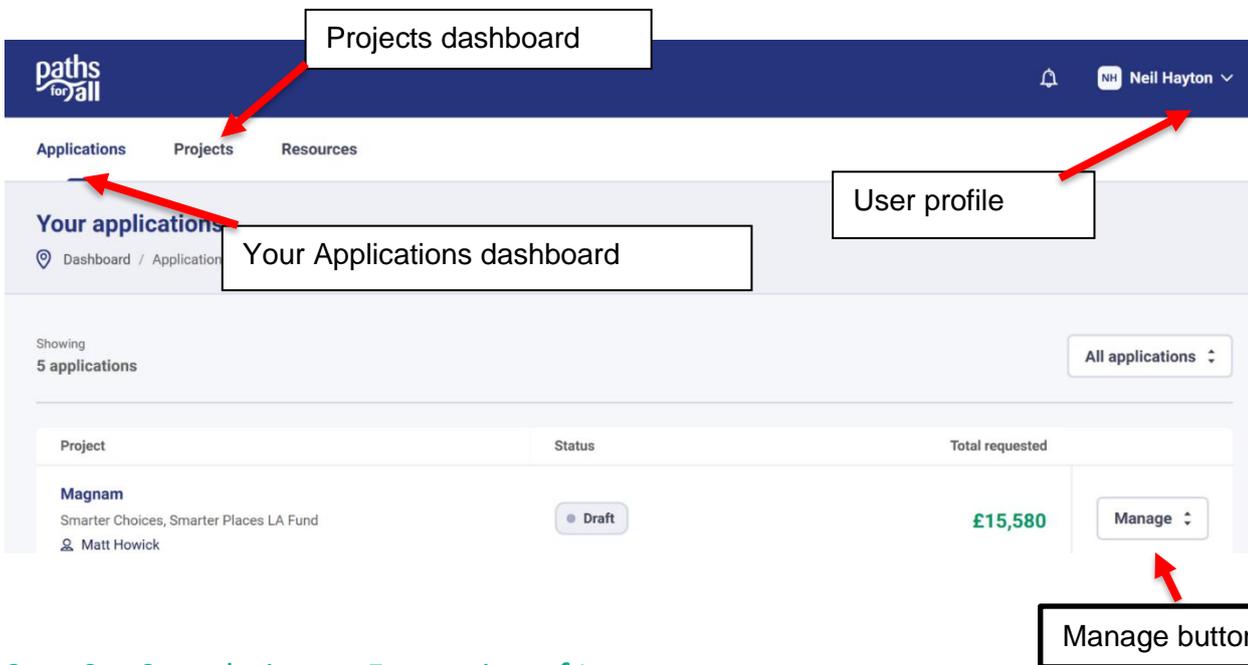
You must ensure you are on a supported browser (we recommend Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox or Apple Safari) [NB the system will not work on Internet Explorer as this is no longer supported by Microsoft].

Visit www.grantsforall.org.uk/login, enter the email address and password you created in step 1 then click on the '**Sign in**' button. You will then be taken to the **Your Applications** dashboard (see picture below).

The **Your Applications** dashboard lists your EOIs and applications.

The **Your Projects** dashboard lists your current and past projects (accepted applications).

To view a draft application, go to **Your Applications** dashboard and click on the '**Manage**' button against the EOI or Application that you wish to view or update.

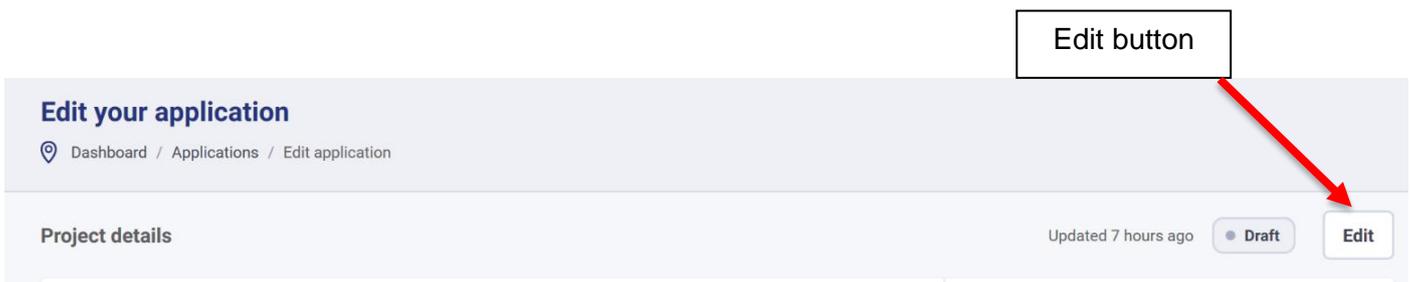


Step 3 – Completing an Expression of Interest

To start completing your Expression of Interest, click on the **'Start an application'** button (on the top right of the **Your applications** dashboard). Select **'Active Environments'** from the list, and press **'Submit'**. This will open a new Expression of Interest.



To start adding details click on the **'Edit'** button. The questions will then appear on the right-hand side of the screen in a separate pop-up box. You do not have to complete all the information in one go. To access your draft, go to **Your Applications** and click on **Manage** next to the EOI you want to edit. To save your progress, click on the 'save details' button at the bottom



The following information is required to submit an EOI:

- **Funding Pot:** Select Community Paths Grant
- **Project Name:** Please provide a name for your Project.
- **Project Summary:** Please summarise what your project will do, what you hope to achieve and what difference it will make to your local community.

- **Where will your Project take place?:** Please provide us with the closest valid Scottish Postcode to the area where your Project will take place.
- **Which of our priorities will be the primary aim?:** Creating or developing a route; Promoting or signposting a route; Maintaining an existing route
- **Do you have landowner's permission to carry out this Project?:** If you do not obtain permission we will not be able to provide funding.
- **Do you have public liability insurance in place?:** If you do not have Public Liability Insurance, we will not be able to provide funding.
- **Planned Start Date:** The date at which you'd like your Project to commence.
- **Planned End Date:** The funding end date should be when all the funding is expected to be spent and the project outcomes achieved.
- **Local Authority:** Please note which Local Authority area your project will take place in.
- **Total Project Cost:** This should be the value of PfA Grant Funding you are requesting, funding from other sources, and your In-Kind Volunteer contribution. N.B. an indicative figure is sufficient at EOI stage, you may update this cost when you submit a full application.
- **Total funding being requested:** Please tell us how much Grant Funding you are applying for.
- Please provide us with any links to your **group's website and/or social media accounts.**

Step 4 – Submitting an Expression of Interest

To submit your Expression of Interest (EOI) please click 'Submit Expression of Interest'. When you have done this the Paths for All Active Environments team will review the suitability of your EOI. Once it has been reviewed, you will receive an email from the system telling you whether your EOI has been Accepted, Rejected or Requires Changes. If it requires any changes you should follow the process outlined above to edit your EOI. If your EOI has been accepted, you will receive a prompt by email asking you to log on and complete a Full Application. Guidance on submitting a Full Application will be issued to groups who have submitted an accepted EOI.

Additional requirements

Your project must:

- Conform with best practice in terms of design;
- Be well planned and ready to start as soon as our funding is confirmed;
- Offer value for money.

Use the **Resources** listed in **Appendix 1** to ensure that your project conforms with best practice.

A full list of the supporting information you will be required to submit with your application is included in Appendix 1.

Assessing your application

We will assess and score your application against the matrix in **Appendix 1**.

There is a limited amount of funding available for these grants. Therefore, where applications that have the highest scores, exceed the overall funding available, Paths for All retains the right to award grants to these applications at its own discretion.

Appendix 1

How to work out your volunteer 'in kind' contributions

It is a condition of our funding that you must match the amount you have applied for with a volunteer 'in kind' contribution. The amount of time that volunteers spend working on your project has a monetary value. Use the standard day rates below to work out the in kind contribution which volunteers will give to your project.

Type of work	Activity	Day rate
Unskilled volunteer task	<ul style="list-style-type: none">weedingusing tools e.g. loppers, spades or rakesfixing/installing small signs or way markersadministration tasks	£50
Skilled volunteer task	<ul style="list-style-type: none">operating tools e.g. strimmers or power barrowsoperating large machines e.g. a diggerdesigning signage/leafletsinstalling large finger posts or interpretation panels	£150
Professional volunteer services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">creating graphics and print layouts for leafletslarge community consultation	£350

Supporting information

You must attach the following to your Full Application form:

- A copy of your constitution.
- A copy of your latest accounts.

Additional supporting information that can help your application:

- A map showing the location of path/s you want to upgrade, promote or maintain.
- Pictures or a short video showing the path / paths that you want to upgrade, promote or maintain

Paths for All is a partnership organisation; for a full list of our current partners please visit our website. Paths for All Partnership is a recognised Scottish Charity No: SC025535 and a Company Limited by Guarantee No: 168554 incorporated 19 September 1996 at Companies House, Edinburgh. Registered Office: Kintail House, Forthside Way, Stirling, FK8 1QZ

Grant Assessment Matrix

Questions	What you need to tell us:	Weighting
Tell us what your project will do and what you hope to achieve?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What work and activities you will carry out? 2) How will your project help deliver one or more of our priorities? 	20%
How do you know there is a need for your project?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What you need to change? 2) Who you have spoken to in the community? 3) What evidence have you gathered to show your project is important to the people who live in or visit your community? 	10%
How will the local community benefit from the improvements your project will make?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What will people in the community be able to do as a result of this project? 2) What difference will your project make to the people who live or visit your community? 	10%
How will the volunteers be involved in your project?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How many volunteers will be involved in your project? 2) What activities will the volunteers carry out? 3) When will volunteers carry out the activities? 4) What will volunteers achieve? 	10%
How will you promote your project?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How will you make people aware of your project? 2) Where will you publicise your project 3) When will you publicise your project? 4) How you will acknowledge our support. 	20%

<p>How will you monitor and evaluate the success of your project?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How you will collect the information about the difference your project is making 2) What information will you collect before, during and once your project is completed? 3) How you will assess the information you have gathered once your project is completed 	<p>20%</p>
<p>How will you maintain your project?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What resources do you need to maintain the project? 2) What work is required? 3) Who will carry out the work? 4) How you will you cover any costs? 	<p>10%</p>

Resources:

The following resources have been designed to help communities to plan and develop projects which conform with best practice:

- [Community Paths Guide](#)
- [Outdoor Access Design Guide](#)
- [Estimating Price Guide](#)
- [Lowland Path Construction Guide](#)
- [Path Grading System](#)
- [Signage guidance for outdoor access – a guide to good practice](#)