Downs & Harbours Clean Water Partnership

Portsmouth Water

PORTSMOUTH WATER BIODIVERSITY GRANT 2020-2025

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Portsmouth Water as part of its ongoing environmental commitments is offering a grant scheme from 2020-2025 for environmental improvements. The biodiversity fund is to the value of £250,000 (£50,000 per annum over 5 years).

SMALL GRANT SCHEME

We are offering a small grant scheme for single payment up to £1,000 for projects (total funds available each year is £5,000).

LARGE GRANT SCHEME

We are offering a large grant scheme for single payments between £1,000 and £10,000 for projects (total funds available each year is £45,000).

We will strongly support applications where match funding is available from other stakeholders including volunteer input.

Application will NOT be accepted for work that has already received other funding i.e. double funding

FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FOR:-

The main aim of the grant scheme is to enhance the habitat network surrounding Portsmouth Water land.

The fund will cover:

- Biodiversity and habitat improvements e.g. re coppicing woodland, wetland creation
- Invasive non-native species control e.g. Himalayan Balsam control to reduce bank erosion
- Species and habitat survey projects e.g. invertebrate survey of grassland
- Equipment to carry out knowledge enhancement

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Constituted not for profit groups with an associated bank account into which funds can be transferred.
- Local Authority Countryside Departments including South Downs National Park
- Portsmouth Water

Applications will be open from 1st June to the 30th July.

Applications will be evaluated in August.

Grants will be awarded by October.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application form
- A map of the project location
- Photographs of the location
- A CV with 2 references
- A copy of the organisations constitution

The submission of a valid application does not guarantee funding.

A maximum of 5 projects may be entered by any one applicant each year.

APPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

Applications will be assessed by the following criteria:

- Is the project in the Portsmouth Water operational area?
- Is the amount requested within the grant limits?
- Does the project align with the grants main aim?
- Does the project support the Local Ecological Network Map in Hampshire or the Sussex Nature Map?
- What biodiversity outcomes does the project have?
- Has the partner demonstrated the capacity to deliver the project?
- Does the proposal demonstrate value for money?
- If the project requires land owner permissions have these been sought?
- Does the proposal clearly identify risks?
- Does the applicant have credibility to ensure that the project is implemented in accordance with H&S?

PARTNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- All work must comply with relevant environmental legislation and have the appropriate planning permissions and permits. Projects must be completed within 18months of the grant award letter and the projects will be expected to have a benefit lasting 5 years or more.
- The production a short final report including before and after photos, accounts and how objectives have been met to be submitted within 1 month of project completion. Once this has been received the final part of the funding (15% of total grant awarded) will be paid.
- Regular updates required on agreed criteria. Timeframe to be agreed on a case by case basis.
- Any publicity for the project must acknowledge the support of Portsmouth Water.
- The grant recipient will work with Portsmouth water to publicise the award and benefits that it has delivered.
- Any species records from the project to go to the local biodiversity record centre.

PROJECT GOVERNANCE

- Small grant applications that meet the requirements will be reviewed by Portsmouth Water.
- Large grant applications that meet the requirements will be reviewed by the independent stakeholders' panel who will provide comments and recommendations on projects. The group will meet in early September each year to award successful applicants. This panel is being set up under the Downs & Harbours Clean Water Partnership as the Biodiversity Steering Group.
- The members of the Biodiversity Steering group consist of; South Downs National Park (SDNP), Environment Agency, Hampshire Wildlife Trust, Sussex Wildlife Trust and Portsmouth Water (5 in total).
- Awarding of project funding will be confirmed by the Downs & Harbours Clean Water Partnership Biodiversity Steering Group.
- A successful applicant will sign a letter of agreement and be solely responsible for the project delivery.
- The successful applicant will be responsible for attaining all permissions and consents, and be legally responsible for all risks associated with the project.
- All applicants will be contacted by December on whether they are successful or not.

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

The data and documentation collected as part of your application will be held securely and will be processed at all times in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

Your application and accompanying documents will be held electronically within Portsmouth Water's Catchment Management team and only those who require access to the data will be able to process this. If you submit your application by post, the application form and accompanying documents will be scanned and the hardcopy documents securely destroyed.

Your application may be shared with the necessary Steering Groups as is required by governance and detailed within this booklet.

Successful applications will be held until 2030 and unsuccessful applications will be held until 2025 as per the required and recommended timescales.

The contact details provided will be used to confirm if your application has been successful or unsuccessful.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Portsmouth Water
www.portsmouthwater.co.uk

Rivers Trust
www.theriverstrust.org

Test and Itchen Catchment Partnership
www.ticp.org.uk

East Hampshire Catchment Partnership
www.groundwork.org.uk/projects/ehcp

Arun and Western Streams Catchment Partnership
www.arunwesternstreams.org.uk

Meon Valley Catchment Partnership
www.meonvalleypartnership.org.uk/projects

EA
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

SDNP
www.southdowns.gov.uk

Wildlife Trusts
www.hiwwt.org.uk / www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre
www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/biodiversity/informationcentre

Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre
www.sxbrc.org.uk/home