



Heritage Fund - Grant Guidance Note

Grants of between £200 and £2,000 are available to projects across the North Isles of Orkney.

The North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS) will support and deliver a range of projects across the North Isles over the next 5 years. This fund is designed to support opportunities that emerge as the scheme progresses and ensure that everyone can benefit.

If you want to deliver a project that relates to your community's built, cultural or natural heritage and landscape, these notes will explain how to apply.

YOUR PROJECT MUST SUPPORT AT LEAST ONE OF THE NILPS THEMES OR AIMS:

THEMES:

Celebration of Island Life and Culture – Making heritage more accessible to learn or experience, encouraging the involvement of young people, and promoting islander skills and traditions.

Conserving Islander Knowledge – Conserving and raising awareness of the unique cultural identity and history of the North Isles including dialect, field names, genealogy and oral history.

Exploring Island Landscapes – Conserving and raising awareness of the distinctive built and natural landscape of the North Isles.

Equipping Island Communities – Helping communities pro-actively manage their natural and cultural heritage, helping improve the North Isles as a place to live, work and visit.

AIMS:

Improving the tourist offer of the North Isles to help sustain and responsibly develop its considerable potential for the island communities.

Celebrating island life and traditions in order to capture and catalogue the origins and changes throughout the North Isles in order to better understand the future.

Undertaking of landscape surveys and investigations, to help catalogue the origins and changes throughout the North Isles in order to better understand the future.

Enhancing and developing the heritage trails and active travel routes throughout the North Isles, in order to better promote and utilise the considerable network for both locals and visitors.

Reinforcing isles connections through various community-led partnership activities involving sharing of knowledge, experiences, and collective ambitions for the future.

Protecting and enhancing the natural habitats and biodiversity that exist within the North Isles, providing opportunities for communities to explore and learn.

Enhancing and conserving of the built heritage in the North Isles, through training, restoration and development of facilities for local communities to take ownership of, and visitors to enjoy.

Developing the network of heritage centres found throughout the North Isles, providing opportunities for additional use of, and participation in these important community and visitor facilities.

Working in partnership with local landowners, farmers, businesses and local communities to help achieve a sustainable future for the management of the heritage and landscape in the North Isles.

Assisting the communities and groups in the North Isles achieve additional skills, knowledge, and confidence in caring for and making decisions about their own heritage and landscape.

Who can apply?

The scheme is open to constituted, not-for-profit organisations or groups.

We can't accept applications from individuals, sole traders, companies that are aimed at generating profits primarily for private distribution and organisations based outside of the UK.

How much can I apply for?

Minimum: £200

Maximum: £2,000

Match funding isn't essential, we can support up to 100% of project costs, but it is encouraged.

We are looking to support small scale/standalone/one-off projects, so we wouldn't expect to see overall project costs exceed £20,000. If you think this funding could be essential to the success of a larger scale project, then please do contact us to discuss further.

What can we fund?

This list isn't exhaustive so contact us if you're unsure:

- Repair and conservation.
- Digital outputs.
- New staff.
- Paid training placements.
- Professional fees.

What we can't fund

- Existing staff posts or organisational costs.
- Statutory and/or legal responsibilities.
- Promoting the cause or beliefs of political or faith organisations.
- Recoverable VAT.
- Costs for any activity that has taken place before a grant is awarded.

How will we assess your application?

We'll take into account value for money and the overall benefits of your project. We'll also assess that your project:

- Responds to a need or opportunity.
- Meets the themes and aims of the North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme.
- Is well planned and your proposals for managing it are sound.
- Is financially realistic and there is clear need for the funding.
- Your organisation is capable of carrying out the project.

Anything else?

Grant assistance can't be given retrospectively. You must submit a completed application and have a formal decision from the NILPS team before you start work on your project or commit to costs involved.

Grant assistance will be paid in arrears based on evidenced expenditure, further guidance will be provided. We understand that sometimes it can be difficult to deliver a project without having to make payment in advance for certain services, if you think this is going to be an issue please speak to us as soon as possible.

Once the project is complete a brief project report with supporting photos (where applicable) must be submitted with your funding claim.

We will only cover running costs that an organisation incurs additionally due to the running of the project.

Any promotional materials, publications, etc. should acknowledge the grant provided by the scheme.

You may be asked for supporting documents as part of your application. These may include a copy of your organisation's constitution, a copy of lease agreements, letters of support, recent accounts or bank statements. Confirmation of match funding will be required. If your project requires specific permissions (planning or listed building consent for example) providing such evidence will be a condition of any grant offered. It may also be necessary to provide evidence that best value has been achieved for equipment or service costs in the form of quotations.

How do I apply?

For a copy of the application form or to discuss your project further, please contact:

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