Funding and Information: Environmental, countryside and climate change projects

Updated: December 2013

Introduction

This guide outlines and signposts information and sources of financial assistance relating to environmental, countryside & climate change projects in Wales.

The schemes have been grouped, as far as possible, under specific titles depending on the primary focus of the scheme. However, there will be a certain amount of overlap between schemes priorities. This list is not exhaustive.

Welsh Government

The Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund for Wales

The Aggregate Levy was introduced by the Finance Act 2001, which came into effect in April 2002. Part of the money generated by the Levy has been used to set up a Sustainability Fund to address the environmental costs associated with aggregate extraction.

In Wales, the Fund will be used to address issues specific to Wales, including:

- Legacy of old minerals permissions;
- Promoting the use of alternative materials to aggregates;
- Reducing the impact of aggregate extraction;
- Environmental and amenity benefits to communities affected by aggregate extraction;
- Conserving sites of special interest; and
- Educational projects.

Funding is available for projects that address the above issues and meet the criteria set out in the information packs.

For more information:
Email: russell.dobbins@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Web: www.wales.gov.uk

Glastir

Glastir is the Welsh Government’s agri-environment scheme. It provides support to improve the environmental management of farmers and landowners.

Any applicant must be in management control of at least 3 hectares of eligible land and have a Customer Reference Number from the Department for Rural Affairs.

For more information:
Email: rural-affairs@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Web: www.wales.gov.uk

Carbon Trust

The Carbon Trust is a not-for-profit company providing advice and financial assistance to help businesses and the public sector boost business returns by cutting carbon emissions, saving energy and commercialising low carbon technologies

For more Information:
Web: www.carbontrust.com
Natural Resources Wales

The purpose of Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably maintained, used and enhanced, now and in the future. NRW supports a number of diverse projects throughout Wales. These include:

**Splash**

Our rivers, lakes and coastline are cleaner and healthier than they have ever been. The Welsh Government is offering funding, known as Splash grants which will be administered by NRW, to projects that will help people enjoy the wonderful waters of Wales. There is money available this year (2013/14) for projects that secure new or improved public access to Wales’ rivers, lakes, canals, reservoirs, and coastal waters for recreational and educational activities.

**Grants**

NRW also offers grants to a diverse range of partners - local authorities, environmental organisations and voluntary bodies. Grants are offered to deliver projects that benefit both people and wildlife.

Grants from Natural Resources Wales are offered on an application basis to organisations and groups with Registered Charity status. Grants are usually offered at up to 50% of the overall project costs, so secured match funding is usually required before applying.

Information about any future Natural Resources Wales grant opportunities will be posted on their website and in the press.

For more information:
Tel: 0300 065 3000
Email: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
Web: www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Environment Wales

Environment Wales is a partnership of organisations in the voluntary sector, which are funded by the Welsh Government. The organisation aims to contribute to sustainable development by supporting and encouraging voluntary action to protect and improve the environment in Wales.

Environment Wales provides funding to projects that promote one or more of their objectives. Set out below are the five grant funds available to voluntary organisations and community groups.

**Management Grants**

Funds new posts within registered projects. Examples of eligible posts can be found on the Environment Wales website.

**Project Grants**

Awarded for practical projects that provide volunteers with opportunities for action on the environment. This grant is open to projects registered with Environment Wales. Eligible costs listed below:
- Hand Tools;
- Equipment Hire;
- Transport Costs; and
- Protective Clothing.

More information on Project Grants.

**Training Support Grants**

For volunteers and staff of registered projects, these grants are available to help cover the costs of training courses and conferences. Eligible costs include travel expenses, subsistence and course fees. More information on Training Grants.

**Pre-Project Grants**

Open to voluntary and community groups to help cover the costs of any studies or surveys that need to be undertaken before a project can begin; for example feasibility studies, business plans, ecological surveys or community appraisals. The studies must be undertaken by a third party. More information on Pre-Project Grants.
Start-Up Grants
Cover initial costs of setting up a group. Groups will usually have to be under a year old to be eligible to apply for the start-up grant. Some eligible start-up costs are listed below:

- Venue Hire;
- Publicity; and
- Affiliation costs.

More information on Start-up grants.

Wales Environment Link

Wales Environment Link (WEL) is the umbrella body for environmental and countryside non-governmental organisations in Wales. They are a busy network, active in a range of policy areas, and are the official link between the Welsh Government and Wales’ environmental NGO sector.

WEL is:

- a mechanism and framework to help Welsh eNGOs to achieve collective goals
- a voice for the environment movement in Wales
- a route of communication and dialogue between eNGOs and government
- an information provider

For more information:
E-mail: Contact page
Tel: 01970 611 621
Web: www.waleslink.org

The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens in Wales

The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens (FCFCG) in Wales is the Welsh Branch of a registered charity which aims to support, represents and promote, community-managed farms, gardens, allotments and other green spaces.

The (FCFCG) website contains advice and information on establishing a community garden or orchard and has a section entitled Wales Funding which outlines funding opportunities for farming and gardening community groups in Wales.

For more information:
Web: www.farmgarden.org.uk

Environment and Countryside

The Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust

The Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust provides grants for voluntary organisations in Wales in support of: sport, art, the community and the environment. Funding is issued according to the geographical area that an organisation has a remit to cover. Three categories of organisation have been identified by the Trust:

- Local Organisations - Awards of up to £2,500 are available for organisations with a remit to serve their local community or town.
- Regional Organisations - Awards of up to £7,500 are available for organisations with a remit to cover a region or local authority-wide area of Wales.
- National Organisations - Awards of up to £12,500 are available for organisations with a remit to cover the whole of Wales and that are operating in the majority of counties in Wales.
Landfill Communities Fund (LCF)
The Landfill Communities Fund enables operators of landfill sites to contribute funds to enrolled Environmental Bodies (EBs) to carry out projects that meet environmental objectives contained in the Landfill Tax Regulations.

ENTRUST regulates the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) on behalf of HM Revenue & Customs. Entrust are unable to provide funding or grants, however they have set up a funding directory enabling organisations to locate sources of financial assistance.

For more information:
Fund Finder
Web: www.entrust.org.uk

Garfield Weston Foundation
The Garfield Weston Foundation is a grant-giving charity for UK registered charities. The Foundation will also consider applications from a limited number of exempt organisations, these include:

- Churches;
- educational establishments;
- Hospitals and housing corporations.

There are no formal deadlines for submitting applications and organisations should allow approximately four months for a final outcome, though acknowledgement letters are sent within four weeks. Details of how to apply are available on the Foundations’ website.

For more information:
Guidelines for Applicants
Tel: (020) 7399 6565
Web: www.garfieldweston.org

The Ernest Cook Trust
The Ernest Cook Trust gives grants to registered charities, state schools and not-for-profit organisations wishing to encourage young people’s interest in the countryside and the environment. Projects which encourage or ensure the continuation of rural skills and crafts are of particular interest to the Trustees.

The Trust operates two grants schemes throughout the year.

A large grants programme for awards of over £4,000 and a small grants programme for awards of under £4,000 operate throughout the year.

For more Information:
Tel: 01285 712492
Email: grants@ernestcooktrust.org.uk
Web: www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk

Biffa Award
Biffa Award provides support for UK projects that provide or improve community spaces for outdoor recreation; and for site-based projects that protect and enhance biodiversity.

- Funding is provided under the following schemes:
  - Small Grants (between £250 and £10,000);
  - Main Grants: (between £10,000 and £50,000);
  - Flagship Projects (between £150,000 and £500,000).

For more Information:
Tel: 01636 670000
Email: biffa-award@rswt.org
Web: www.biffa-award.org

For more information:
Tel: 02920 022143
Email: info@millenniumstadiumtrust.org.uk
Web: www.millenniumstadiumtrust.co.uk

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Tel: 01285 712492
Email: grants@ernestcooktrust.org.uk
Web: www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk
Will Charitable Trust
This trust exists to provide financial assistance to charitable organisations whose activities fall within four main categories. One which covers conservation of the British countryside including its flora and fauna.

Grants vary in amount, but generally fall within the range of £5,000 to £20,000. Applicants, especially those applying for the first time are encouraged to contact the trust before applying. The annual deadline for conservation related applications is 31 August.

For more Information:
Tel: 020 8941 0450
Email: admin@willcharitabletrust.org.uk
Web: www.willcharitabletrust.org.uk

Naturesave Trust
The Trust supports environmental and conservationist groups in the UK. Grants are available to fund projects that deal with specific environmental and/or conservationist problems, and that encourage the greater commercial adoption of sustainable development.

For more Information:
Tel: 01803 864390
Fax: 01803 864441
Email: mail@naturesave.co.uk
Web: www.naturesave.co.uk

Prince’s Countryside Fund
The Fund provides funding to projects that tackle five key issues:

- Rural isolation;
- Decline of rural communities;
- Low farming incomes;
- Lack of access training;
- Disconnect with the value of the countryside.

You will need to demonstrate that your project is tackling at least one of the five key issues in order to be eligible for a grant. The maximum level of funding awarded is £50,000

For more information:
Email: victoria.elms@bitc.org.uk
Web: www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk

Tidy Towns Group Grants
Through the Tidy Towns Project, Keep Wales Tidy is able to offer financial assistance to community groups who demonstrate a commitment to tackle environmental projects which will restore their local area to its former glory. Grants aid is available for the following:

- Tools and other equipment;
- Refreshments;
- Insurance;
- Training;
- Awareness raising.

For more Information:
Tel: 029 2025 6767
Email: tidy.towns@keepwalestidy.org
Web: www.keepwalestidy.org
Rufford Small Grants Foundation
The Foundation provides financial assistance to small groups and individuals in England and Wales involved in nature conservation projects in the developing world.

For more Information:
Email: online forms
Web: www.rufford.org

Waterloo Foundation
The foundations grant programme provides award funding to projects in the following areas:

- World development;
- Child development;
- Projects in Wales, and;
- The Environment.

The foundation is keen to support initiatives aimed at reducing man-made climate change and increasing the health of the marine environment

For more Information:
Email: info@waterloofoundation.org.uk
Web: www.waterloofoundation.org.uk

Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts
The Sainsbury’s Charitable Trusts provide financial support to a variety of interests including environmental projects.

A list of the trusts can be found on their website.

For more Information:
Web: www.sfct.org.uk

Veolia Environment Trust
The trust provides support for environmental and community projects in the UK that are within five miles of a qualifying facility operated by Veolia Environmental Services (UK) plc.

Projects must restore derelict land, prevent pollution, provide public amenities or encourage biodiversity.

For more Information:
Tel: 01902 794 677
E-mail: info@veoliatrust.org
Web: www.veoliatrust.org

Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust
The trust provides financial assistance for projects in support of horticultural research, the creation, preservation and maintenance of public gardens, publication of books on horticulture, study visits, plant collecting expeditions and training schemes for gardeners.

There are two types of grants available: small grants of up to £1,000 and larger grants from £1,000 to £10,000.

The trust also provides support for several horticultural traineeships each year.

For more Information:
Tel: 0131 248 2954
Fax: (01223) 336278
E-mail: d.rae@rbge.org.uk
Web: www.grantsforhorticulturists.org.uk

Brecon Beacons Trust
The Brecon Beacons Trust is a charitable company established to help people, communities and voluntary organisations achieve positive environmental conservation and enhancement within the Brecon Beacons National Park.

The trust supports:
Environmental conservation, protection and improvement of the Park for the benefit of the public.

Greater educational awareness and knowledge of the conservation, protection and improvement of the Park’s physical, natural and archaeological environment.

In all cases the Trust will ensure that its grant aid is used to achieve charitable purposes that demonstrate public benefit and also meet the Brecon Beacons Trust’s own charitable objectives. The Trust will consider providing a maximum grant of 75% of a project’s costs, up to a maximum grant of £30,000 per annum, whichever is the smaller.

For more information:
Tel: 01873 832490
Email: alan@breconbeaconstrust.org
Website: www.breconbeaconstrust.org

The Jephcott Charitable Trust
The Trust awards grants to registered charities and constituted organisations in the United Kingdom.

Grants are available to help organisations get up and running, or make a significant step forward for projects that will make a difference under one of the Trust's four main priorities:

- Population Control;
- The Natural Environment;
- Education; or
- Health.

For more Information:
Web: www.jephcottcharitabletrust.org.uk

Climate Change

Energy Savings Trust:
The Energy Saving Trust is an independent organisation helping people to save energy and reduce carbon emissions. The Trust is funded by the UK Government, devolved administrations and the private sector and operates regionally in England Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Ynni’r Fro
This programme can provide funding to help community based social enterprises in Wales to establish community energy schemes.

A grant of up to £30,000 is available through the preparatory stage grant which helps projects such as environmental surveys, planning applications and community engagement activity.

For more Information:
Ynni’r Fro Information Pack
Web: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/wales

Green Energy Trust
The Green Energy Trust supports the development of new renewable energy sources in the UK that will help to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and combat climate change.

The aims and objectives of the Green Energy Trust are to assist in the creation of new renewable electricity sources, and promote education in the community regarding new renewable energy generation.

The Trust can provide up to 50% of the project costs, up to a maximum of £25,000, although most projects receive £10,000

For more Information:
Email: greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com
Web: www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk/content
Lottery Funding

The Welsh branch of the Big Lottery Fund delivers funding to a range of different projects which meet the priorities set out in policies laid down by the Welsh Government.

The Big Lottery Fund website has a Funding Finder which has been set up to enable individuals and community groups to locate funding for a variety of different projects.

Their website also has a constituent support page which aims to help elected public representatives provide their constituents with information on funding schemes available in their locality.

The Big Lottery Fund Advice Line can be contacted on 0300 123 073

Local Authority Support

Set out below are the contact details for the 22 local authorities in Wales. Support may vary between each local authority so individuals should contact their relevant local authorities to find out what funding is available in their locality.

- **Blaenau Gwent Council**
  - Tel: 01495 311556
  - Email: info@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

- **Bridgend Council**
  - Tel: 01656 643643
  - Email: talktous@bridgend.gov.uk

- **Caerphilly County Borough Council**
  - Tel: 01443 815588
  - Email: info@caerphilly.gov.uk

- **Cardiff Council**
  - Tel: 02920 872088 (Welsh) 02920872087 (English)
  - Email: c2c@cardiff.gov.uk

- **Carmarthenshire County Council**
  - Tel: 01267 234567
  - Email: direct@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

- **Ceredigion County Council**
  - Tel: 01545 570881
  - Email: reception@ceredigion.gov.uk

- **Conwy Borough Council**
  - Tel: 01492 574000
  - Email: Information@conwy.gov.uk

- **Denbighshire County Council**
  - Tel: 01824 706101
  - Email: customerservice@denbighshire.gov.uk

- **Flintshire County Council**
  - Tel: 01352 752121
  - Email: customerservices@flintshire.gov.uk

- **Gwynedd Council**
  - Tel: 01766 771000
Email: contact-us@wrexham.gov.uk

County Voluntary Council (CVC)

The relevant County Voluntary Council (CVC) will be able to advise individuals sources of financial assistance for that particular locality.
Most County Voluntary Council websites provide funding factsheets; these will be accessible from their website.

- **Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations**
  Tel: 01633241550
  Email: Sandra.davies@gavowales.org.uk
  Web: www.gavowales.org.uk

- **Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations**
  Tel: 01656 810400
  Email: bavo@bavo.org.uk
  Web: www.bavo.org.uk

- **Cardiff Third Sector Council**
  Tel: 029 2048 5722
  Email: enquiries@c3scv.org.uk
  Web: www.c3sc.org.uk

- **Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services**
  Tel: 01267 245555
  Fax: 01267 245500
  Email: info@cavs.org.uk
  Web: www.cavs.org.uk

- **Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations**
  Tel: 01570 423232
  Email: gen@cavo.org.uk
  Web: www.cavo.org.uk

- **Conwy Voluntary Services Council**
  Tel: 01492 534091
  Email: mail@cvsc.org.uk
  Web: www.cvsc.org.uk
- Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council
  Tel: 01824 702441
  Email: office@dvsc.co.uk
  Web: www.dvsc.co.uk

- Flintshire Local Voluntary Council
  Tel: 01352 744000
  Email: info@flvc.org.uk
  Web: www.flvc.org.uk

- Gwynedd
  Tel: 01286 672626
  Email: enquiries@mantellgwynedd.com
  Web: www.mantellgwynedd.com

- Isle of Anglesey - Medrwn Môn
  Tel: 01248 724944
  Email: post@medrwmmon.org
  Web: www.medrwnmon.org

- Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
  Tel: 01685 353900
  Email: enquiries@vamt.net
  Web: www.vamt.net

- Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service
  Tel: 01639 631246
  Email: info@nptcvs.org.uk
  Web: www.nptcvs.co.uk

- Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services
  Tel: 01437 769422
  Email: enquiries@pavs.org.uk
  Web: www.pavs.org.uk

- Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations
  Tel: 01597 828675
  Email: Enquiry form
  Web: www.pavo.org.uk

- Rhondda Cynon Taff - Interlink
  Tel: 01443 846200
  Email: sjames@interlinkrct.org.uk
  Web: www.interlinkrct.org.uk

- Swansea Council for Voluntary Service
  Tel: 01792 544000
  Email: scvs@scvs.org.uk
  Web: www.scvs.org.uk

- Torfaen Voluntary Alliance
  Tel: 01495 745156
  Email: Kyle@tvawales.org.uk
  Web: www.tvawales.org.uk

- Vale Centre for Voluntary Services
  Tel: 01446 741706
  Email: vcvs@valecvs.org.uk
  Web: www.valecvs.org.uk

- Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham
  Tel: 01978 312556
  Email: info@avow.org
  Web: www.avow.org

Contact details the County Voluntary Councils can be found on the Sustainable Cymru website.