



# Tayside Biodiversity Partnership

## Funding Newsletter

Summer 2004

Issue No.1

### INTRODUCTION

As more and more projects are being considered to implement Actions in the Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan, the urgent need for funding needs to be addressed.

It is hoped this first Newsletter will prove helpful in suggesting possible ways of locating such project funding. This publication is very much a 'first attempt' and all Partners – and those interested in biodiversity issues – would be very welcome to contribute to future editions. Comments on this First Issue would also be most welcome so that we can improve on it in the future.

If you know of any suitable sources of funding that might be of interest to this Newsletter's readers, please send further details so that they can be included in the next issue. Likewise, please feel free to pass on this Newsletter to anyone who may find it of interest.

*The copy date for news for Issue 2 will be 31 January 2005.*

*Catherine L loyd  
Tayside Biodiversity Co-ordinator*

### RURAL TAYSIDE GRANTS WEBSITE

[www.ruraltayside.org](http://www.ruraltayside.org)

Originally created in October 2000, this Website now hosts information on over 100 grants and organisations which can help with funding issues. The Website is intended to be used by individuals and community groups in rural Tayside wishing to simplify the process of looking for grants which are currently available.

Divided into 8 topic headings, brief descriptions are given about the grants as well as details of who to contact for further information. Grant headings include

- Art, Culture and Sport
- Business
- Community Development
- Environment
- Heritage
- Housing

A loose-leaf folder mirroring the information available online has also been produced. Folders are currently available at local libraries and some Community Councils across rural Angus and Perth & Kinross.

### Every Action Counts



### BIODIVERSITY ACTION GRANTS SCHEME

The Scottish Executive's Biodiversity Action Grants Scheme is intended to stimulate and encourage a range of projects that will assist implementation of the aims of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to protect and enhance Scotland's natural environment. Together with the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy has now established a coherent system of nature conservation for Scotland.

Applications are now invited from a wide range of public bodies, voluntary bodies and local groups to support projects that benefit biodiversity locally (or nationally) and involve action to implement the new Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. £200K a year (for 3 years) is now available.

All applications will be assessed by a panel of biodiversity stakeholders reflecting the strong partnership behind Biodiversity Strategy. All applications will be assessed against a range of criteria, covering:

- Delivering the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy.
- Delivering an inclusive approach, involving communities, making connections between biodiversity and people and where appropriate, offering good quality volunteering opportunities, especially for young people.
- New approaches to partnership working.
- Involving wider social or economic benefits.
- Be capable of wider replication.
- Have clear objectives, defined outcomes and timescales.

Applications are now invited – the application forms and supporting documentation are available on the Scottish Biodiversity Website at [www.scotland.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/biodiversity). The deadline for receipt of applications is 1 September 2004.

Further details and advice please call  
**Elaine McCall**, Tel 0131-244-6602  
e-mail [elaine.mccall2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.mccall2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)  
or  
**John Ramsay**, Tel 0131-244-6519  
e-mail [john.ramsay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:john.ramsay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

**Catherine Lloyd**  
Biodiversity Co-ordinator  
Tayside Biodiversity Partnership  
c/o Environment Services  
Perth and Kinross Council  
Pullar House  
35 Kinnoull Street  
Perth PH1 5GD  
Email: [tayside.biodiversity@ukf.net](mailto:tayside.biodiversity@ukf.net)



## The Heritage Lottery Fund Framework for Habitat Action Plan Projects

The Heritage Lottery Fund supports capital and revenue projects aimed at protecting, enhancing or improving access to and understanding of land of wildlife value - the natural heritage. One of the current priorities in assessing countryside projects is theme-based projects, especially projects that aim to conserve and enhance priority habitats as defined by UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

This guidance is specifically for projects requiring grant aid, for projects whose primary purpose is habitat conservation and restoration and where the applicant is a charity or not-for-profit organisation and is usually the legal owner or manager of the land. For larger, integrated landscape projects involving wider partnerships and activities on both public and private land applicants are advised to use the separate Landscape Partnership application pack available from The Heritage lottery Fund. (Further details below)

### **Preliminary Heritage Lottery Fund funding figures**

Since the beginning of HLF about £3 billion has been awarded and of this, approximately £200 million has been awarded towards land acquisitions and other projects that have had primary benefits for nature conservation. £73.6

million has enabled the purchase of 365 parcels of land totalling an area of 66,137 ha's. Approximately £125 million has funded about 640 biodiversity projects.

### **Land acquisitions**

HLF has enabled the purchase of : 1510ha's of lowland grazing marsh, 1136ha's of pasture, 923ha's hay meadow, 803ha's coastal grazing marsh, 618ha's salt marsh and 462ha's parkland, plus 33584 ha's of marginal land (good quality habitat not classified - mainly Mar Lodge Scotland Montane habitats) and 3764 ha's of agricultural land.

### **Other nature conservation projects**

HLF has funded other projects which have benefited grassland habitats, including 376ha's lowland grazing marsh, 169ha's pasture and 16ha's hay meadow.

### **Overall contribution to HAP targets**

Taking the figures for land acquisition and biodiversity projects together, it is possible to indicate what contribution to HAP targets might be. HLF have collated data looking at how funding has contributed in terms of conservation, restoration or (re)creation. There are likely to be other purchases of designed landscapes or whole farms that contain grassland which will not have been recorded here.

### HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

Guidelines for the HLF's Landscape Partnership Fund have now been published. The scheme provides funding of between £250000 and £2M. These partnerships will be made up of members of the community, or regional, national or local organisations with an interest in a landscape area of distinct local character. The Partnership will develop, manage and deliver a variety of programmes and activities that benefit the landscape and the community.

Priorities include projects that aim to:

- Conserve or restore the built and natural features that create the historic character of the landscape;
- Conserve and celebrate local cultural associations
- Encourage more people to access, learn about and become involved in the landscape
- Improve understanding of local craft and other skills by providing training opportunities

The next deadline for applications is the 1<sup>st</sup> of October and most projects are likely to be in rural areas. More information is available at:

[www.hlf.org.uk/dimages/Landscape Partnerships 04/ HLF LP Guidance 030203.pdf](http://www.hlf.org.uk/dimages/Landscape%20Partnerships%2004/HLF%20LP%20Guidance%20030203.pdf)

### AWARDS FOR ALL

The Government's White Paper on the National Lottery indicated that the upper limit on grants from Awards for All would increase from £5000 to £10000. Timescales for this alteration are still unclear.

### CSV ACTION GRANT

Grants of up to £50 are made available to help with tool purchase, equipment materials and refreshments for practical environmental projects. You can register online or get more information from [www.actionearth.org.uk](http://www.actionearth.org.uk). If you have any questions or wish to discuss project ideas then please contact CSV Action Earth's Scottish Co-ordinator, Robert Henderson on Tel: 0131 6227766 or email: [rhenderson.csv.org.uk](mailto:rhenderson.csv.org.uk). For general information about registration, please contact Naseem Akhtar, Action Earth Co-ordinator on Tel: 0121 328 7455 or Email: [naseem@csvgenvironment.org.uk](mailto:naseem@csvgenvironment.org.uk).





## AGGREGATE LEVY FOR COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL RENEWAL SCHEME

The Scottish Executive has allocated Forward Scotland £4.1m for a three year period of 2004-2007. The broad framework and level of funding available from the CERS grant programme are specified in the policy directions given to Forward Scotland by the Scottish Executive. The CERS grant scheme aims to support a wide range of community based projects that:

- Improve the local environment for communities affected by past or present aggregate extraction;
- Involve the local community and demonstrate social and/or economic benefit to the local community

Guidance notes are now available. If you wish to register your interest in the new scheme, please either call 0141 222 5650 or email: [cers@forward-scotland.org.uk](mailto:cers@forward-scotland.org.uk) with your contact details.

## SUSTAINABLE ACTION GRANTS

Grants for 2004-2005 and 2006-2007 are now available; further details on the **Scottish Executive website**. Details can also be obtained from: Sustainable Development Directorate, Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department, Area 1-H, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ. Tel: 0131 244 0395/1750.

## ANGUS ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST GRANT SCHEME

The scheme covers all of Angus except the northernmost glens. Any small scale project which fulfils at least one of the objects of the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme will be considered; the project must be approved by Entrust. Contact Roy Madden, Director, Angus Environmental Trust for further information: Tel. 01307 473540 or email:

[maddenr@angus.gov.uk](mailto:maddenr@angus.gov.uk)

## THE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL RENEWAL SCHEME (CERS) 2003-2004

### Report 2003

Scottish communities in areas affected by past or present quarrying operations were able to apply for grants of between £5,000 and £50,000 for projects that addressed the environmental effects of aggregate extraction. Two application rounds were held in June and September 2003, with a total of 31.9 million offered to projects that will improve the quality of the local environment.

Details of the projects supported through the CERS grant programme can be seen in the documents attached at the bottom of this section. Further information will be made available on the Community Webnet. Please revisit this site for more information.

<http://www.forward-scotland.org.uk/>

### The Small Grant Scheme

Funds available to constituted groups that wish to pursue an environmental project. The maximum grant available is £1,000 and forward Scotland will normally fund up to 75% of the cost of a project. However, 'in kind' contributions can be considered as counting towards total cost. The aims of the Small Grants Scheme are to:

1. Provide the capacity for groups at the early stages of a project to plan their outputs and ascertain how these outputs are going to be achieved
2. Provide funding for training or professional help such as a solicitor or accountant
3. Assist groups to consult stakeholders on the need for their project.
4. Enable groups to organise a meeting or seminar to discuss the project, or

5. Enable groups to publicise the project in order to develop community involvement.

The list below shows some of the outputs the Small Grants Scheme may be able to assist:

- Conducting a feasibility study
- Carrying out research
- Producing a business plan
- Holding a public meeting, seminar or conference
- Conducting a survey
- Printing a leaflet
- Producing a one-off publication
- Helping to purchase training or professional support
- Attending a seminar or conference held by another group
- Designing a website or setting up an electronic network
- Sustainable Development

While the main purpose of the Scheme is assisting environmental projects, work should take account of good practice in sustainable development as a whole by including some community benefit connected to social or economic issues. If you would like to work in partnership through the Programme, please contact:

[Michael.cunningham@forward-scotland.org.uk](mailto:Michael.cunningham@forward-scotland.org.uk)





## THE BIFFAWARD BIODIVERSITY CATEGORY

Biffaward, a multi-million pound environment fund managed by the RSNC, which utilises landfill tax credits donated by Biffa Waste Services, has launched a new biodiversity category. This move follows ENTRUST's introduction of Object DA into the LTCS.

One of the key elements of the new criteria is that general public access to project sites would not need to be demonstrated. As a result, appropriate organisations will be able to apply for projects that seek to conserve habitat on private land.

The Biffaward biodiversity category will have two main aims:

- 1) to maintain and recover species in their natural habitat
- 2) to conserve and promote biological diversity through the provision, conservation, restoration or enhancement of natural habitat.

Projects can apply for between £5,000- £50,000 and should be in line with Biodiversity Action Plans or other relevant programmes.

As with all Biffaward categories, projects must be within 10 miles of a Biffa operation to be eligible to apply for funding. Biffaward will be looking for projects that demonstrate effective partnership working and include research, recording, monitoring and education.

For further details, please visit [www.biffaward.org](http://www.biffaward.org)

The Hanson Environment Fund introduced their new Biodiversity category in January 2004.

## The BTCV's CHESTNUT FUND

Start-up grants of up to £100 are available to support the administrative costs of setting up a community group involved in environmental conservation work. Support grants of up to £300 allow community groups to begin or extend practical conservation work. The applicant group must take out Associated membership with BTCV (£25), to be eligible to apply.

Contact the Community Groups Co-ordinator, BTCV Scotland, Balallan House, 24 Allan Park, Stirling, FK8 2QG; tel: 01786 479697 or email: [scottish-groups@btcv.org.uk](mailto:scottish-groups@btcv.org.uk)

## THE CROWN ESTATE'S MARINE STEWARDSHIP FUND

This fund provides grant-aid to practical projects which contribute to development of best practice, and make a significant contribution to the environmental management and stewardship of the Marine Estates. Community groups, voluntary and other organisations can all apply for 100% funding for a project. Proposals that bring together a range of partners to ensure community benefit are encouraged. All the projects supported by the Fund must be related to Crown Estate land, either by demonstrating good management of particular Crown Estate property, or enhancing stewardship of the Crown Estate's foreshore and seabed by furthering best practice in coastal and marine management.

There is no set limit to the funding that can be applied for; however, the normal maximum request is £10,000 in one year or £30,000 over 3 years. Contact David Philip, The Crown Estate, 6 Bell's Brae, Edinburgh, EH4 3BJ ([david.philip@crownestate.co.uk](mailto:david.philip@crownestate.co.uk)) or check the website: [www.crownestate.co.uk](http://www.crownestate.co.uk)

## COMMUNITY FUND

**New Name:** The Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund are in the process of merging to create the largest of the lottery funds and a new name has been chosen: **The Big Lottery Fund**.

**Pilot Scheme - Pre-Application Process** - since the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, the Community Fund has been piloting a pre-application process in Scotland. This means that potential applicants complete a short pre-application form, which is assessed by the Community Fund, and only those meeting all the criteria for support will be asked to complete a proper application form. It is anticipated that the pre-application process will decrease assessment times by a month, there will be only one application form no matter how much money is being sought and only those organisations whose project the Community Fund is likely to be interested in will need to complete the whole form. The pre-proposal document will address issues such as organisations' financial status, impact project will have on clients and how the project will be delivered, assess how well the idea fits with local funding strategies etc.

Projects which the Community Fund invite to complete a full application will be sent a personalised application form (only those successfully completing the pre-application stage will receive an application form) and will have 6 months to return it to the Community Fund.

**Policy Changes:** The Community Fund has issued new policies for applicant organisations employing staff with Community Fund grants. The 3 key areas are:

- Payments towards statutory maternity, paternity, adoption and sick pay that cannot be recovered from statutory sources (from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 - maximum £500 - applies to all new and existing applicants)
- Payment of costs to cover statutory redundancy (applies to all new applicants) on fixed term projects paid by the Community Fund. Remember to include this in your new application if relevant.
- Tapering for all development applications - organisations will be expected to contribute (in-kind or cash) 25% of the total project cost and where organisations cannot contribute 25%, tapering will be imposed on them. Exceptions will be made where other funding is not available in the area for the type.



## ALLOTMENTS REGENERATION INITIATIVE

The Allotments Regeneration Initiative has received further funding from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and is inviting further applications under the scheme. There will be 3 funding streams:

1. **Flagships Grant Scheme** - funding infrastructural works on allotment sites that have the potential to return to vibrant use (i.e. currently underused or derelict). Between 15 and 30 grants from £2500 to £25000 will be made. Priority will be given to projects that engage people currently under-represented on allotments or disadvantaged people in general. Previous grants within the initiative have mainly gone to local authority led projects as a result applications will no longer be accepted from local authority led initiatives but they must come from allotment associations or other non-statutory bodies.
2. **Mentor Network** - to build a network of volunteer mentors to provide support for allotment regeneration - mentors will be trained to make presentations to groups, local authorities and similar associations. Volunteer mentors will receive training in Birmingham but all expenses will be reimbursed.
3. **Beer and Buses** - enabling people to visit successful allotment sites and find out what is possible. The programme was launched in June 2004 and will provide bursaries for visits to other allotments. Sites can also be listed in a Good Site Guide - by sending a 100-200 word description of why your site should be included.

Details from:

<http://www.farmgarden.org.uk/ari/ariaround3.htm>

## SEEKIT

The Scottish Executive's Expertise, Knowledge and Innovation Transfer fund is open to applications. Public bodies are eligible to apply for funding (local authorities, LECs, Universities etc.) for projects that will promote co-operation in research & development and knowledge transfer between SMEs and the Scottish public sector science base. Innovative proposals that will deliver productive knowledge transfer outcomes will be welcomed. It is expected that most projects funded will be able to attract co-finance from European Structural Funds such as Objective 2 ERDF. Support will be given to actions which:

- Develop knowledge transfer links between research institutions and SMEs
- Disseminate new & existing knowledge, processes and technologies
- Encourage the effective commercialisation of R&D activities
- Application forms can be found at

[www.scotland.gov.uk/innovationgrants](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/innovationgrants)

## CALOR SCOTTISH COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

These awards aim to provide Scottish communities with recognition of their achievements. One of the key elements of this scheme to encourage communities to work together to safeguard the long-term viability of local life.

This year's Awards feature a total prize fund of over £5000 for the 5 entry categories:

- Environment
- Business
- Young People
- Older People
- Community Life

Entry is generally open to all Community Councils in Scotland, but other community groups can apply, at the discretion of the Association of Scottish Community Council's, if they meet the following criteria:

- Not for profit local organisation or trust set up to improve the social, economic or environmental health of the local community;
- A strong emphasis on the involvement of local individuals or groups;
- Partnerships, networks or forums acting within a localised community.

More information from:

<http://www.communityoftheyear.co.uk/>

## PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (SCHOOLS)

The Royal Society has been awarding Partnership Grants to schools since 2000. The scheme supports teachers working with research scientists and engineers to create imaginative projects for school pupils aged 5 to 16. Grants of between £250 and £2500 are available to cover project costs, travel allowances and purchase of equipment necessary to deliver the project (as long as it is not usual school equipment). Previous winners have delivered projects looking at fitness levels, soap, soil samples, levels of acids in plants, growing of bee orchids, chick hatching etc.

More information is available on the Royal Society website:

<http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/education/partnership.htm>

The next deadline is the **22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2004**. Deadlines happen twice a year in February and October.





## BT SCHOOL AWARDS 2004

The BT Schools Awards for 2004 will be open for applications between the 28<sup>th</sup> of May and the 14<sup>th</sup> November. Up to £1M (£2000 for 240 projects) will be awarded to schools in the UK. Projects must illustrate:

- Good practice in citizenship
- Development of the skills and attitudes young people will need to play their role as active and responsible citizens
- Development of communications skills

Projects will need to link to the curriculum, pupils should be able to play an active role in the project and projects should develop good practice that can be disseminated to other schools.

Applications are available from:

[http://www.btplc.com/ict/bt\\_schools\\_awards/about\\_the\\_awards.cfm](http://www.btplc.com/ict/bt_schools_awards/about_the_awards.cfm)

- Projects funded last year include:
- Creating safe playground environments
- Promoting recycling to the school and local community
- Establishing a Children's Council - issues of school democracy
- Supporting the transition from primary to secondary schools

## THE SNH COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

The Community Grant Scheme is available to encourage people to take a more active role in enjoying and managing the natural heritage in their local area by:

- Increasing awareness and understanding of local natural heritage;
- Improving degraded areas through active management;
- Improving access for all;
- Acquiring and managing land;
- Supporting communities to develop the longer-term capacity to undertake and manage projects

Any constituted community group can apply for funds of up to £3,000. Applications for more than £3,000 and/or involving land purchase may still be accepted, but assessment will take longer. Rate of grant is usually up to 50% of eligible costs but higher rates may be available to voluntary/community groups in some cases. Any project that benefits both the natural heritage and the community will be considered, including:

- Enhancing the natural heritage of land and water;
- Improving existing footpaths or bridleways;
- Community events staged to raise awareness of the local natural heritage

In the Angus area contact the SNH office at West Lodge, Airlie, Kirriemuir, DD8 5NP—tel: 01575 530333; in the Perth and Kinross area contact: SNH Battleby, Redgorton, Perth, PH1 3EW - tel: 01738 444177. or check the website [www.snh.org.uk](http://www.snh.org.uk)

## BT COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Another scheme from BT is their Community Connections Grant, which focuses on voluntary, and community organisations that need access to the Internet to deliver their services or improve operation activity. An award package worth approximately £1300 is available. It consists of a NEC multimedia computer, Microsoft software and one year's free Internet connection.

Deadline for Round 2 - the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

More information is available from:

<http://www.btcommunityconnections.com>

## Every Action Counts



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With thanks to Dundee City Council for being able to quote from their Spring Funding Newsletter.

The Biodiversity Funding Newsletter has been compiled by Catherine Lloyd. Thanks are also due to Lynda Ronald, Perth and Kinross Council for designing and preparing this Newsletter.

### The Tayside Partnership includes:

Angus Council, Dundee City Council, the Forestry Commission, Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, National Farmers' Union Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland, Perth and Kinross Council, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Scottish Rural Property and Business Association, Scottish Agricultural College, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Wildlife Trust

The Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan may be viewed on [www.angus.gov.uk](http://www.angus.gov.uk) or [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)