

Tayside Biodiversity Partnership Funding Newsletter

Summer 2005

Issue No.3

INTRODUCTION

Launched during Scottish Biodiversity Week in May, our new website now includes the Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan in its entirety, plus easy access to the species lists (Priority Species and Species of Conservation Concern).

A number of publications, including the first two issues of the Tayside Biodiversity Funding Newsletter, are also on the site. Survey forms and a Newsletter giving details of projects underway in the area are included. The website will be regularly updated, so please add it to your 'favourites' to keep in touch.

Check out www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk.

Positive feedback continues on this Funding Newsletter and thanks are due to the various contributors. If you know of any sources of funding that may be of interest to our readership, please let us know.

The copy date for news for Issue 4 will be 31 January 2006.
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TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY ACTION FUND

In the past few months negotiations have been underway between the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership and SITA Environmental Trust to set up a Tayside Biodiversity Action Fund. The new Fund will be launched on 12th September.

The aim of the Fund will be to deliver biodiversity conservation and enhancement for UK species and habitats in Tayside in line with objective DA of the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme regulations. Projects and actions supported by the Fund will contribute to the implementation of the Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan and to the achievements of outcomes and targets identified within the Plan.

The funding will be shared equitably between the three local authority areas (i.e. Angus, Dundee, and Perth and Kinross) over a three-year funding period. It is hoped some projects will be cross-cutting and cover the whole of Tayside. Upper and lower grant limits have yet to be confirmed, but may be a maximum of £30,000. Smaller grant applications of c£500 to £1,000 will be welcomed. The funding will be for 100% project costs, although match funding will be encouraged for larger projects.

Further information and finalised details will be announced via the new website: www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk, or further details can be obtained from late August via the Biodiversity Co-ordinator.

LOCAL FUNDING SUCCESSES—SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE BIODIVERSITY ACTION GRANT 2005

In the latest round of BAGS applications the wider Tayside partnership achieved five successful bids:

- **Small Cow-Wheat Species Recovery Project** (Forest Research on behalf of the Melampyrum sylvaticum UK SAP National Steering Group): Species recovery project aimed to create and monitor five new populations of Small Cow-Wheat in the Perthshire and Central Highlands area.
- **Dundee Red Squirrel Project** (Sustain Dundee): A red squirrel protection and enhancement project in the city of Dundee.
- **Community Woodland Biodiversity Training** (Community Woodlands Association): a project to provide relevant, local and up to the minute training about the biodiversity of woodlands. Scotland-wide, but starting in Tayside.
- **Project Sandcastle** (Murton Wildlife Trust for Environmental Education, Forfar): A sand martin conservation project in Angus involving building a sand martin wall on the site of a sand and gravel quarry, supporting another wall and building a pond in close proximity.
- **The Living Field Study Centre - Flora and Fauna of Scotland's Arable Farmland** (Scottish Crop Research Institute, Invergowrie): Project based on rare arable plants, aimed to increase public knowledge, and to reintroduce some rare arable plants to the Scottish Crop Research Institute farm.

There were 106 Scotland-wide applications and 31 successful bids. Further details are available via www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Wildlife-Habitats/16118/successfulprojects2005.

LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEMES

The Heritage Lottery Fund has a number of funding strands. A new scheme was launched in 2004 called Landscape Partnerships.

Landscape Partnership Schemes must include programmes of work that meet all four of the following priorities:

- Conserving or restoring the built and natural features that create the historic character of the landscape;
- Conserving and celebrating the cultural associations and activities of the landscape area;
- Encouraging more people to access, learn about, become involved in and make decisions on their landscape heritage;
- Improving understanding of local craft and other skills by providing training opportunities.

As the Programme title suggests, a partnership approach is key to developing a successful application. The Programme will support Partnerships that conserve areas of land with distinct character.

Grants of between £250,000 and £2m are available to deliver (up to) a 3-year programme. The next deadline is 1st of October 2005. Further information can be obtained from the Heritage Lottery Fund website: <http://www.hlf.org.uk>

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND SURGERIES

The Heritage Lottery Fund is holding monthly pre-application advice surgeries on the last Wednesday of the month at its office in Edinburgh. You can reserve a 45-minute slot with a development officer from 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.15pm. To make the best use of your appointment, send brief details of your project in advance on the pre-application form downloadable from www.hlf.org.uk. Your appointment will be confirmed once they receive your project information. There will also be a Regional Surgery in Dundee on 29th September.

LLOYDS TSB FOUNDATION FOR SCOTLAND SURGERIES

The Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland will be holding a series of surgeries throughout Scotland to discuss potential projects for which the Foundation may be able to provide financial support. Surgeries are for local recognised charities and are by appointment only. For a one-to-one session with an assessor, and to discuss how to go about putting in an application to the Foundation call 0870 902 1201 to arrange an appointment, or check the website: www.ltsbfoundationforscotland.org.uk.



ESMEE FAIRBAIRN FOUNDATION—NEW CRITERIA

The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation has published its new guidelines for support. There are four key priorities:

1. Environment: this programme aims to promote environmental improvements that create a country side which is rich in diverse habitats and species, reduces carbon emissions, and a UK food industry which supplies a wide range of high quality, sustainably produced goods. It will support the conservation of hard-to-fund native species and habitats, marine reserves, and the control of invasive species.
2. Arts: the scheme will focus on contemporary visual arts including architecture, crafts, design, new media, photography, public art and sculpture. There is also a heritage theme to preserve and provide public access to collections of historical significance and preserve and provide public access to buildings of historical or architectural significance.
3. Education: looking at new approaches to education and hard-to-reach learners of all ages.
4. Social Change - Enterprise and Independence: to enable people and communities facing disadvantage to improve their lives.

There are no set deadlines for applications as the trustees meet four times a year to decide on applications. More information is available on the Foundation's website: <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk> or you can contact the Environment team on 020 7297 4722.

G04 VOLUNTEERING

This is a grant programme designed to help small voluntary organisations and community groups that rely on volunteers.

The programme provides grants of between £500 and £2,000 to help small organisations become more effective and confident about involving volunteers. Funding for the programme comes from the Scottish Executive and is administered by the Voluntary Action Fund.

The aim of the funding programme is to help local, grassroots organisations build on their skills around recruiting and supporting their volunteers. The deadline for applications is 1st September 2005. Check - www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk.



AWARDS FOR ALL

Here are some important changes and reminders:

- There has been an increase in the amount of funds going to the Awards for All scheme – up to £6.2m from £4.5m last year.
- There has also been a downturn in applications.
- There is now a two-month turnaround. You are advised to submit your application three months before the money is needed.
- In the last three months, 43% of applicants had their forms returned to them as they were incomplete.
- If your project involves children, your referee must be in a child-related occupation e.g. head teacher, youth worker.
- Schools that apply must enclose a letter of endorsement from the head teacher.
- The name on your bank account must be identical to that on your constitution – this is to overcome some fraudulent applications that have taken place.
- Running costs are only funded for new organisations, for a maximum of one year.
- If you have had a previous Award for All grant they will want to see this highlighted in your annual accounts.
- If you have previously had a grant from them and not submitted an end of award monitoring report, you will not be eligible for a second grant.
- 10% of groups will receive a monitoring visit.

Application forms can be downloaded from www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland.



B&Q BETTER NEIGHBOUR GRANT SCHEME

Schools, community groups and charitable organisations can apply to their local B&Q store for funding to support a local community project.

The B&Q Better Neighbour Grants are available to help get a community project up and running. The scheme provides £50 to £500 (at retail cost) of B&Q materials - for example, pond liners, plants, or peat-free compost for projects such as a pond or wildlife garden, or paints for redecoration projects. It is important that the project is sustainable. For example, the materials and methods used should not cause environmental damage in the short or long-term. The final result should have long-lasting benefit to the community. Better Neighbour Grants do not cover maintenance, so the project should be designed for easy care.

Further information is available on <http://www.diy.com/diy/jsp/bq/index.jsp>, or you can call 0845 300 1001.

AWARDS FOR ALL 'FORMATHON'

In May, Dundee City Council, Dundee Voluntary Action and Angus Council hosted an Awards for All 'Formathon'. The number of organisations applying for an Awards for All grant in the City has decreased in recent years. The organisers recognise that the grant is easy to access and a good source of support for small groups. Over eighty organisations attended the event and received advice and guidance on submitting an application. The City and the organisations could benefit to the tune of over £200,000 if all applications are submitted and successful.

Following on from the 'Formathon', organisations in Dundee, Angus and Perth & Kinross are now involved in the development of a funding event, called 'Get Funded!' to be held in Dundee on the 1st of November. The event will be in the Marryat Hall from 11am to 6pm and a host of funding bodies - including The Big Lottery Fund, Awards for All, Inverlay Social Investment Fund, and Lloyds TSB will be on hand to give advice and guidance to potential applicants and give presentations. A mini-Formathon (for Awards for All applications) will form part of the event, as will training sessions for local groups seeking to use Grantnet. Access to other funding information sources will also be available. For further information about the event, check www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland.

FORWARD SCOTLAND—SMALL GRANTS SCHEME FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Constituted groups operating in Scotland can apply for up to 75% of their project costs to a maximum of £1,000 where their environmental project has wider social or economic benefits. The grant can provide vital support by helping fund preparatory work such as feasibility studies, community capacity building, consultation exercises and publicity.

The types of projects that can be funded are:

- Conducting a feasibility study
- Carrying out research
- Producing a business plan
- Holding a public meeting, seminar or conference
- Conducting a survey
- Producing a one-off publication
- Helping to purchase training or professional support
- Attending a seminar or conference
- Designing a website
- Sustainable Development

More Information is available from: www.forward-scotland.org.uk.



UKVILLAGES COMMUNITY KITTY

www.UKVillages.co.uk is a web site that provides a news and information portal for small towns and villages throughout the UK, with information for residents, tourists and businesses, as well as helping individuals, clubs, societies and local businesses share information between themselves within a four-mile area. Over 30,000 communities have already joined.

UKVillages operates a Community Kitty for community projects across the UK, e.g. environmental projects, community activity groups, playgroups, playgrounds, village halls, youth initiatives, fetes, technology and heritage.

The closing date for the next round is 10th October 2005. Allow at least six weeks for a decision.

ARGOS IN THE COMMUNITY

Another community-based funding source – Argos focuses on charities and groups that help young people get the best opportunities in life, for better health, education and the environment - especially projects that offer support to local communities.

Support is only given to registered charities and non-profit making organisations. The charities supported must focus on children in the areas of health related issues, education, disadvantaged groups, or improvement to environmental conditions. All charitable requests must be made using the Argos Charitable Donation application form available on the Argos website: www.argos.co.uk.

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

The Scottish Arts Council has a new £1.4m lottery-funded grant-making programme called Arts Partners in Scotland. It aims to enable artists to take their work into deprived communities by creating artists residences across Scotland, giving communities with little experience of the arts new opportunities to participate. Priority will be given to proposals focusing on Community Regeneration Fund areas and residences can last between 3 months and 2 years. Artists can still dedicate up to 50% of the time to develop their own work.

Sixteen schemes are already in existence across Scotland. Grants can be for between £4,000 and £40,000. Check out www.scottisharts.org.uk/1/funding.aspxand.

FAITHWORKS AWARDS

“Faithworks” exists to inspire individual Christians and every local church to develop their role at the hub of their community. It is administered by the Oasis Charitable Trust. The Faithworks Awards seek to promote awareness of “the excellent community work being done by over 144,000 church-based projects in the UK”.

Award 1 – The Christian Resources Exhibitions/Faithworks Community Resource Award 2005

The purpose of this award - which consists of a £5,000 development grant and ongoing strategic support from the Faithworks Consultancy - is to recognise the role of established projects inspired by Christian faith in delivering holistic community development. Projects applying for this award should demonstrate:

- A track record of measurable delivery over three years or more;
- A reflection of best practice developed through application and experience.

Award 2 – The Spring Harvest/Faithworks Community Innovation Awards 2005

These awards are for relatively new church-based projects which demonstrate Christian involvement in a way that is new to their local area. There will be two recipients of this award, each receiving a development grant of £5,000 and ongoing strategic support from the Faithworks Consultancy. These awards are for projects that have:

- Been in existence and delivering services for less than three years;
- Demonstrated innovation in their local community.

Contact – Further information is available via <http://www.faithworks.info/awards> or by calling Faithworks on 020 7450 9088.

NEW CAIRNGORMS BIODIVERSITY SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

A new scheme will be officially launched at the beginning of August along with five other grant schemes supported by the Cairngorms National Park Authority, SNH, EU LEADER+ and Local Authorities.

The scheme is open to constituted groups (not individuals or businesses) and covers the old Cairngorms Partnership area (the Local Biodiversity Action Plan area), i.e. including the Tayside areas of Highland Perthshire and the Angus Glens. It will offer 100% funding up to £5,000 for projects over a 2-year period (to March 2007).

The grant criteria will include delivering actions in the Cairngorms Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP), or one or more of the key themes of the LBAP, i.e.

- lack of data;
- raising awareness;
- access to appropriate policy/funding;
- direct habitat loss or fragmentation;
- inappropriate management,
- climate change & pollution;
- non-native species;

or delivering objectives from the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, and involving the local community, communities of interest or visitors.

The Biodiversity Grants scheme will be part of a wider "Integrated Grants Scheme" being developed by the CNPA with LEADER+. There are five other themes in the grant package (see below) that are either small grants up to £5,000, or medium grants up to £20,000 but only offer 90%. Some of these schemes can also delivery biodiversity actions. The contact details for the scheme "Champion" are:

- Local marketing & events (Ruathy Donald – Tel. 01479 870 519)
- Local interpretation planning & implementations (Andy Ford – Tel. 01479 870 558)
- Small scale access infrastructure (Fran Potheary – Tel. 01479 870 533)
- Investing in communities (Rita Callander – Tel. 01339 753 602)
- Cultural heritage (Rita Callander – Tel. 01339 753 602)

For general information about the Cairngorms Biodiversity Grant Scheme contact Stephen Corcoran, the Cairngorms Biodiversity Officer on Tel. 01479 870 528.

EVENT SCOTLAND

EventScotland runs two grant schemes to support events in Scotland. The Major Events Programme may support existing events with the potential to grow into world-class events and help create new events on an annual or bi-annual basis.

The Regional Events Programme seeks to develop a portfolio of events that will:

- bring economic benefit to Scotland;
- attract visitors to the region involved from other parts of the country;
- inspire and involve local communities and enhance the profile and appeal of the host region.

Applicants can apply for between £2,000 and £25,000. The deadline for applications is 5th August for events taking place throughout 2006. Further information is available on the EventScotland website: www.eventscotland.org/supportprogrammes.htm

RIGHT TO BUY LEGISLATION

The Land Reform Act came into force in June 2004, but many communities remain unaware of the opportunities the Act gives them. The Act allows communities to register an interest in any land including small plots and buildings. The only land that cannot be registered is land in settlements that have a population over 10,000 - making 98.5% of land in Scotland eligible to be registered.

Once registered, the land cannot be sold without the community having an opportunity to buy it. The legislation can be used to give communities the option to buy all types of land and property, including farms and estates, individual fields and plots of land, local business premises such as local Post Offices, waste ground, industrial sites, housing or woodlands.

A registration does not oblige you to purchase the land in future - it merely gives you the option. Funding such as the Scottish Land Fund may be available to community groups wishing to subsequently purchase land. If you fail to register and the land comes on the market, you will have to rely on provisions that allow the submission of "late" applications. These require a much stronger case to be made and there are indications that this may become increasingly difficult.

Check out the website: <http://www.landreformact.com>. Advice notes on the website provide a good simple introduction to the Act.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL RENEWAL SCHEME (CERS) 2004-2007

If you are Dundee-based and interested in finding sources of potential funding, visit Dundee City Council's website and register to use the new Grantnet facility. You will then be able to give details about your organisation and your project idea and the database search engine will identify appropriate funding sources and provide detailed information.

Visit the Council website: <http://www.dundee.gov.uk> and look for Funding in the A to Z, or contact Alex Scott on 01382 434212.

THE WOMEN'S FUND

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to voluntary organisations that seek to support women in Scotland - in particular groups that help contribute to the regeneration or development of the local community. "Fast-track" grants of up to £1,000 are also available. Organisations run by and for women or organisations that wish to celebrate International Women's Day 2006 can apply.

Applications can be made anytime but 30th December 2005 is the closing date for all Women's Fund applications. You don't have to be a "women only" organisation, but your project or activity must only be for women. For an application form and further information about the Women's Fund for Scotland or for information about other funds available from the Scottish Community Foundation please contact: Helen Leah on 0141 225 6670, Email: grants@scottishcommunityfoundation.com.



IT HARDWARE

Are you finding it hard to keep up with the ever-increasing pace of computer technology and the need to replace your computers regularly? One solution might be to investigate some of the companies offering special deals to charities, or web sites offering used equipment.

www.itforcharities gives information about organisations that supply re-cycled PCs and/or PCs at a special price for charities.

[Computer Market](#) Central web site offering a large range of second-hand PCs and other IT equipment sourced from a number of other vendors.

[Dell Factory Outlet](#) Dell UK provides "Unopened, Unused or returned systems that have been previously sold by Dell but have been returned to Dell for a variety of reasons. The great majority are unused." Full support & maintenance options.

DonateAPC.org.uk Free web site service where individuals/organisations can offer their old computers & other ICT equipment to charities.

[In Kind Direct](#) A charity that receives PCs from companies, puts on new software and re-distributes them to other charities. Tel. 020 7860 5930.



Every Action Counts



SCHOOLS EU TWINNING SCHEME

Over 250 UK primary and secondary schools have already signed up to twin with European schools through the Internet (including Arbroath High and Monifieth High, in Angus). It aims to help build partnerships between schools, and their staff and pupils. Cultural exchange is a big part of the ambition of the scheme, so it ties in very much with the 2005 'European Year of Citizenship Through Education'. Check out <http://www.etwinning.net> for further information.



KIDS GET ACTIVE

If you are involved in a local community group, or keeping children busy over the summer, consider having your own Eco Adventure -

- What flora and fauna are there in your local parks or in your own backyard? Complete a Tayside Local Patch Survey form and let us know what you find—available on the website: www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk
- How can you help protect and encourage native species? Grow flowering herbs or annual plants that attract hoverflies or bumblebees—you don't even need a garden—just a window box or a hanging basket. No room at home? Then encourage your workplace, doctor's surgery or health centre, or local school to "grow for wildlife".
- Water—with another hot summer on the way how can you help your local community conserve water?
- Are local businesses wasting energy? How could you help them cut costs and improve the environment?

Register on-line to get the Eco Adventure newsletter and to find out how you could win one of ten awards for £500 for your environmental project:

www.volvocars.co.uk/ecoadventure

If you're not already a member of a community group why not contact Wildlife Watch to find out about activities in your area that anyone—whatever age they are—can participate in. Visit www.wildlifewatch.org.uk or call 0870 0367711.

BACK TO SCHOOL

An environmental project can be incorporated into the curriculum or used as a focus for a breakfast club or after-school activities. Any youth group could enter an environmental project into the Volvo Eco Adventure and win £500! In a classroom scenario, though, a project could be included in:

Geography—as part of developing a class's knowledge of environmental change a project could be entered into the Volvo Eco Adventure. Completing an application on-line also enables ICT skills to be improved.

Science—the class could develop a project to look at biodiversity or water in a whole variety of ways. One of last year's winning groups looked at water quality in their local rivers. Preparing such a project encourages the group to research and present clear data as well as developing good investigative skills.

The Volvo Eco Adventure application form is simple to complete. There are ten annual awards of £500 available and the overall UK winner will meet other groups from around the world at the International Volvo Adventure Conference in Sweden.

www.volvocars.co.uk/ecoadventure

VOLVO ECO ADVENTURE GRANTS

Aimed at young environmentalists aged 10 to 16, the Volvo Eco Adventure provides awards of £500 to environmental projects designed and run by young people. The dead for applications is not until December 16th, 2005 so you have plenty of time to get involved.

The website gives information on how to apply as well as some useful tips and ideas on how to run your own project, either in the community or linking into the national curriculum:

www.volvocars.co.uk/ecoadventure



Every Action Counts



PUBLICATIONS

A New Toolkit

The [Fife Environment Network](#) has launched a new toolkit designed to help community groups and individuals set up environment projects.

What Do Your MEPs Do?

Free copies of this publication are available for schools, organisations and individuals from the UK Office of the European Parliament - Tel: 0131 577 7866; email: epedinburgh@europarl.eu.int

WEBSITES

Application Advice and Budgetary Advice – Click on <http://www.funderfinder.org.uk/freeware.php> to download two free software programmes. One is called "apply yourself" and gives guidance in writing a grant application and the other is "budget yourself" which helps voluntary groups to write their budgets.

Allotments Regeneration Initiative—www.farmgarden.org.uk
Awards for All—www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland
Big Lottery Fund—www.biglotteryfund.org.uk
Biodiversity Action Grant—www.scotland.gov.uk/biodiversity
BT Community Connection— www.btcommunityconnections.com
BT Schools Awards— www.btplc.com/ict/bt_schools_awards
Community Fund—www.community-fund.org.uk
Communities Scotland— www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk
CSV Action Earth— www.actionearth.org.uk
Forward Scotland— www.forward-scotland.org.uk
Greenspace Scotland— www.greenspacescotland.org.uk
Heritage Lottery Fund— www.hlf.org.uk
New Opportunities Fund— www.nof.org.uk
Scottish Arts Council— www.scottisharts.org.uk
Scottish Natural Heritage— www.snh.org.uk
The Crown Estate— www.crownestate.co.uk
The MacRobert Trust— www.themacroberttrust.org.uk
The Tudor Trust— www.tudortrust.org.uk
Tree Council— www.treecouncil.org.uk
Tubney Charitable Trust— www.tubney.org.uk

ANGUS4COMMUNITY WEBSITE LAUNCHED

The Angus4Community website is now up and running and is available for carrying out funding searches – free of charge. To access the site, visit <http://www.angus4community.com/> and register. Local information on the site will develop as time goes on, so visit it regularly and regard the site as an additional resource – someone is still available to speak to you if you prefer and visits can still be made to your organisation.

FUNDING CONTACTS

If you wish to discuss a potential project idea, together with sources of funding, please contact one of the following people:

Dundee -

Diane Milne, Senior Policy Officer
Economic Development Department
Tel: 01382 434653
E-mail: diane.milne@dundeecity.gov.uk

Angus –

Linda Caston, External Funding Officer
External Funding Team
Tel: 01307 473760
E-mail: externalfunding@angus.gov.uk

Perth and Kinross -

Perth and Kinross Grants Direct
Enquiry line: 0845 605 2000 (local rate)
Website: <http://www.pkgrantsdirect.com/>

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



Every Action Counts



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.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk