

HES Heritage & Place Programme (H&PP) & NLHF Grants for Heritage (area-based schemes)

Information Session 2 – Wed 18th May 2022
Q&A

Q: Is a partnership with several partners, such as two or three Not for Profit (NFP) organisations and a local authority, acceptable and do all governing documents need to be uploaded?

A: (HES): An Area Partnership would work with several partners but, for a joint delivery agreement, this would be more complicated. A joint delivery agreement is required where the lead applicant is a NFP organisation, and they would need to have this agreement in place with a local authority. We would only expect there to be two organisations involved in a Joint Delivery Agreement.

(NLHF) Very similar to the HES response. The NLHF application portal only allows for one applicant so the lead applicant would have to do that, but joint delivery partner/s can be mentioned at a later stage of application.

Q: If a Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) operated in the past which did not address all issues, is it still possible to apply?

A: (HES) Previous CARS recipients can apply to the H&PP, but you should ensure that you read the new H&PP guidance first, so you are aware of how the H&PP differs from the CARS funding programme.

Q: For the development phase application, what level of detail will you expect to be included?

A: (HES): We will be asking you to expand on the information that you included in your Expression of Interest (EOI) including on the scheme area and the ideas for your projects and activities. We will also be asking you to tell us about what work and activities you will be undertaking during the Development Phase if your application is successful (e.g., Community Engagement activities; condition reports; feasibility studies). These activities will depend on the needs of your scheme area with a materials audit and skills audit mandatory for all schemes. Appendix 1 of the H&PP guidance sets out the details of what supporting documents we will expect to be submitted with your Development Phase application and what stage these should be at.

(NLHF) Again, this is similar to HES and, on the NLHF website, is a list of Delivery Phase application documents that will need to be produced as well as templates for these.

Q: With the emphasis that project proposal/area needs to be a priority in the Local Authority (LA) area, this may be contentious and/or political. Is there a way to avoid this?

A: (HES) The reason we ask about this is because we are looking for direction from you as the applicant to tell us what the priorities are and why this is within your LA area.

(NLHF) We support a lot of community driven and LA lead projects, and there may be some crossover. We are looking for steer from applicants and will assess which are strongest and which we want to support going forward. We appreciate that different organisations might have different priorities within a local authority area.

Q: Can you please explain how we could find out about the scheme area and how do we know if we are a priority for a LA?

A: (NLHF/ HES): We would recommend speaking to your LA; to try and find out what proposals they are hoping to bring forward for the area if any. Bring your proposal to them to see if it can be a community driven project. One of the key questions in the application will be how you work in partnership.

Q: Does an application to the H&PP preclude an application to other HES grants (or vice versa)?

A: (HES) If a project/ activity is included in a Heritage & Place scheme for HES funding, we would be unable to accept a funding application for the same project/ activity to any of our other funding programmes. If it is the case at EOI stage that we feel a project is not eligible under the H&PP, then we will advise you of any of our other funding programmes which you could apply to. Being unsuccessful under the H&PP would not preclude an application being submitted to our other funding programmes if the project could meet the eligibility criteria for these.

Q: How are HES and NLHF working 'jointly' on these funding applications?

A: (HES/ NLHF) Although there is not a joint application process, we have aligned the application requirements as closely as possible between the two schemes and will be working together when we are assessing the applications.

Q: Can you give a brief explanation of the Area Character Appraisal (ACA) requirements?

A: (HES) With our previous area-based funding programme (CARS), all schemes would need to have a conservation area character appraisal (CACA) in place. This document, amongst other things, sets out the history of an area and how it has developed and also identifies significant historic environment assets and opportunities for improvement etc. With the ACA, we will be looking for the same types of information as is included in a CACA to cover

the proposed scheme area. A draft version of this document will need to be submitted at development phase application stage and will need to have been adopted by the LA at delivery phase application stage. Following on from this, an area management plan will need to be developed. More details on both of these documents can be found in the H&PP guidance and if you have any further questions, you can get in touch with us.

Q: Our scheme might fit well with this, or might fit better with a standard NLHF grant - if we apply to this scheme will you be able to redirect us if that seems appropriate?

A: (NLHF/ HES) We will advise if there is a more suitable funding route and offer explanations for this at EOI stage.

Q: If existing conservation area appraisals and management plans were published some time ago, e.g., 12 years old, would a refresh be preferable, and at what stage in the application process would both HES and Heritage Fund want these to be submitted?

A: (HES/ NLHF) At development stage application, the area character appraisal will need to have been produced within the last 5 years and the final version of this produced in time for the delivery phase application. The area management plan would also need to be updated at the end of the scheme. The H&PP guidance contains more information on the requirements for these documents.

Q: If an applicant is successful at EOI, is funding available at the development stage?

A: (NLHF/ HES) If your EOI is successful, you will be invited to submit a development phase application. If your development phase application is successful, you will be awarded funding to support the development phase costs and activities.

Q: What is the maximum project funding available if applications are submitted to both?

A: (NLHF) We don't specify this but expected funding would be between £750,000 and £1.5m. We expect a high level of competition so the lower your request, the less of the total pot you're asking for. You should seek funding beyond HES and NLHF, if possible as this will provide additional benefits and value for the project. We are keen to support as many projects as possible and will look at the level of benefits being proposed compared to the scale of grant request.

(HES) For the delivery phase, we anticipate that our grant contribution will range from £750,000 to £1.5m.

Q: Can H&PP funding be matched with the lower levels of NHLF funding?

A: (HES) There may be elements of a scheme that we can't fund, and vice versa, so you can definitely be flexible about how much you apply for from each of us.

(NLHF) If you wanted to approach us for funding under £250,000 this is a single stage application process. It doesn't include development funding and the majority of the grant is paid in advance.

Please make clear in your EOI that it is an area scheme you want to apply for and that you are seeking funding from HES too.

Q: Could significant in-kind contributions of work be included as match funding?

A: (NLHF): There is no reason why not, it would depend on what your project includes and in-kind would be costs you'd otherwise have to pay for – e.g., venue space, materials, or Volunteer time. There is more information on our website for how to include that in your EOI/application. If it's going to be a significant contribution, you should explain that at an early stage.

(HES): Highlight any significant in-kind contributions early on in the process so it can be discussed, and any questions about this can be tackled before the development application starts.

Q: Is there opportunity to talk over the phone? if so, where do we find your numbers? (for both HES and NLHF.

A: (HES) If you contact grants@hes.scot, we can arrange a phone call.

(NLHF) Get in touch scotlandcontact@heritagefund.org.uk or the NLHF website: <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/in-your-area/scotland>