

What is it?

A fund created to enable and empower communities to make artistic and aesthetic improvements to the National Cycle Network (NCN), for the benefit of place quality, enjoyment and active travel.

Why fund this?

Not only do art and aesthetics provide a message that the path and its users are important, they can also make a journey more enjoyable and increase user confidence in the route they are on.

We hope to allow more people to choose to travel by healthier, cleaner and cheaper methods, and by making cycle routes more attractive and enjoyable more people might be encouraged to do so.

Communities have the best knowledge of 'their patch' and often the best ideas for how to improve it – we want to put the power to make improvements into the hands of these communities.

Who can apply for a grant?

This fund is for constituted community groups, based in Scotland, with their own bank account. However, we will also consider applications from groups who can show that they are organised and committed, without a group bank account.

How much can be applied for?

Grants of up to £1,500 can be applied for. If the total cost of the project is more than £1,500 then evidence must be shown that the remaining cost is covered (match funding is encouraged for bigger projects).

Deadlines and Timescales

Complete and return your:

- Grant application form by 5pm on 10/02/17
- Grant claim form by 5pm on 19/05/17
- Final report by 5pm on 30/06/17

Examples of what we can fund (not an exhaustive list)

- Sculptures
- Murals
- Mosaics

- Archways
- Benches/seating
- Decorative signage
- Planters/plant pots
- Interpretation boards
- Interactive objects/ play equipment
- Transient artwork (e.g. temporary installations for events)
- Repairs and improvements to existing artwork and interpretation
- Lighting – (not to be powered through the mains) e.g. embedded solar powered lights
- Plants
- Paint
- Tools
- Designer/artist fees
- Contractor
- Machinery hire
- Local press advertisement
- Planning permission
- Insurance

What we cannot fund

- General path maintenance or re-surfacing
- Building new paths
- General repairs of existing infrastructure, e.g. bridges, walls etc.
- Volunteer/staff time

Volunteer 'In-Kind' contributions

We request that volunteer contributions are recorded during the project. This can be recorded using the following guide and is requested along with the final report.

It is generally assumed that there will be an equal volunteer in-kind contribution to the amount of funding applied for. A monetary value is put to the time spent by volunteers. The standard day rates are shown in the table below:

Type of work	Activity	Day rate
Unskilled volunteer task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting • Using tools e.g. spade, loppers, rake • Mixing cement by hand • Installing signs or way markers • Administration tasks 	£50
Skilled volunteer task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating tools e.g. strimmer, cement mixer, hammer drill • Operating large machinery e.g. digger, forklift • Designing signage, interpretation • Installing large artworks or interpretation panels 	£150
Professional volunteer service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study • Creating graphics for interpretation • Large community consultation 	£350

The following example shows how to record the volunteer in-kind contribution for your final report:

Example

Type of work	Description of activity	Rate	Days	Number of volunteers	In-kind contribution
Unskilled volunteer task	Preparing ground for installation and mixing cement by hand	£50	2	3	£300
Skilled volunteer task	Positioning installation using a forklift and using power tools to install in concrete	£150	1	2	£300
Professional volunteer service	Conducting a large community consultation on the design of the installation	£350	1	1	£350
TOTALS			4	6	£950

Other things to consider

- A maintenance plan/schedule must be made with a commitment to maintain the works. If this is not maintained then the improvement may be removed/reverted by Sustrans.
- Local authority/landowner support will need to be confirmed in advance of applying for a grant.

How to apply for this grant

To apply for this grant visit <http://scotlandportal.sustrans.org.uk> and register your community group to access the grant application form page.

Assessing your application

We will assess and score your application against our grant criteria. You will receive feedback and a decision within 4 weeks of submission.

Please note – there is a limited amount of funding available in the fund, therefore if the highest scoring applications exceed the overall funding then Sustrans retains the right to award these applications at its own discretion.