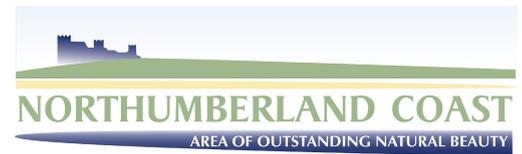


Small Grant Scheme - Community Environmental Projects



Criteria

Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
www.NorthumberlandCoastAONB.org

The fund has been set up to enable local communities in and around the Northumberland Coast AONB to make a contribution to their village/parish through small volunteer-led environmental projects. The scheme is part of the Northumberland Coast AONB Sustainable Development Fund, delivered through the Coast Care Initiative.

If you are unsure about any of the scheme criteria, please contact the scheme administrator, Catherine Gray on 01670 622644 or by e-mail: catherine.gray@northumberland.gov.uk

Rate of grant:

- **Maximum grant:** usually £1,000, although grants up to £1,500 will be considered after discussion
- **Minimum grant:** no minimum, but applicants are encouraged not to apply for an amount less than £300
- **For parish, voluntary and community groups:** The scheme will provide 100% funding, although this is at the discretion of the advisory panel. Volunteer time must be part of the project.

Grants available to:

- Parish and community organisations
- Parish Councils
- Voluntary groups

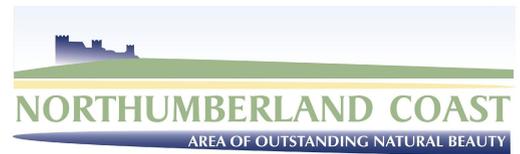
Groups do not need to be constituted to apply, but banking must be done via a constituted group. The AONB staff team can help put un-constituted groups in touch with constituted groups that could provide a banking service. The staff team will also put such groups in touch with organisations that can assist groups in establishing a constitution for themselves.

Area grant available:

The grant is available in the AONB and adjacent parishes within 2 kilometers of the AONB boundary. This includes the following parishes (north to south):

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| ● Berwick | ● Bamburgh | ● Rennington |
| ● Ord | ● North Sunderland | ● Craster |
| ● Ancroft | ● Adderstone with | ● Longhoughton |
| ● Kyloe | Lucker | ● Lesbury |
| ● Holy Island | ● Beadnell | ● Alnmouth |
| ● Middleton | ● Ellingham | ● Warkworth |
| ● Easington | ● Newton by the Sea | ● Amble |
| ● Belford | ● Embleton | |

Small Grant Scheme - Community Environmental Projects



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The grant is also available to organisations based outside this area, where their project is based within the area specified.

If you are not sure if your project is within the eligible area, contact the scheme administrator.

No grant will be offered:

- for works in fulfillment of statutory conditions / obligations applied to a planning application
- for works that the applicant is otherwise obliged or contracted to carry out (e.g. vegetation clearance by Parish Councils under agreement with Highway / Local Authority)
- for facilities/public buildings upgrades and renovations (unless directly related to the enjoyment, conservation or enhancement of the conservation and heritage of the AONB)
- for works which have already started when the application is made
- for ongoing revenue costs (costs for new work would be admissible)
- for work which can be funded readily through other schemes
- for works which do not have agreement of the owner of any land on which the project will take place
- for projects where the benefit cannot be sustained for a minimum of three years from completion
- for works that conflict in any way with the aim of the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership, which is to conserve and enhance the landscape of the AONB for the benefit of the environment, community, visitors and future generations
- for individual business development that does not have a wider benefit to the community or AONB and
- for existing staff time, although this can be used as your 10% in-kind contribution for match funding

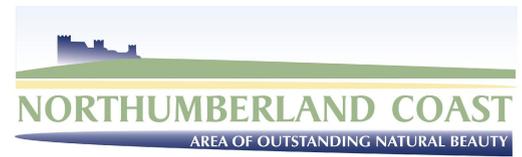
Grant will be paid:

on satisfactory inspection of the work by the grant scheme administrator or their nominee (copies of any printed material must be supplied in draft form). Interim claims may, however, be negotiated.

Grants will not be paid

- unless all printed material produced by the project features the Northumberland Coast AONB and Coast Care logos
- where conditions of the grant offer have not been met

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THIS GRANT IS DISCRETIONARY AND SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TO EQUATE TO AN OFFER OF FUNDING

Assessment of applications

Wherever possible assessment will be ongoing, with no set deadline. However, in order to ensure that we can continue to support projects throughout the year we may hold your application for a few weeks and assess it together with a number of others. If you have been offered a grant in the current financial year, we will hold any subsequent application until the second half of the year, again to ensure that others get an opportunity to benefit from this small grants scheme. In the assessment we may also take into account the need to have a geographical spread of projects throughout the scheme area and the need for a variety of different projects.

Applications are given an initial assessment by the scheme administrator. The final decision is subject to consideration by a project appraisal group by members of the AONB Partnership and Coast Care Initiative.

Claims

Claims must be submitted on or before the deadlines provided with the grant offer letter.

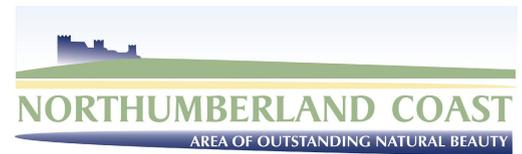
Monitoring and Reporting

The Northumberland Coast AONB Staff Unit reserves the right to publicise your project and will consult you on any text and images used.

Application Form

All applications will be made on the scheme application form, which includes guidance notes relating to the application and associated conditions. A separate claim form will be sent with notification of grant offer.

Small Grant Scheme - Community Environmental Projects



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CONDITIONS OF GRANT AWARDS

1. No grant will be paid for any work carried out prior to the date of this offer of grant.
2. All grant aided projects should conform to the plans and specifications submitted with this application. Where modifications are necessary, the details should be forwarded to the Scheme Administrator.
3. The applicant shall ensure that works and activities conform to any relevant statutory obligations, planning consents etc and with the agreement of private landowners where appropriate.
4. The benefits of the project should be sustained and maintained for a minimum of three years from completion of the project.
5. Grants will normally be paid retrospectively, although upfront payments may be arranged by negotiation
6. Any person authorised by the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership shall be entitled to inspect sites, equipment or facilities relevant to the grant and any records or accounts relating to them, at any reasonable time.
7. All printed material produced through this grant shall incorporate the logos of the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership and Coast Care
8. Receipts must be provided with any claim for grant, verifying the costs incurred by the claimant.
9. Claims must be submitted on or before the deadlines provided with the grant offer letter.
10. Further conditions may be added for individual projects. Specific conditions relating to individual projects will be provided with the offer letter

In the event of any of these conditions being breached, the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership reserves the right to withhold payment or to reclaim any grant already paid.