

EXTERNAL BIDS UPDATE

Summary: To present an update on progress in applying for external funding.

Recommendation: That the report be noted.

Officer Ref: Simon Smith, Project Development and Business Planning Officer

Background

Introduction

1. At its meeting of 19th July 2018 the Executive Committee agreed to have a table summarising progress in applying for external funding included as a standing item on the Executive Committee's agenda. This table is included below;
Appendix 'A'.
2. At its meeting of 17th September 2019 the Executive Committee agreed a new framework and template for taking forward project proposals internally. In accordance with this, projects that will have templates completed if or when they are sufficiently worked up for an Expression of Interest stage are:
 - Treescapes arising from the Ashes
 - A new expression of interest for the Green Ribbon of the Evenlode Valley
 - Engaging young people, subject to the scale of delivery effort required
 - A new Landscape Enhancement Initiative bid for Window 8

Supporting Papers:

Appendix 'A' – Bids External Bids Summary

Appendix A; External Bids Summary

Project & Funder	Stage & Value	Board Role	Financial & staffing impact
Treescaping arising from the Ashes	<p>HLF rejected bid in December 2018. Woodland Trust was not invited to resubmit. NLHF have now invited a new application & WT have asked us to participate. Currently appraising the opportunity.</p> <p>Asked by local partners to set up an Ash Dieback Forum and appeal launched.</p>	Lead partner	Staff time – Land Management Officer
<p>The Green Ribbon – Evenlode Valley</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)</p>	<p>Feedback on the Expression of Interest received at a meeting with NLHF on 31st July.</p> <p>It was well received though more work is needed to establish a better fit with the NLHF mandatory outcome “A wider range of people will be involved in heritage”, define the project area and identify match funding for the development stage. Under the new NLHF system we must be confident of delivering a development stage application within 12 months before submitting a revised EOI.</p> <p>Evenlode Catchment Partnership (ECP) discussed it on 24th October. They agreed to set up a project board to take it forward & at least 6 partners have volunteered to join it and help. Plan to meet in late November and take a revised expression of interest to the next full ECP meeting in January.</p>	Lead partner	Will dominate the work programme of the Project Development and Business Planning Officer for 12 months to take it to development stage proposal submission.
<p>Engaging with Young People</p> <p>National Lottery Community Fund (formerly</p>	<p>Young Gloucestershire is including us in a number of bids around outdoor activity staffing and costs. Awards for All & a larger stage 1 bid to Comic Relief under their Sport/Activity and Mental-Health pot.</p>	Partner – delivering countryside activities	<p>Rural Skills programme can accommodate different scales if successful.</p> <p>Bought in activity provision at</p>

<p>Big Lottery) & others</p> <p>Possibly NLHF small fund</p>	<p>Young Gloucestershire in touch with Active Gloucs and MIND Gloucs & now sit on the Gloucs Naturally Healthy Leadership Group. Looking at National Lottery Community Fund if unsuccessful with Comic Relief.</p>		<p>smaller scale</p> <p>Part time officer & project/activity costs at larger scales.</p>
<p>National Grid Landscape Enhancement Initiative.</p> <p>Capital works that enhance landscapes impacted on by National Grid's pylon lines.</p>	<p>Window 6; both of our full applications have been passed by National Grid to go for Ofgem approval. Final outcome in Dec 2019 or Jan 2020.</p> <p>Restoring Cheltenham's Escarpment Grasslands; Landscape and habitat restoration at Leckhampton Hill and Ravensgate Common. Project value £246,900, bid ask £183,000</p> <p>West of Winchcombe Landscape Enhancements; dry stone walling across Nottingham Hill. Project value £255,780, bid ask £173,580</p> <p>Window 7; Full application for Hampnett to Chedworth Boundary Restorations (dry stone walling) submitted 10th October. Project value £237,000, bid ask £177,000. National Grid panel review in December & if successful passed to Ofgem in January.</p> <p>Window 8; Expected to open for expressions of interest in January 2018. It has been reported that the £200,000 grant limit per project and the £600,000 limit per protected landscape will be lifted for this round opening the way for a further significant bid from the Cotswolds.</p>	<p>Only the Board can submit applications.</p> <p>Effectively facilitating the funding of local projects.</p> <p>If we don't do this there will be no spend in the Cotswolds.</p>	<p>The Board does not develop the detailed proposals or deliver the projects</p> <p>There is officer time in supporting project proposers, managing the application process & if successful monitoring and co-ordinating delivery. The required level of detail and supporting information for full applications is high so the call on Development Officer time is not insignificant.</p> <p>Match funding is provided by project proposers</p> <p>This is a capital scheme only and will not contribute towards our costs (we have asked!). If successful payments will be annually and in advance so there will be no negative impact on cash flow.</p>