

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, Development and Special Projects Officer

Background

Introduction

1. At its meeting of 19 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. The purpose of this paper is to provide a concise snapshot of progress across significant areas of project development. More detailed descriptions of projects in development and their potential impacts will be provided through the project proposal process at the appropriate time.
3. The National Lottery Heritage Fund have announced a £50 million response to the Coronavirus pandemic. To create capacity for this they have also announced that;

"We have halted all new Committee-level grants (£250,000-£5m) and single-stage delegated grants (£3,000-£250,000) until at least October 2020."
4. A project proposal being brought to the Executive Committee as a result of the below is the Lodge Park bid to the Landscape Enhancement Initiative.(agenda item 10)

Supporting Papers:

Appendix 'A' – Bids External Bids Summary

Appendix A; External Bids Summary

Project & Funder	Stage, Value & What the Bid will Deliver	Board Role	Financial & staffing Impact
<p>A national body for National Trails</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)</p> <p>On hold until October due to NLHF Coronavirus response.</p>	<p>Bid to establish a single entity to support the Trails (England and Wales). This is about to get to application stage, Awaiting final draft from a working group of Trail Chairs.</p> <p>The key remits of the proposed national body will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy – to act as the Champion for National Trails. • Policy and strategy – to advise NE/Defra and work with NRW on long term policy and strategy for National Trails. • National fundraising – negotiating to secure the funding needed from The UK and Welsh Governments without undermining the ability of individual trails to bid for grants and other funding. • Marketing and promotion – proactively influence the National Trails website and branding. • Information exchange – sharing experiences, information and funding opportunities with all family members. • Training – offering training courses and providing information on training opportunities. 	<p>It is an equal partnership for the mutual benefit of all National Trail Partnerships and Steering Groups</p> <p>The Board is accountable for the Cotswolds Way National Trails Partnership</p>	<p>A new national organisation will hold the funds and employ any staff. Staffing implications for CCB should be limited to liaison on issues which CTAP would be doing anyway.</p>
<p>Colchester Declaration</p> <p>Defra</p>	<p>The NAAONB is co-ordinating the development of a project proposal for AONB delivery of the Colchester Declaration.</p> <p>Simultaneously a consortium based on protected landscapes</p>	<p>Development and delivery partner</p>	<p>Too early to tell. Likely to be similar to the partnership working in developing the Magnificent Meadows bid's.</p>

<p>National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) On hold until October due to NLHF Coronavirus response.</p>	<p>covering a large interpretation of the Wessex area has been looking at collaboratively delivering nature recovery.</p> <p>The Development and Special Projects Officer has been leading on the development of a “Big Chalk” strand. Focussing on habitat connectivity across calcareous landscapes from the south coast to the top of the Cotswolds and Chilterns.</p> <p>Defra are interested in funding this work. Currently waiting on feedback from the national Colchester Declaration Steering Group following their discussions with Defra to learn what the next steps.</p>		
<p>BATHSCAPE Access Work</p> <p>One element of a bigger landscape programme</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)</p>	<p>Creation of recreational routes for a variety of audiences within the setting of Bath</p> <p>Successfully tendered for in December 2019 following approval of a project proposal form by CEO, Chair and Vice-Chair (with amendments). The first use of this new process.</p> <p>Currently negotiating contract. Contract value just under £90k</p>	<p>Delivery partner</p>	<p>Will involve Trails and Access Officer though tender designed to utilise additional human resource for specific additional tasks.</p>
<p>The Green Ribbon – Evenlode Valley</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)</p> <p>On hold until October due to NLHF Coronavirus response.</p>	<p>Landscape Partnerships type project undertaking landscape restoration works and public engagement activities at selected areas within the Evenlode Valley.</p> <p>EOI submitted in July 2019 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.</p> <p>Research undertaken including a positive meeting with Oxford City Council who have joined the project working group.</p>	<p>Lead partner</p>	<p>Investment of Project Development Officer’s time to take it to development stage proposal submission.</p> <p>If successful NLHF will fund a development stage to take it to full submission</p> <p>Under the new NLHF system we must be confident of delivering a development stage application</p>

	<p>Revised version of the EOI has been written in consultation with the working group.</p> <p>Project area was the subject of a Board site visit in October & four Board Members with a particular interest in this project have been identified. All have been sent the EOI.</p> <p>Reviewing the project following a new timeframe and funding landscape.</p>		<p>within 12 months before submitting a revised EOI.</p>
<p>Engaging with Young People</p> <p>National Lottery Community Fund (formerly Big Lottery) & others</p> <p>Possibly NLHF small fund</p>	<p>Engaging young people in outdoor activities.</p> <p>Young Gloucestershire are including us in a number of bids around outdoor activity staffing and costs. Last contact with them was end January 2020.</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.</p> <p>Young Gloucestershire bid to Comic Relief under their Sport/Activity and Mental-Health pot was unsuccessful.</p>	<p>Partner – delivering countryside activities</p>	<p>Rural Skills programme can accommodate different scales if successful.</p> <p>Bought in activity provision at 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>Landscape projects in mitigation of National Grid power lines</p> <p>Window 6; both of our full applications have been passed by National Grid to go for Ofgem approval. Waiting on final outcome which was originally due in early 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</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</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</p>

	<p>£173,580</p> <p>Window 7; Full application for Hampnett to Chedworth Boundary Restorations (dry stone walling) submitted 10th October. Project value £287,444, bid ask £199,999. National Grid panel keen to pass to Ofgem in February following further photography & mapping.</p> <p>Window 8; We were thinking of applying to the 14th January deadline with the National Trust to help restore the Bridgeman Landscape at Lodge Park This project was first reserve from the last call. The £600,000 limit per protected landscape combined with the outcome of the existing 3 proposals would limit this application to £50k if our other bids are successful.</p> <p>National Trust have decided to try for window 9 instead (June EOI and funding from April 20201). They have been advised that this will come from the next Ofgem price control period (T2) where the £600k limit will be reset, making way for a bigger bid.</p> <p>In preparation for this a project proposal form is being brought to the Executive Committee in May.</p>	Cotswolds.	<p>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>
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