



Research & Innovation Grants

Application Process

The following information will help you decide if your project is eligible or not. Applications must be made on the Application Form which is available on the website. You will be required to sign a contract if your application is successful.

What kind of projects will be supported?

Future Woodlands Scotland is engaged in a range of activities related to the practice and demonstration of sustainable management, conservation and creation of native woodland. We will potentially support a wide range of projects which might include academic research, communications that promote the value of native woodland, or the trialing of innovative approaches to woodland management and enterprise. Essentially any project which, in the view of the Trustees, will benefit the native woodlands of Scotland directly or increase understanding and appreciation of their value. We are unlikely to fund projects which will only benefit one woodland unless it is innovative and the lessons learnt can be applied elsewhere.

You can find examples of previously funded projects on our website.

We are open to receive applications for any projects which can be shown to benefit Scotland's native woodland. However, we are particularly interested in the following:

1. Researching, evaluating, demonstrating or communicating any of the following:
 - a) the contribution of native woodlands to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change
 - b) the contribution which native woodlands can make to environmental improvement, conservation of the natural heritage or the economic and social vitality of communities
 - c) methods for reducing plastic use and Co2 emissions in native woodland establishment
 - d) methods for establishing native woodlands without deer fencing
 - e) methods for introducing, encouraging and managing non tree elements of native woodlands such as ground flora, fungi, insects etc.
 - f) methods for management and control of invasive non-native species in native woodland.
2. Encouraging communication and collaboration among parties interested in achieving the above.

There is no geographical limit for this activity but there must be clear benefits for the native woodland of Scotland. It is incumbent on the applicant to ensure appropriate permission from landowners, any statutory consents or permissions and insurance for the activity undertaken.

Future Woodlands Scotland has a limited fund it can award each year. Trustees will consider all applications at each judging round and will award grants according to the financial resource they have available for those applications they consider will best deliver the charitable objectives of the organisation.



Who can apply?

Any organisation or individual that can demonstrate they have the skills and capacity to carry out the proposed work can apply. Applications demonstrating a partnership approach to achieve common goals are particularly welcome.

What the grants cannot be used for

- General appeals and circulars including contributions to endowment funds.
- Projects which are intended to promote political or religious beliefs.
- Work that does not clearly benefit native woodland in Scotland.
- Core revenue costs for organisations.
- Salary or overhead costs for existing members of staff unless it's under 50% of the total grant. Salary and overhead costs over 50% of grant will be considered for new members of staff required to deliver the project. All costs for specialist contractors required for projects are acceptable.
- Individual students or support organisations for personal study, travel or for expeditions.
- Capital or maintenance costs of providing access or other site-based infrastructure.
- The purchase of buildings and/or land.
- Charities which collect funds for onward distribution to others.

How much can the grants be for?

Grants up to £10,000 are available. Projects which can demonstrate at least 50% matched funding in place will be looked on favourably, but this is not essential. The whole project can be of any size and there is no defined maximum project cost.

Where applicable, the funding will only be granted once match funding has been secured. Match-funding can include in-kind or volunteer support that directly relates to the project.

Budgets

A completed Revenue and/or Capital Budget is required. It is important that you explain any funding already secured; where the funding is from, the amount and whether it is restricted to a particular piece of work or specific post. Please also detail any other projected income, i.e. from applications to other Trusts/Foundations and when you expect to receive a decision on these. Where you have a projected shortfall, please also tell us how you expect to meet this. If the application is from an organisation, a copy of your most recent independently examined/audited accounts may be requested. Other evidence of financial viability may be requested at the discretion of trustees.

If applying for funding towards salary costs, please provide a job description for the post. Please also tell us whether it is a new or existing post.

Legal and compliance

Please confirm that you have met all the legal, insurance and compliance requirements necessary for the undertaking of the work.

Claiming the Funding

If an application is approved, written confirmation of the funding award will be sent to the successful applicant. On return of the signed contract, the Project can then be



Future Woodlands Scotland

Innovative Thinking for Native Woodland

implemented. Payment will be made as detailed in the Grant Offer. Generally, this will be on completion of work and the production of an end of grant report. However, if requested in the application, interim or advance funding will be considered and, if agreed by Trustees, will be detailed in the Grant Offer. All funds should be acknowledged on receipt.

Applications

An application form can be accessed via the website. Completed applications should be returned to: Ailsa Watson at ailsawatson@futurewoodlands.org.uk.

Trustees will consider applications at Trustee meetings in March and October, the deadlines for applications are the last day of February and September in any given year. Once received, your application will be logged, and you will be sent an acknowledgement which will tell you the date of the meeting at which your application will be considered. Decisions will be forthcoming within two weeks of the meetings. If your application has been unsuccessful, we ask that you wait 12 months before reapplying.

For those approaching the end of an existing grant funded project it may be possible to apply for continuation funding. However, successful applicants must demonstrate delivery of the initial aims and objectives, all of which should be well documented within the appropriate end of project report. We may consider requests for continuation funding up to six months before this funding is due to expire.

End of grant report

An End of Grant report will be required prior to final payment so that the impacts of the projects can be recorded and shared. The End of Grant report will include:

- Results of the project compared to initial proposal, including achievements against targets.
- The impact of the project and potential to use the results in the future.
- What difference did the project make and what difference did the Future Woodlands Scotland contribution make.
- The results of any research, evaluation or other works carried out.
- Any substantial alterations to the project.
- The project timescale.
- Breakdown of project costs.

Overall, the report will evaluate the outcomes of the project and confirm what work was carried out. It will explain how objectives were met and will request a robust evaluation of the project. Photographs can also be submitted in the report. It is likely that the report will be published on our web site.

Information and support

If you would like to discuss an idea or project, need support to develop your project, assistance with completion of the application form or have any other questions, please contact Ailsa Watson on ailsawatson@futurewoodlands.org.uk.