



THE EXECUTIVE - INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Date: Tuesday, 11 June 2024

PART 1

1. Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund (**Pages 3 - 16**)

MARK TRILLO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & MONITORING OFFICER

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HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

Individual Executive Decision

11 June 2024

TITLE:	Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund
EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR:	Councillor Greenhalgh- Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure
CONTACT OFFICER:	Lorraine Wright – Head of Regeneration
WARDS INVOLVED:	All wards

Appendices Attached

Appendix 1: Guidance notes – Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund

Appendix 2: Expression of Interest form draft

1. Reason for the Report

- 1.1 Since 2019, there has been a discretionary budget for small regeneration grants (regeneration grant) of £12,000 per annum (total) which was allocated to the three town councils of Chapel-en-le-Frith, New Mills and Whaley Bridge.
- 1.2 New priorities have emerged since 2019 including the new [High Peak Tourism Strategy](#) and the new High Peak Borough Plan 2024-27.
- 1.4 As the period of the commitment to the Central area town and parish councils has now ended, the discretionary regeneration grant budget is being reviewed and will be re-named the Town and Villages Regeneration Fund (the grant) with new recommendations set out below. The total amount available per annum will be £15,000.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 There will be no fixed budget allocations of £4000 for 2023/24 and future years to Chapel-en-le-Frith parish, New Mills or Whaley Bridge Town councils.
- 2.2 The above town and parish councils along with other groups may apply for funding on the basis of having identified appropriate regeneration projects in their town or village.

- 2.3 The Town and Villages Regeneration Fund will be used to fund small projects priorities in the “parished” towns and villages throughout High Peak at the discretion of the Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure.

3. **Executive Summary**

Regeneration grant budgets for 2022/23 were not fully utilised and it is proposed to review these to make their operation more efficient and to allocate funding at the discretion of the Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure to projects which will accrue the most benefit and meet emerging regeneration priorities.

4. **How this report links to Corporate Priorities**

4.1 Aim 3 of the High Peak Borough Plan 2023-27

To protect and create jobs by supporting economic growth, development and regeneration including to:-

- Work to create flourishing town centres and thriving high streets that support the local economy.
- Promote tourism to maximise local benefit

5. **Alternative Options**

- 5.1 The alternative option is to continue to ring fence monies for the three mentioned Town and Parish councils which may remain unspent and not contribute to the overall regeneration of High Peak.

6. **Implications**

6.1 Community Safety - (Crime and Disorder Act 1998)

The grant can contribute to the design and management of the built and landscaped environment to ‘design out crime’.

6.2 Workforce

The grant is managed by the regeneration team who have taken on new responsibilities for UK Shared Prosperity Fund increasing the workload.

6.3 Equality and Diversity/Equality Impact Assessment

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Council's Diversity and Equality Policies.

6.4 Financial Considerations

The annual budget for the grant is £15,000.

6.5 Legal

A grant application process will be introduced.

6.6 Climate Change

The grant can contribute to supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment whilst growing the local economy.

6.7 Consultation

The latest consultations were for the new Borough Plan, the High Peak Tourism Strategy and for the UKSPF Investment Plan which highlighted a number of new priorities.

6.8 Risk Assessment

Risks are limited due to the fact that funding is not paid until evidence of project completion and defrayal is provided.

Andrew Stokes

Chief Executive

**Web Links and
Background Papers**

Contact details

Lisa Hoyland

lisa.hoyland@highpeak.gov.uk

7. Detail

- 7.1 In July 2019, High Peak Borough Council offered the three Parish and Town Councils of Chapel-en-le-Frith, New Mills and Whaley Bridge a three year commitment for regeneration grant support. This equated to an annual grant of £4,000 each (£12,000 each over three years) with a final date for expenditure being 31st March 2022. The grant was required to be equally matched either by the parish council or other resources.
- 7.2 During this three year period, additional monies for regeneration came forward from UK Government for the central area in response to the Toddbrook incident and High Peak Borough Council also recognised that the ability to plan and deliver work was affected by Covid-19. In 2021/22 funds were also available from the UK Government's Welcome Back Fund to aid Covid recovery.
- 7.3 High Peak Borough Council thus agreed for any unspent money to be rolled forward into the 2022/23 financial year, together with an additional one year grant of £4,000 each for 2022/23.
- 7.4 Not all of the allocated funding was spent.
- 7.5 There are many reasons why the funding was not spent by the town and parish councils including the carry forward from 2020 due to Covid, additional funding available following the ToddBrook dam breach and planned projects not going ahead. Chapel-en-le-Firth have managed a successful shop front improvement scheme.
- 7.7 No guarantees were given by High Peak Borough Council regarding any underspends being carried forward to 2023/24.
- 7.8 It is proposed that the re-named Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund should be used to fund small projects in towns and villages throughout High Peak at the discretion of the Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure.
- 7.10 The regeneration grant will be available to all Town and Parish councils and to other properly constituted organisations within the parishes listed below:-
- Bamford with Thornhill
 - Castleton
 - Chapel-en-le-Frith
 - Charlesworth
 - Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside
 - Chisworth
 - Derwent and Hope Woodlands
 - Edale
 - Hartington Upper Quarter

- Hayfield
- Hope with Aston
- King Sterndale
- New Mills
- Peak Forest
- Tintwistle
- Whaley Bridge
- Wormhill and Green Fairfield

7.11 The Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund is aimed at attracting visitors and residents to town and village centres and projects could include part-funding:-

- Improving public (not business) display boards and signage (where the owner's permission is obtained)
- Part-funding (50%) shop front grant schemes
- Production of local walking and cycling trail maps and promotion.
- Improvements to the accessibility of high streets and visitor attractions for disabled visitors and residents
- Small scale environmental tidy ups of public green spaces
- Part funding (50%) creative and makers and heritage events accessible to the public
- Other to be outlined by applicants

7.12 A copy of the proposed guidance notes is attached as Appendix 1.

7.13 With a limited total budget of £15,000 applicants would be expected to match fund where possible.

A copy of the draft proposed Expression of Interest form is attached as Appendix 2.

7.14 It should be noted that Town and Parish Councils, community organisations and businesses will also be able to apply for various strands of funding from [UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Rural England Prosperity Fund](#) to fund specific interventions through a competitive grant process.

7.16 Grants are also available from the [Councillors' Initiative Fund](#) for residents, local groups and businesses to encourage beneficial community activity.

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PURPOSE OF FUND

The Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund is specifically aimed at attracting visitors and residents to town and village centres and projects could include:-

- Improving public (not business) display boards and signage (where the owner's permission is obtained).
- Part- funding (50%) shop front grant schemes managed by parish and town councils.
- Production of local walking and cycling trail maps and promotion.
- Improvements to the accessibility of high streets and visitor attractions for disabled visitors and residents.
- Small scale environmental tidy ups of public green spaces.
- Part funding (50%) creative and makers and heritage events accessible to the public.
- Other – please outline in your application.

Grants from £500 to £4000 can be applied for per applicant.

Applicants will be expected to raise between 20% to 50% of the total project cost from other sources.

Applications can only be submitted by the organisations listed below.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Organisations eligible to apply and manage funds are listed below and must have a bank account.

- **Parish and town councils**
- **Constituted** voluntary and community organisations for example:-
 - Community Interest Company
 - Limited company limited by guarantee
 - Cooperative society
 - Community benefit society
 - Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)

HOW TO APPLY

Applications

There is a two-stage application process, please complete the online Expression of Interest form [test link](#)

- This will then be reviewed and more information will be requested by Officers by email in order to complete a due diligence process to ensure that the proposal and organisation meet the below criteria.
- If a paper form is required please email regeneration@highpeak.gov.uk

CRITERIA

Proposals **MUST**


- be managed by an eligible organisation.
- meet the purpose of the fund (see **Purpose of Fund**),
- demonstrate value for money, and show appropriate efforts have been made to secure other support (including match funding) in the time available to accomplish the project.
- have three written quotes for projects over £2000 (or provide a brief explanation why the Council should waive the requirement in this case).
- have appropriate landowners and planning permissions and insurances and ensure that these are retained by the applicant for audit purposes.
- confirm that the applicant will be responsible for on-going maintenance of any funded project.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Applications will be assessed by regeneration officers and recommendations sent to the Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure to approve projects which will accrue the most benefit and meet the priorities of the fund.
- Payment arrangements will be made in accordance with the Council's Finance procedures for approved projects. Requirements in relation to will be set out in a funding agreement to be signed by successful applicants.
- The Council reserves the right to publicise projects receiving support from the Regeneration Grants. A condition of grants is that grant recipients must cooperate in any media or photography activity organised by or agreed by the Council.
- The Expression of Interest form will be closed when the fund is fully allocated and a notice placed on the [website](#).

To find out how we use your information, please see our [privacy notice](#).

Your ref no: LGNKTRLF



This form was started at:19/03/2024 15:58:31

This form was completed at:19/03/2024 16:03:48

Internal form classification:N / A

To find out how we use your information, please see our [privacy notice](#).

Your ref no: LGNKTRLF

Background Information

Purpose of the Fund

The Towns & Villages Fund is specifically aimed at attracting visitors and residents to town and village centres and projects could include:-

- Improving public (not business) display boards and signage (where the owner's permission is obtained).
- Part- funding (50%) shop front grant schemes managed by parish and town councils.
- Production of local walking and cycling trail maps and promotion.
- Improvements to the accessibility of high streets and visitor attractions for disabled visitors and residents.
- Small scale environmental tidy ups of public green spaces.
- Part funding (50%) creative and makers and heritage events accessible to the public.
- Other – please outline in your application.

Grants from £500 to £4000 can be applied for per applicant.

Applicants will be encouraged to raise between 20% to 50% of the total project cost from other sources.

Data Protection

Your proposal and contact details will be used by High Peak Borough Council for the purpose of delivering the project appraisal and if successful, delivery of the activity.

Please see [High Peak Borough Council's privacy notice](#)

About your organisation

Your name

lisa hoyland

Position within the organisation

regen officer

Organisation Name

high peak borough council

Applicant legal status

- Parish or town council
- Community Interest Company
- Limited company limited by guarantee
- Cooperative society
- Community benefit society
- Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
- Other

Other: please state

borough council

Your address

1

Postcode

SK17 6EL

Email address

lisa.hoyland@highpeak.gov.uk

Daytime contact number

07583 129449

Website address (if applicable) (optional)

www

Social media page (Facebook/twitter/LinkedIn) (if applicable) (optional)

www

To find out how we use your information, please see our [privacy notice](#).

Your ref no: LGNKTRLF

Project

Project location:

Address

buxton town hall

Postcode

SK17 6EL

Parish

- Bamford with Thornhill
- Castleton
- Chapel-en-le-Frith
- Charlesworth
- Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside
- Chisworth
- Derwent and Hope Woodlands
- Edale
- Hartington Upper Quarter
- Hayfield
- Hope with Aston
- King Sterndale
- New Mills
- Peak Forest
- Tintwistle
- Whaley Bridge
- Wormhill and Green Fairfield

Are you the owner of the proposed project site

- Yes
- No

Project Description

e.g new signage and pathway

How does the proposed project meet the Purpose of the Fund (attracting visitors and residents to town and village centres)

explain how it meets the criteria

Who will deliver the project

hpbc

Will you be using sub-contractors or third party suppliers

Yes

No

Proposed project start date (DD/MM/YYYY)

09/09/2024

Proposed project completion date (DD/MM/YYYY)

12/12/2024

Costs

Is your organisation able to recover VAT

Yes

No

What are the estimated costs of the project

2000

How much of your organisations own funds or those from other sources will you contribute to this project

£ (please enter as pounds and pence, e.g. 100.00)

500.00

Is this funding secured or potential

Secured

Potential

Please detail the source(s) of funding

fund raising

Subsidy / State Aid

You are applying for assistance under the UK government subsidy control obligations which **allows a business to receive up to £315,000 of aid in any three fiscal year period. Examples of aid are grants, loans at below market rate, or a loan guarantee at below market rate.**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/subsidy-control-regime>

Have you received a Subsidy or State Aid of more than £315,000 over the last 3 financial years (this includes covid 19 grants)

Yes

No

To find out how we use your information, please see our [privacy notice](#).

Your ref no: LGNKTRLF

Declaration

I confirm that I am authorised to sign on behalf of the Company/Organisation and confirm that the information contained in this application form is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I declare that neither myself as signatory to the application, members of the governing body of the company or agents acting on our behalf have an interest in the awarding of contracts to the suppliers who have quoted for the work.

I understand that any financial assistance granted will be repayable on demand, or future payments not made, if any information provided is found to be incorrect. I give permission for the information contained in this form to be shared, if requested, by the Programme funding body, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and High Peak Borough Council.

I accept that the grant is consistent with most recent UK government law regarding subsidy control.

I understand that if High Peak Borough Council and the High Peak UKSPF Board approve the application, the terms and conditions shall be enforceable on the basis of the Terms and Conditions of the grant scheme.

I understand that providing wrong or misleading information is a criminal offence and any such information may be used against applicants in any subsequent criminal investigation. The information provided on the online application form may be made available to other departments/agencies for the purposes of preventing or detecting crime.

I understand that any grant received by a business must be declared to HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) as appropriate as part of the tax return for the business.

I confirm that the information provided in this application is a true and accurate description of the intended use of the grant.

I declare that I have read, understood and agree to all of the above

Now submit your form using the submit button below.