

Report of the Gower AONB Officer

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 25 September 2017

Sustainable Development Fund

The aim of the fund is to support innovative, sustainable, environmental projects, which involve local communities in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

The SDF aims, through partnership, to develop and test ways of achieving a more sustainable way of living in countryside of great natural beauty and diversity. The scheme seeks to conserve and enhance the local characteristics of culture, wildlife, landscape, land use and community. Sustaining the social well-being and economic viability of communities were also important aims of this scheme.

Applications are for small grants of less than £3,000 or larger grants of up to £25,000. Applications over £3,000 are assessed by the SDF Grants Panel, which is a subgroup of the AONB Partnership Steering Group.

Funding for 2017/18

Welsh Government have confirmed the SDF budget for 2017/18 as £55,000.

There are currently 8 projects with SDF funding for 2017/18, with a further 3 applications in progress.

The Committed Funds figure includes the CCS Management Fee of £5,500 (10%).

Total Funds available	£ 55,000.00
Committed Funds	£ 30,310.00
Uncommitted Funds	£ 24,690.00
Applications anticipated	£ 16,400.00

SDF Grants Panel

The grants panel meets quarterly to consider applications. The proposed dates for 2017/18 are:

- 9th October 2017 (training session)
- 11th December 2017
- 12th March 2018

Mike Scott
Gower AONB Officer
15 September 2017