

AONB National Programme grant application form for grant years 2018-2021

NRW	to	input	AONB	and
	app	olicant	here	

For	NRW	use:
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Grant ID

Grant Application Form for AONB National Programme

All questions must be completed before submitting. This application form is for the AONB National Programme ONLY. This form is available in Welsh and English. Natural Resources Wales welcomes applications in Welsh or English

1. DETAILS			
Programme Title:	GOWER AONB PARTNERSHIP PROGR	RAMME	
Partner Name:	GOWER AONB - SWANSEA COUNCIL		
Contact Person:	Chris Lindley		
Position Held:	Gower AONB Team Leader		
Address:	Swansea Council Civic Centre Oystermouth Road SWANSEA		
Postcode:	SA1 3SN	Telephone:	01792 635094
Mobile phone:	07814 110043	E-mail:	Chris.lindley@swansea.gov.uk
E-mail address whe	re remittance advice should be se	nt:	
cashiers@swansea.g	ov.uk		

Address and Postco	Address and Postcode to which grant payments should be sent if different from above (i.e. the office of your finance Department)			
Address:	Cashiers Department City & County of Swansea Room G2.6 Civic Centre Swansea			
Postcode	SA1 3SN			
Please state your preferred language:	© WELSH			

3	. PROGRAMME DETAILS			
1	Actual Programme Start Date (DD/MON/YYYY):	01/04/2018		
2	Actual Programme End Date (DD/MON/YYYY):	31/03/2021		
3	Reason for NRW Funding. Please provide your re	ason for applying for NRW grant aid as opposed to any other funding opportunities.		

The primary objective for the Gower AONB designation is for the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty in the area. The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 requires Swansea Council to: "take all such actions as appears expedient to them to the accomplishment of the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area..." As the local authority with responsibility for Gower AONB, Swansea Council is required under statute to prepare and publish a management plan for Gower AONB.

The Environment Act (Wales) 2016) requires NRW to consider the Gower AONB Management Plan as part of the evidence base for the relevant Area Statement; the AONB management plan must also take into account the strategic evidence on the natural resources and their benefits - as well as the priorities, risks and opportunities as set out in the Area Statements.

The implementation of the Gower AONB Management Plan is an important tool for the delivery of NRW's statutory purpose for the sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR) and Area Statements when they are published in 2019. This application for NRW grant aid will facilitate activities and processes that ensure alignment and effective delivery of both policy documents.

The proposed programme will deliver a wide range of outputs by the Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Section of Swansea Council and its partners; we have had a successful and longstanding partnership with NRW (and its predecessor bodies) for more than 25 years. Gower AONB has a partnership management structure, with NRW representation. Reporting and management structures have been put in place, so that NRW is able to monitor progress towards the agreed outcomes.

As the Local Authority, Swansea Council is best placed to act as the lead body for the AONB, and has the statutory role, resources and experienced staff to undertake this work.

4	Are you receiving any additional funding for your project? (If Yes please ensure that you have attached proof of match funding)	● YES ● No
5	Please state the legal status of your organisation: Is your organisation VAT registered? If yes, please provide the VAT No: Is your organisation eligible to reclaim VAT?	Local Authority • YES ONO 655 6082 23 • YES ONO
6	Programme Summary: Please provide an overall three-year summary of the	

The implementation of the Gower AONB Partnership Programme is an important tool for the delivery of NRW's statutory purpose for the sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR) and Area Statements when they are published in 2019. This Programme of NRW grant aid will facilitate activities and processes that ensure alignment and effective delivery of both the Area Statement and the Gower AONB Management Plan.

The Programme will deliver a wide range of actions working to achieve the objectives in the Gower AONB Management Plan, particularly in relation to:

- Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB
- Promoting and enabling people's access to (and enjoyment of) the AONB

7 Sustainability. Outline how the programme will deliver or contribute the delivery of the Environment Act (Wales) 2016 for the sustainable management of natural resources, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Well-being Goals, your AONB Management Plan Action Plan and Future Landscapes Wales Implementation Plan.

Using the SMNR principles and Well-being five ways of working, you will need to report against these headings in your Annual Report to NRW.

Report to NRW.			
NRW Priorities Natural	AONB Programme Outcome/ Output & Management Plan Objective	<u>Year</u>	Costings
Resources and / or Well-			
being Goals			
Defing Cours			
A boothing Wales	A CNIP. Drawnana a Cutaama (Cutaut	4	CO (00
<u>A healthier Wales</u>	AONB Programme Outcome/Output		£8 688
		2	£30 060
	8. Prepare for and apply for International Dark Sky designation and management with partners	3	£1 760
	Management Plan Objectives		
	17: Assess current levels of tranquillity, noise and light pollution		
	18: Ensure that the LDP policy and development control decisions protect tranquillity and the		
	night sky of the AONB		
	Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals		
	Physiographical features		
	A prosperous Wales		
	7 Prosperous wates		
	AOND Drawn on Outcome /Outnut		
	AONB Programme Outcome/Output		645 000
A more equal Wales		1	£15 000
	2:_Support ,develop and implement environmental awareness and outdoor learning	2	£15 000
	activities/initiatives enabling schools, colleges and other to use Gower for learning	3	£15 000
	Continue to develop opportunities for educational visits		
	' ''		
	Monitor impact and develop code of conduct		
	Improve facilities at Bishops Wood Countryside Centre		
	Produce educational materials		
	Management Plan Objectives		
	managomont i an objective		
	2. Increase public access to appreciation of and involvement with all the created suclitics of		
	2: Increase public access to, appreciation of and involvement with all the special qualities of		
	the AONB		

	Additional NRW priorities and/or Well-being Goals		
	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language		
Physiographical features	AONB Programme Outcome/Output 9. Scope and deliver a SMNR pilot project in the Burry Pill catchment area - Landscape Character Area 11 (Llanddewi and Reynoldston) Management Plan Objectives 24: Increase the area of the AONB under sustainable land management 25: Support appropriate and sustainable farm and rural diversification and enterprise Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals Biodiversity Air, Water and Soil A resilient Wales	1 2 3	£4 250 £4 250 £ 8688
A Wales of cohesive communities	 AONB Programme Outcome/Output 10. Place planning exercises, including: Pilot a 'Place Plan' project for one village area/community council in the AONB e.g. Reynoldston Gower Village GI/greenspace studies for key settlements in the AONB Develop a caravan/campsite design guide for adoption as SPG Management Plan Objectives 3: Maintain public debate and involvement in AONB issues and management 9:Review and address landscape management issues and priorities for key landscape features and views across the AONB 14: Progress toward Good Ecological Status for waterbodies in the AONB 39: Identify and respond to trends in the range and extent of community facilities in the AONB Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals Physiographical features 	1 2 3	£2 875 £2 875 £2 875

	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language		
A resilient Wales	AONB Programme Outcome/Output 6. Undertake an ecosystems services mapping exercise in the AONB, both existing and potential. Including Carbon storage, flooding, food, habitat connectivity, renewable energy. Link To GI Strategy and Area Statements Prepare Green Infrastructure SPG Prepare Biodiversity SPG Management Plan Objectives 16: Develop an understanding of the ecosystems services provided by the AONB Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals Biodiversity Air, Soils and Water Minerals Physiographical features Climatic features and processes A globally responsible Wales	1 2 3	£1 000 £1 000 £1 000
A prosperous Wales	AONB Programme Outcome/Output 1. Development, Improvement & Interpretation of Countryside Recreational Opportunities 7. Improve access to and within council owned LNRS and Wildlife sites Management Plan Objectives 19: To improve the current standard and level of maintenance of public rights of way so that 95% are open, usable and clearly signposted 20: to improve access opportunities around the Wales Coast Path and the Gower Way 29: Improve the provision of sustainable and active travel networks and services across the	Output 1 1 2 3 Output 7	£33 000 £33 000 £33 000
	AONB	2 3	£5 000 £5 000

Geological features & processes	Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals A healthier Wales A Wales of Cohesive communities AONB Programme Outcome/Output 5. Conserving and enhancing geological features in the AONB, including: Mapping spatial boundaries of RIGs on GIS-Produce interpretation materials for selected RIGs in the AONB Practical management of geological features with landowners, managers, groups, volunteers Management Plan Objectives 2: Increase public access to, appreciation of and involvement with all the special qualities of the AONB [including geology] 6: Ensure that LDP policies and development control decisions conserve and enhance the geological features of the AONB 7: Identify and address management issues and priorities for geological features across the AONB, ensuring that features are visible and available for study Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals A healthier Wales A Wales of Cohesive communities A globally responsible Wales	1 2 3	£1 000 £1 000 £1 000
Biodiversity	AONB Programme Outcome/Output 3. Prepare Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure SPG for the LDP 4. Implement recommendations of management Plans for Council owned SSSIs, SINCs and LNRs in	Output 3	£3 000 £3 000
	the AONB. Review and implement innovative commons grazing management solutions on Fairwood Common Undertake an Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) risk assessment for the AONB -to identify risks and prioritise control actions on INNS that threaten the special qualities of the AONB Continue to monitor and take action to control INNS on Council owned land	2 3 Output 4	£3 000

	Implement of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS) Management Scheme - Continue to support and contribute to RAG Undertake practical biodiversity management, working with contractors groups, volunteers and others Complete review of Local Biodiversity Action Plans for key habitats and species of the AONB. Management Plan Objectives 4: Ensure that the LDP policies and development control decisions conserve and enhance the biodiversity features of the AONB 5: Identify and address management issues and priorities for biodiversity features of the AONB, to achieve Favourable Conservation Status (for sites, habitats, and species) and improve ecological connectivity Additional NRW Priorities Natural Resources and / or Well-being Goals A resilient Wales A globally responsible Wales	1 2 3	£22 350 £22 350 £22 350
A Wales of vibrant culture & culture	AONB Programme Outcome/Output 11. Plan, co-ordinate and implement a programme of walks, talks and events. Develop interpretive materials e.g. leaflets and interpretation panels Support ,develop and implement environmental awareness and outdoor learning activities/initiatives enabling schools, colleges and other to use Gower for learning, including: Continue to develop opportunities for educational visits Monitor impact and develop code of conduct Improve facilities at Bishops Wood Countryside Centre Produce educational materials Management Plan Objectives 1. Increase public access to, appreciation of and involvement with all the special qualities of the AONB Additional NRW priorities Natural Resources and/or Well-being Goals	1 2 3	£18 890 £18 190 £18 890

	A healthier Wales A globally responsible Wales		
A globally responsible Wales	AONB Programme Outcome/Output 12. Develop and implement a landscape photographic monitoring programme Management Plan Objectives 10: Extend the recording and monitoring of the AONB landscape, seascape and key views Additional NRW priorities Natural Resources and/or well-being goals A resilient Wales Physiographical features	1 2 3	£3 482 £2 980 £2 980

8 Publicity: How will you publicise this programme?

Please acknowledge NRW support and provide summary of any publicity in your Annual Report.

Swansea Council is a trusted and experienced grant-aided partner for NRW. We will acknowledge NRW support for the programme at every opportunity - from announcement of any award, during the programme and after its completion. The NRW logo will be included on any information produced about programme delivery e.g. on public consultations, press releases, fundraising information.

Social media post for the Gower Landscape Partnership and Swansea Council will be used to acknowledge NRW support. NRW logo and acknowledgements will be included on all designs or plans we produce, on all specialist reports or surveys and on all tender documents that are funded through the programme.

We assume that any grant offer will include specific conditions around the acknowledgement of NRW support.

9 Equality, diversity and inclusion: How will you ensure that people from diverse background and all-abilities are able to take part in the running of your organisation and in the proposed project?

As an organisation serving the people of Swansea, we are committed to treating people fairly and according to their needs - across all of our services. Swansea Council is fully committed to eradicating discrimination and promoting equality for both our staff and our customers by

treating people fairly and according to their needs.

The Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) puts a specific requirement on us to undertake equality impact assessments (EIA) as a way of examining whether a new or existing function, service, policy, procedure, strategy, plan or project affects any person or group of persons adversely.

10

Welsh language: How will your programme develop and promote the use of Welsh and encourage good bilingual practice?

Our use of the Welsh language is governed by legislation and monitored by the Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner. Council services are available in English and Welsh and we welcome contact in either language.

In general, everything which is produced by, or for, the Council and which is provided to, or visible to, members of the public should treat Welsh and English equally and this applies equally to computer or paper based information, social media, adverts, logos, signage, and anything else.

In addition, any service user is able to interact with the authority through the medium of Welsh, whether face-to-face, by phone or written correspondence. Our Welsh Translation Unit is available to provide translation services between the two languages.

As well as dealing with individuals in this manner, we also produce public documents bilingually, arrange translation services at public meetings and so on across a wide range of issues. We also ensure that we reflect this approach in all publications, logos and design work.

11 Other NRW Funding requests: Please give brief details of any other funding requests you have made, or intend to make, to NRW in this financial period or reference numbers for any other existing funding.

Swansea Council has submitted the following Expressions of Interest (EoIs) in response to the recent open call for NRW support in the 2018/19 financial year:

- 'Gower Hedgerow Hub'
- 'Our Nature, Our Future'
- 'Swansea Wildlife Volunteers'

These EoIs are for projects across the wider Swansea County rather than the Gower AONB. We understand that these EoIs now require full applications and we will ensure that the projects complement (and do not duplicate) the AONB Partnership programme.

12		Revenue – anything under	Please provide a breakdown of costs for each element of your
	75% of the eligible costs of the	£5,000	

programme.	Capital - anything over	project.
	£5,000 Overheads - 7% max	Please note that the costs must relate to outcomes agreed with NRW
	In-kind - see note at end	

1. Countryside	Includes £3,300 annual cash match	Revenue	£ 5,000	£ 5,000	£ 5,000		
Access - development,	funding from Gower	Capital	£ 23,050	£ 23,050	£ 23,050		
improvement &	Society - this is not yet secured. All	Overheads	£ 2,310	£ 2,310	£ 2,310		
interpretation of countryside	other funds are CCS budget funds	Salaries	£ 2,640	£ 2,640	£ 2,640		
recreational opportunities	buuget runus	In-kind					
2. Increase awareness	Includes CCS staff	Revenue	£ 3,000	£ 3,000	£ 3,000		
						 I	,
understanding and	time costed annually at £3,750	Capital	£ 0	£0	£ O		
understanding and appreciation of AONB special		Capital Overheads	£ 0 £ 1,050	£ 0 £ 1,050	£ 0 £ 1,050		
understanding and appreciation of		-					

2	Includes CCS staff time costed	Revenue	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	
3. Prepare Biodiversity and	annually at £750	Capital	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	
Green Infrastructure		Overheads	£ 210	£ 210	£ 210	
SPG for the LDP		Salaries	£ 2,190	£ 2,190	£ 2,190	
		In-kind				
4. Identify & address	Includes CCS staff time costed	Revenue	£ 10,000	£ 10,000	£ 10,000	
management		Capital	£0	£0	£ 0	
issues for biodiversity	and £600 volunteer time in-kind	Overheads	£ 1,520	£ 1,520	£ 1,520	
features of the	annually.	Salaries	£ 10,230	£ 10,230	£ 10,230	
AONB, to achieve Favourable Conservation Status, and to improve ecological connectivity		In-kind	600	600	600	

	Includes CCS staff time costed annually at £250	Revenue	£ 680	£ 680	£ 680		
5. Conserving and enhancing		Capital	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0		
geological		Overheads	£ 70	£ 70	£ 70		
features in the AONB		Salaries	£ 250	£ 250	£ 250		
		In-kind					
6. Undertake an	Includes CCS staff	Revenue	£ 680	£ 680	£ 680		
ecosystems services mapping	time costed annually at £250	Capital	£ 0	£ 0	£0		
exercise in the AONB, both		Overheads	£ 70	£ 70	£ 70		
existing and potential.		Salaries	£ 250	£ 250	£ 250		
potentiat.		In-kind					
	Includes CCS staff time costed	Revenue	£ 3,400	£ 3,400	£ 3,400		
7. Improve access to and within Council	annually at £1,250	Capital	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0		
		Overheads	£ 350	£ 350	£ 350		
owned LNRS & Wildlife Sites.		Salaries	£ 1250	£ 1250	£ 1250		
		In-kind					

8. Prepare and		Revenue	£ 5,000		£ 1,000	
apply for International		Capital		£ 25,000		
Dark Sky designation and		Overheads	£ 600	£2,100	£ 120	
than became and implements		Revenue Salaries	£ 5088	£ 2,960	£ 640	
landscape		ha-kital				
photographic		Overheads Revenue	£1 7,00 0	£1 7,00 0	£5,000	
monftoringd deligerande pilot project in		Salaries Capital	£ 2,960	£ 2,960	£ 2,960	
the Burry Pill		In-kind Overheads	£ 290	£ 290	£ 600	
Landscape Character Area		Salaries	£ 2,960	£ 2,960	£ 3,088	
11 (Llanddewi		Revenue In-kind	£ 49,860	£ 44,360	£ 47,360	
and Reynoldston)		Capital	£ 23,050	£ 48,050	£ 23,050	
Grand Totals		Beechea ds	£ 8,600	£ 500000	£ 8,990	
10. Place Planning		Salai tiels	£ 41,008	£ 40,880	£ 38,688	
exercises		On kinherads	£ 550	£ 550	£ 550	
	Total Project Fu	ı ਮਿਦੀਆਂg s	£21 329 ,028	€449,900	£1,780,038	
		in-kind				
11. Plan, co-		Revenue	£ 15,000	£ 15,000	£ 15,000	
ordinate and		Capital				
implement a programme of		Overheads	£ 1,270	£ 1,270	£ 1,270	
walks, talks and		Salaries	£ 1,920	£ 1,920	£ 1,920	
events		In-kind				

Salary calculation if needed:

Daily rate	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
Role/post name	Salary (F/T	National	Pension	Total	Daily rate
_	equivalent)	Insurance			-
				=	
				=	
				=	

(A) + (B) + (C) = (D). Divide (D) by 220 (working days per year) to show Daily rate (E)

Funding Source	2018-19	2019-2020	2020-2021	Status Secured/ Unsecured	Proof of match funding attached? Yes/No	Comments
NRW	£ 92,271	£ 107,925	£ 88,528.50	Applied to NRW	N/A	
Own	£ 26,857	£ 32,075	£ 25609.50	Secured	No	CCS match funding is based on internal council budget allocation (£514,000), which is confirmed annually. Taking a conservative approach, only a proportion of the budget allocation is assigned to be used as match funding.
Annual grant application to Gower Society	£ 3,300	£ 3,300	£ 3,300	Unsecured	No	This funding is part of a long- standing funding arrangement between Gower Society & CCS.
Volunteer time in-kind	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600	Unsecured	No	Based on conservative estimate of volunteer time.
Total	£ 123,028	£ 143,900	£ 118,038			

If the total funding amount identified in the above table does not equal your total programme costs, or if any unsecured funding is not granted, please provide your organisation's or group's contingency plan. For example, how will your programme alter from its original planned expenditure? Please also note that NRW may have to revise our grant offer and funding rate to reflect any revision of outputs.

CCS match funding is based on internal council budget allocation (£514,000), which is confirmed annually. Taking a conservative approach, only a proportion of the budget allocation is assigned to be used as match funding.

This funding is part of a long-standing funding arrangement between Gower Society & CCS, and we are confident of successful funding bids.

The Volunteer Time In-Kind figure is based on conservative estimate of volunteer time, and is likely to be easily exceeded. Any short fall in match funding is likely to be made up from within council budgets.

Could any part of the programme cause you cash flow problems? If so, please provide details and a current financial statement and cash flow forecast.

No cash flow problems are anticipated from the programme.

14. DECLARATION:

I confirm that the details supplied with this application are correct and any false information may lead to the revocation of any grant aid from NRW.

Signed:	
Print Name:	Paul Meller
For and on behalf of:	Gower AONB Partnership, Swansea Council
Position held:	Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Manager
Date:	02/03/2018

15. Appendices

If necessary, please provide any further details and supporting information.

<u>In-kind Match funding:</u>

- Please note NRW expects majority of match funding to be from local authority or other sources with only a minimal amount of the match to be In-kind using volunteer time.
- Volunteer match funding rates are set out in NRW's Policy on volunteering and rates. These rates will remain the same for the duration of the grant even though the minimum wage may change during this period. There are new volunteer rates for 2018-19, which are in line with current minimum wage.