



South West Peak Landscape Partnership

Landscape at a Crossroads



Local Farm Grant Scheme Information

The South West Peak Local Farm Grant Scheme (LFGS) allows landowners and farmers to apply for a small grant of up to £1000. Match funding is required for most types of projects. The scope for grant applications is broad with many different projects considered. The funding is targeting the conservation and enhancement of the landscape, biodiversity, cultural heritage and those that are beneficial to the public and local community as well as the land managers. The project being applied for must not qualify for funding by any other existing schemes.

Examples of projects that have the potential for funding are:

- Repair/restoration/creation of traditional boundaries - dry stone walls and hedges.
- Conservation management of road verges and farm drives.
- Removal of landscape eyesores, e.g. scrap metal, rubbish etc.
- Enhancement and restoration of species-rich and waxcap grasslands.
- Enhancement of wader habitats and restoration of priority sites.
- Restoration of river and stream habitats.
- Restoration/creation of clough woodlands.
- Local broadband improvements.
- Training courses e.g. PA1,2,6, health and safety, telehandler, first aid.
- Wildlife monitoring/proofing of buildings etc.
- Wildlife monitoring for target species/features.

Grant applications must be accompanied by three comparable quotes. Applications will be scored against certain criteria and must meet the threshold. The grants are offered on the basis that the Land Manager must not be in receipt of any other agri-environment aid for which the accumulated amount would exceed the threshold of EUR 3,500 (c.£3,000) over the last three years (not including Peak District National Park Grant Scheme, Environmental Stewardship or Countryside Stewardship Schemes). This is to comply with State Aid funding rules.

Before a grant can be finalised the applicant must agree to the terms of contract. This will require them to carry out the specified works that funding has been applied for and maintain the project for a minimum of 5 years from the completion date. If this contract is not upheld by the applicant the grant may be withheld or reclaimed at the discretion of the awarding panel. Full maintenance requirements will be detailed and agreed with the applicant once a project has been applied for and an agreement has been approved for funding.

Once approved, grants will be paid upon completion of the work and once receipted invoices associated with the project have been provided.

Example Projects and Associated Funding Rates

Depending on the type of project, the grant will fund differing percentages of the total costs. For most projects a certain amount of funding will need to be provided by the applicant from another source in order to complete the project. Examples of costs:

<u>Project/Activity</u>	<u>Standard Grant Payment Rate</u>	<u>Grant Percentage Equivalent</u>
Drystone walling (major restoration or rebuilding of double skinned).	£18.40 per m	75%
Drystone walling (major restoration or rebuilding of single skinned).	£7.13 per m	75%
Wall Top Wiring	£2.25 per m	75%
Wall Top Netting	£3.00 per m	75%
Hedge Laying	£5.50 per m	75%
Hedge Coppicing	£4.50 per m	75%
Hedge planting/gapping up (6 plants per m)	£4.50 per m	75%
Sheep Fencing (e.g. feature protection)	£4.00 per m	75%
Cattle Fencing (4 strand barbed)	£2.25 per m	75%
Rabbit netting	£1.90 per m	75%
Tree Guards	£1.00 per guard	100%
Wooden Gates (12ft)	£120 per gate	75%
Labour only	£10.00 per hour	75%
Labour & handheld equipment	£12.00 per hour	75%
Labour and machinery (e.g. tractor)	£22.50 per hour	75%
Existing approved stone on farm for wall rebuilding	£10.00 per tonne	
Bought in quarried stone for wall rebuilding	£25.00 per tonne	
Hiring of wildlife cameras	£10.00 per camera per week	100%
Eyesore removal (scrappage costs)	n/a	50%
Training Courses	n/a	75%
Tree planting	n/a	75%
Dew pond restoration (if high priority)	n/a	Up to 100%
Farmland restoration (contractors)	n/a	75%

The above projects are not an exhaustive list and do not guarantee approval. The project must be deemed suitable and beneficial to the local and broader landscape area and not be part of obligatory planning or legal requirements. By applying for a grant, permission is given to allow partners of the South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme to check this is the case.

If VAT is able to be claimed by a VAT registered business, the grant will fund costs exclusive of VAT. If an applicant cannot reclaim the VAT, the grant will fund costs including VAT.

Terms and Conditions of the Peak District National Park Authority Grant Scheme

(Agreement implemented under EC Regulation – De minimis State Aid to Agriculture)

1. The Land Manager must not have been in receipt of any other agricultural state aid for which the accumulated amount would exceed the EC threshold of €15,000 (c. £13,000) over the last three years (not including PDNP Grant Scheme, Environmental Stewardship or Countryside Stewardship Schemes). The PDNPA limit for De minimis funding is €3,500 (£3,000).
2. The Land Manager shall use the Grant only for the completion of the Works and in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this agreement.
3. The Land Manager shall disclose any current or previous relationship, connection or employment the Land Manager has or has had with PDNPA, its members or employees.
4. The Land Manager must not apply for or be in receipt of double funding in respect of any part of the Works or claim for any work covered by an insurance policy.
5. PDNPA's payments for works carried out by a contractor are normally calculated from the lower of three quotations obtained by the Land Manager.
6. No grant can be paid for any work carried out prior to completion of the agreement.
7. All Works must:
 - a. be completed by the deadline specified in the agreement or, if no dates are specified, within a reasonable period;
 - b. be carried out in accordance with recognised good practice;
 - c. meet the standards contained in the guidelines if any issued with the agreement;
 - d. be maintained in a sound and reasonable condition for the maintenance period of five years after completion of The Work.
8. The Land Manager must ensure that before commencing any Works all necessary consents for the Works are obtained from any landlord, PDNPA or other organisations (e.g. planning consent, felling licence, or Natural England, English Heritage or Environment Agency approval).
9. Grant will be paid on completion of the Works to the satisfaction of PDNPA, following an inspection by PDNPA, and (in the case of work undertaken by contractors or materials) following receipt of receipted invoices.
10. Persons authorised by PDNPA shall be entitled to inspect the Works at all reasonable times.
11. PDNPA accepts no liability whatsoever for any liabilities arising out of the Works, and the Land Manager shall indemnify PDNPA in respect of all liabilities arising out of the Works; subject to this PDNPA's liability is limited to the amount of Grant.
12. The Land Manager acknowledges that:
 - a. PDNPA is subject to the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004;
 - b. PDNPA may, acting in accordance with these statutes, be obliged to disclose information relating to the Grant;
 - c. its personal data may be shared with persons or organisations helping PDNPA to assess and monitor grants, and other grant distribution bodies and government departments;
 - d. PDNPA may make information about applications, grants and claims publicly available, including Land Manager's name, address, the payment received and details of the purpose of the Grant; Grants of the value of £250 or over are published on PDNPA's website.
13. The Land Manager may not assign, transfer or sub-contract the benefit of this Grant agreement or any of its rights to any third party, without the prior written approval of PDNPA.
14. In any of the following circumstances:
 - a. the Land Manager breaches any of these terms and conditions, or
 - b. it becomes apparent to PDNPA that the Land Manager is the subject of any enforcement action or other pending investigations from either the PDNPA, other public agencies or other regulatory bodies or organisations, in respect of planning or environmental matters, or
 - c. the Land Manager has given false, misleading or inaccurate information to PDNPA, or
 - d. the Land Manager has taken any actions which, in the reasonable opinion of PDNPA, bring or are likely to bring PDNPA's name or reputation into disrepute,PDNPA may at its discretion withhold or suspend payment of the Grant in whole or in part, and/or require immediate repayment of all or part of the Grant (together with interest).
15. Any exceptions or variations to these terms and conditions shall only be valid if approved in writing by PDNPA.