

CRITERIA

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT OPERATIONS LTD (LLAOL) GREENER FUTURE FUND

A FUND MANAGED BY
BEDFORDSHIRE AND LUTON COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

FUNDED BY
LONDON LUTON AIRPORT
(as part of its community engagement approach)



INTRODUCTION

The Greener Future Fund is administered by the Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation (BLCF), on behalf of LLAOL. LLAOL aims to support projects that enhance local biodiversity and environmental education through innovative community initiatives. This fund is only open to organisations based and delivering activities within a 5-mile radius of Luton Airport. Successful applicants will demonstrate how their proposals can positively impact the local environment and community.

HOW MUCH CAN GROUPS APPLY FOR?

Grants of up to £10,000 can be considered for organisations based and working within a 5-mile radius of the airport.

Funded activity must fit with one of the priorities of the fund. **Up to 15%** of the grant can be used **for core costs**, such as rent and utilities. The rest should be used for project or activity delivery costs. If you have any queries, please contact us at administrator@blcf.org.uk

For exceptional one-off innovation projects with significant, sustainable environmental impact, the panel may consider higher bids. Such applications will follow the same process.

Successful projects must be completed within one year, commencing on the date agreed with BLCF. Grantees will be required to submit interim progress reports and a final monitoring report, typically due within two weeks of project completion.

OBJECTIVES

The fund enables non-profit groups and organisations in the community to apply for funding to support the following areas:

- Increasing biodiversity.
- Environmental education.
- Carbon reduction initiatives.

Examples

- Increasing biodiversity through re-wilding, tree planting, grass restoration, hedge row planting, vegetable gardens and habitat.
- Having a positive impact on the environment through monitoring local species, raising awareness of pollution (air, soil, water), waste reduction and other environmental awareness and behaviour-change projects.
- 'Net Zero'* and other carbon reduction initiatives which aim to reduce emissions and improve air quality. Innovation projects are particularly welcome.

**Net Zero definition: Cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance. Source UN.*

We particularly welcome applications that provide educational initiatives to build sustainability and legacy in the above areas, as well as high-impact innovation projects.

We Fund

Registered charities and other not-for-profit groups making a positive difference to people in the community (i.e. community groups, sports groups, PTAs, etc).

You need to be able to demonstrate that you have:

- A constitution or other governing document.
- A committee of at least 3 unrelated Trustees / Directors (no-one with 'significant control').
- Good financial management and health, without large free / unrestricted funds.
- A comprehensive safeguarding policy (for work with children / adults at risk).
- A clear plan to work in partnership with others.
- Sought funds from a range of sources, made efforts to become self-sustaining, and have a clear strategy for when funding ends.

If your organisation is a social enterprise (including CICs) there is specific guidance available [here](#).

If you are making a consortium or partnership application, the 'lead organisation' submitting the bid must be eligible according to the list above. Please contact us first if you hope to apply as a consortium / partnership.

We Do Not Fund

- Groups with 3 or more active BLCF grants.
- Groups who have provided low quality monitoring on previous grants.
- Groups outside of a 5-mile radius of Luton Airport.
- Individuals.
- National organisations (unless clear local benefits).
- Private Limited Companies (except Community Interest Companies - CICs - limited by guarantee).
- Profit-making organisations.
- Organisations or activities that promote political parties or religion. (We do fund activities that demonstrate wider public benefit).
- Professional marketing / advertising (unless you can demonstrate that this is only to publicise the funded work to engage beneficiaries).
- Professional fundraising.
- Retrospective costs.
- General appeals or sponsorship.
- Animal welfare, unless the project directly benefits people.
- Trips (excluding respite care) and / or fundraising events.

Supporting Documents

We require a full budget breakdown and project plan for the project or activity. You must also upload the following supporting documents with your application:

- Annual accounts - most recent signed annual accounts and / or management accounts, which have been audited / independently examined where required.
- Governing documents - constitution, memorandum and articles, articles, or set of rules.
- Bank statement - date within 3 months, in the name and correct address of the organisation applying with at least 2 unrelated signatories.
- Equal opportunity policy.
- Safeguarding policy.
- Trustees and directors (names, roles, confirmation of any related trustees / directors and any other potential conflicts of interest).

Monitoring & Evaluation

Successful applicants must complete interim and end-of-project monitoring reports. We will ask how you spent the grant, including providing receipts. You will need to tell us about the project outcomes, impact, important issues, and lessons learned. We will contact successful applicants to discuss progress and organise visits to help with learning and development.

Before beginning the project, please consider:

- Who will write your reports.
- Your aims and objectives.
- How will you measure progress.
- What information you will collect:
 - Numbers (quantitative data) – how many people use the service, goals achieved (e.g. employment, improved health).
 - Stories / Case Studies (qualitative data) – user / volunteer feedback, observed increase in skills, confidence, etc.
 - Learning – user / volunteer feedback, what went well, what would you do differently, etc.
 - Partner feedback.

Additional Information

All applications are thoroughly assessed, including due diligence checks (more information [here](#)). Only applications which clearly meet the fund's criteria will be presented to our panel of local volunteers. We reserve the right to decline or accept any application according to the grants panel's decision.

We encourage all applicants to explore other funding sources. Your local Community Voluntary Service (CVS) can provide funding advice. For Bedfordshire CVS, visit www.cvsbeds.org.uk

To find out more about what we mean by **biodiversity** you may find the following websites helpful:

[What is biodiversity? | Pages | WWF \(worldwildlife.org\)](#) or [What is the state of biodiversity in the UK? | Royal Society](#)

For help around what we mean by **carbon reduction**, you may find the following websites helpful:

[What is Net Zero? - Net Zero Climate](#) and [Charity Digital - Topics - How charities can engage in carbon accountability](#)

Equal Opportunities

We commit to promoting equal opportunities and valuing diversity regardless of any protected characteristics.

If you have any queries, please contact us at administrator@blcf.org.uk