

Top tips for applying for funding to the National Lottery Heritage Fund

The National Lottery Heritage Fund supports all sorts of projects that enable people and communities to connect with heritage. Heritage can mean different things to different people. It can be anything from the past that you value and want to pass onto future generations. Projects could include anything from capturing people's memories of a particular event or daily life, researching people and places, looking after natural habitats and wildlife, celebrating sporting traditions, helping people to learn traditional skills, delving into diverse cultures or exploring a local museum collection.

You do not need to be a heritage organisation to apply to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The Fund supports all sorts of not-for-profit organisations including youth groups and youth organisations as well as community groups and charities.

Here are a few top tips from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to help you through the process:

- Assume we have no knowledge of your organisation, tell us your organisation's expertise and capacity to deliver the project you are planning
- Tell us about the approach you are taking to involve young people in the design and development of the project right through to project evaluation
- Explain the benefits this project will provide for participants for example learning new skills and connecting with others
- Tell us why the heritage is important to you and your group
- Speak to relevant heritage organisations to find out what support and expertise they can offer
- Carefully consider all the costs you will need to deliver this project and that they are as accurate as possible
- The outcomes section of the application form is really important section to explain how your project will achieve the criteria for the programme you are applying to
- Clearly define your project from the outset, think about what will happen throughout your project and how the project will end
- Think about how you will evaluate your project and build this into your project from the beginning
- Get in touch with us before you apply, our Engagement team can provide additional advice and support to first time applicants
- Ask someone else if they can read your application before you apply and don't forget to answer all the questions asked!

For more information on how to apply to National Lottery Heritage Fund, visit their website <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/> and for any questions contact Annie Mottisfont, Engagement Manager, Scotland at Annie.Mottisfont@heritagefund.org.uk
