

Parks for People

UK wide scheme with two application deadlines:-

- 28 February 2009 for a decision in June 2009
- 31 August 2009 for a decision in December 2009

Parks for People aims to regenerate public parks of national, regional or local heritage value for the enjoyment and recreation of local people. Funding will be available for not-for-profit organisations that own or manage a public park. (Although a further note lower down the info states: "Most applications are expected to be led by local authorities but HLF state that other not-for-profit organisations are welcome to apply. ")

Fund Value is £90M; minimum award will be £250,000 and maximum will be £5M. At least 5% of the funding must come from the organisations own resources. A further 25% of project costs should come from partnership funding, which can be in either cash or non-cash contributions.

The Parks for People programme began as a joint initiative between the Big Lottery Fund and the You can submit a first-round or second-round application at either date: Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). However, full responsibility for the programme will pass to the Heritage Lottery from April 2009.

The programme is aimed at projects involving urban and rural green spaces designed for informal recreation and enjoyment. Existing parks only not new or major re-designs. The fund is for projects which can offer a wide range of activities that increase knowledge about the park's natural, designed and cultural heritage and provide volunteering and training opportunities. Projects should demonstrate that they meet the needs and interests of the local community, bringing real improvements to local environments and resident's quality of life.

Parks for People funds activities such as:

- the creation of a community history of the park and local area;
- heritage activities designed with young people – possibly through schools and colleges;
- horticultural demonstrations and workshops;
- recording and measuring bio-diversity;
- heritage trails and talks for all;
- heritage courses and workshops for adults;
- historical re-enactments and community drama and music.

Capital work is also supported.

Info: England:

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/Parks%2Bfor%2BPeople/>

Info: Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland <http://www.hlf.org.uk/NR/exeres/3FA9BB9F-80A5-43C6-B7E0-A45E6F52EAD0.frameless.htm?NRMODE=Published>