

**Guidance Notes** 2024/2025

## PURPOSE OF FUND

The Towns and Villages Regeneration Fund is specifically aimed at attracting visitors and residents to town and village centres and eligible projects could include:-

- Improving public (not business) display boards and signage (where the owner's permission is obtained).
- Part- funding (50%) shop front grant schemes managed by parish and town councils.
- Production of local walking and cycling trail maps and promotion.
- Improvements to the accessibility of high streets and visitor attractions for disabled visitors and residents.
- Small scale environmental tidy ups of public green spaces.
- Part funding (50%) creative and heritage events accessible to the public.
- Other please outline in your application.

### LEVEL OF FUNDING

Grants from £500 to £4000 can be applied for per applicant.

Applicants will be expected to raise between 20% to 50% of the total project cost from other sources. In most cases grants will be paid after the project is complete and evidence of payment has been submitted.

You must be in a position to be able to spend and claim your grant by the 31 March 2025.

# WHO CAN APPLY?

Organisations eligible to apply and manage funds are listed below and must have a bank account.

- Parish and town councils
- Constituted voluntary and community organisations for example:
  - Community Interest Company
  - Limited company must be limited by guarantee
  - Cooperative society
  - Community benefit society
  - Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)

The regeneration grant will be available to all Town and Parish councils and to other properly constituted organisations within the parishes listed below:-

- Bamford with Thornhill
- Castleton
- Chapel-en-le-Frith
- Charlesworth
- Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside
- Chisworth
- Derwent and Hope Woodlands
- Edale
- Hartington Upper Quarter
- Hayfield
- Hope with Aston
- King Sterndale
- New Mills
- Peak Forest
- Tintwistle
- Whaley Bridge
- Wormhill and Green Fairfield

# **HOW TO APPLY**

#### Please complete the online Application form

- This will then be reviewed and more information will be requested in order to complete a due diligence assessment to ensure that the proposed project and organisation meet the grant criteria.
- If a paper form is required please email <u>regeneration@highpeak.gov.uk</u>.

# CRITERIA

## Proposals **MUST**

- be managed by an eligible organisation.
- meet the purpose of the fund.
- demonstrate value for money, and show appropriate efforts have been made to secure other support (including match funding) in the time available to accomplish the project.
- have three written quotes for projects over £2000 (or provide a brief explanation why the Council should waive the requirement in this case).
- have appropriate consents in place including; landowner's permission; planning permissions and insurances and ensure that these are retained by the applicant for audit purposes.
- confirm that the applicant will be responsible for on-going maintenance of any funded project.
- Be in a position to spend and claim funding by 31 March 2025.

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Applications will be assessed by regeneration officers and further information may be required as part of the Due Diligence assessment. Recommendations will be considered by the Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure to consider funding projects which will accrue the most benefit and meet the priorities of the fund. If successful, applicants will receive a grant funding agreement which will need to be signed by the applicant.
- Payment arrangements will be made in arrears once the project is complete and evidence of expenditure is submitted. This is in accordance with the Council's Finance procedures for approved projects and will be set out in the Grant Funding Agreement.
- The Council reserves the right to publicise projects receiving support from the Regeneration Grants. A condition of grants is that grant recipients must cooperate in any media or photography activity organised by or agreed by the Council.