

Sussex Lund 2020

Criteria and Guidance Notes



Sussex Lund is a grants programme of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin. It supports small-scale, practical projects that improve the landscape of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

What area does the programme cover?



The programme is focused on the High Weald AONB (which covers parts of West Sussex, East Sussex, Kent and Surrey) but applications from nearby areas will be considered.

It supports projects in the wider countryside as well as those in hamlets, villages and towns, such as churchyards, school grounds, recreation areas and roadside verges.

Who do we support?

Sussex Lund is open to everyone: community groups, schools, churches, parish councils, charities, businesses, farmers and landowners. If you are a private landowner or a for-profit organisation you will need to demonstrate that the landscape and public benefit is greater than any private gain.

Sussex Lund will consider applications from past applicants for new projects, but not for the continuation and maintenance of previously funded projects.

What projects do we support?

Sussex Lund will consider supporting any project that makes tangible improvements to the High Weald's landscape. For example projects that:

- Improve its habitats such as creating ponds and wetland, removing non-native species (for example rhododendron and leylandii), planting new hedges and restoring old ones, planting trees, coppicing woodland, planting orchards, developing more species-rich grassland, putting up bird, bug and bat boxes or creating more wildlife-friendly allotments and greenspace.
- Improve its scenic beauty such as planting street trees, reducing sign and light pollution, removing or screening eyesores, replacing 'hard', man-made boundaries with soft, natural boundaries, clearing litter.

- Improve access such as installing boardwalks to prevent damage to wetland habitat, creating new access points to green spaces, creating new paths to link existing routes and replacing stiles with gates.

Sussex Lund will not contribute towards the costs of educational or outreach activities, though they may form part of your project. It will consider training costs as part of a project that achieves tangible change.

How much can I apply for?

One-off grants of between £500 and £10,000 are available. Ideally you will spend the grant within a year of accepting your grant offer but projects that take longer will be considered.

Sussex Lund may award larger grants for collaborative projects involving two or more organizations (eg, community groups, charities, parish councils). The Panel may also consider larger grants to single organizations working with multiple landowners on projects that cross landowner boundaries and enable people to share skills and equipment.

Do I need match funding?

There is no requirement for match funding, however, the Grants Panel decision will take into account your own or others' commitment to the project in the form of cash, in-kind support or time.

When can I apply?

The Panel considers applications once a year. The closing date for 2020 applications is **2pm on Monday 2 March 2020**.

How do I apply?

If you are considering applying it is essential that you contact us for informal advice about the suitability of your project and tips on how to submit a strong application. We may recommend a free site visit to help you with your project development and planning. It is important to us that the applications we receive have a good chance of success. You can download the application form from www.highweald.org/SussexLund.

Submitting a strong application

The Panel will be looking for projects with a strong evidence of need and long term benefits, that provide value for money, follow good environmental practices, have a low carbon footprint and can inspire wider change. Below are some questions to consider before applying and when completing your application form.

- Do you have a management plan for your site/project? A plan will demonstrate that your project is well considered. *If you don't have a plan, but think one would be useful, we may be able to help you with any costs.*
- If you need support for equipment, how often, and for how long, will it be used? How will it be maintained? Can you hire the equipment rather than purchase it? Can you loan it to others so the benefits are greater?
- Have you avoided pesticides (unless essential, for example in non-native species control)?
- Have you avoided use of non-sustainable materials, such as peat and plastic, and used more sustainable materials such as peat-free compost or British or local timber?

- If your project involves planting, are you using species typical of the High Weald and are they from reputable sources? Can you use 'whips' or younger trees which are cheaper than standard trees?
- Have you minimised the carbon footprint of your project by considering the CO₂ impact of the goods and services you are choosing?
- For organizations with an annual income of more than £300,000, is your project in addition to what you would normally be expected to do? Can you use your reserves?
- What is the public benefit of your project? For projects on private land, is your project visible from roads or public paths?
- Are your project management costs/overheads justified and a reasonable proportion of your overall costs?
- How will you maintain your project once complete?

When will my project be assessed?

We will present your application to the Sussex Lund Grants Panel in June. We will tell you the Panel's decision in July.

Past projects

The interactive map on our website provides information on projects supported so far. The information is also available as pdfs. The Sussex Lund newsletter may also provide further inspiration.

Who to contact

Sussex Lund is administered by the High Weald AONB Partnership in collaboration with Lund Trust, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin .

For an informal discussion about your project please contact one of the Partnership's land management advisers, Ross Wingfield 01424 725604 or Christine Meadows on 01424 723009 or email us at sussexlund@highweald.org



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A charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin

