

North York Moors National Park Authority Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee

25 November 2013

External Funding

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update Members on the work currently being undertaken to secure external funding to support some of the Authority's work programmes and priorities

2. Background

- 2.1 This report provides a brief update on projects for which external funding is being sought.

3. Projects Approved

- 3.1 **This Exploited Land:** it is pleasing to report that the Stage One bid submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund on 30 May was given approval on 22 October 2013. Funding of £198,000 has been granted to carry out the Development Stage of the Scheme which must be completed by 31 October 2015. The overall approval is for £3m (the maximum level of grant), subject to a successful Stage Two approval at the end of the Development Phase.

- 3.2 The bid was one of 3 given approval in the Yorkshire and Humber Region and 9 across the UK out of a total of 24 submissions. The total sum allocated to this Region was £7m out of £21m total for the Landscape Partnerships Programme.

- 3.3 A press release issued on 30 October has produced some positive articles in the national, regional and local press.

- 3.3 The TEL Landscape Partnership's Executive Group met on Friday 8th November to begin the planning and programming process for the second stage.

- 3.4 **ANPA Conference:** prizes were secured from two local companies to support the Green Travel Challenge at the recent Conference. Pace Cycles supplied a new cycle for the main award which went to Snowdonia National Park. Raven Hall Hotel provided a short break for the second award which went to National Parks England. Letters of appreciation have been sent.

4. Projects Submitted/Awaiting Decision

- 4.1 **Arts Projects:** a small bid has been made to the Tour de France Cultural Festival Fund to support an arts project to celebrate the Grand Depart in 2015. If successful, this will have a piece of dynamic sculpture at its centre involving children from schools in the National Park. An exhibition would be staged at the Moors Centre gallery in the run-up to the Grand Depart.

4.2 **Coastal Communities Fund:** officers are continuing to look at the potential of bidding for funds to support a project around Staithes which would meet the economic criteria of the fund whilst delivering Park purposes.

5. **Projects rejected**

After a lengthy delay, it was disappointing to learn that our bid to the Department for Transport for Cycling in National Parks was unsuccessful. However, the Partnership created to develop this bid is enthusiastic to see some, if not all, of the component projects completed but as part of a long term strategy. A number of potential projects will be further investigated for viability to develop.

6. **Financial and staffing implications**

This Exploited Land's Development Phase requires the appointment of a Programme Manager which will be 90% funded by the HLF advance grant. It is a requirement that all new HLF-funded posts are publicly advertised so this process has commenced. The match-funding has been previously agreed from a fund held in NPA reserves for TEL. In the meantime, the External Fundraising Officer is continuing to work on the TEL project.

7. **Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

7.1 The TEL project will contribute to a significant number of National Park Management Plan policies:

- E5 Conservation of the archaeological heritage
- E8 Increased knowledge and awareness of the archaeological heritage
- E9 Development of the traditional skills base
- E11 Conservation and restoration of existing habitats and enhancing connectivity
- E13 Improved riparian wildlife habitats
- E27 Increased understanding of the geological assets
- E36 Better connected and more resilient woodland habitats, restoring PAWS
- U10 Increased awareness of the National Park by visitors and regional population
- U12 Sense of place created
- B1 Visitor spend will be increased
- B23 Modern and traditional skills will be developed within the workforce
- C2 Opportunities for volunteering will be created
- C3 Communities will be involved in plan-making and delivering projects
- C4 Communities will be supported celebrate and record local heritage
- C5 The interpretation of the landscape and cultural heritage will be encouraged

8. **Legal Implications**

8.1 The NPA will be required to enter into a standard grant funding agreement with the HLF for the TEL project. There are no other legal implications associated with this report.

9. **Recommendation**

9.1 That Members note the success of the This Exploited Land bid and approve the external funding work currently being undertaken.

Contact Officer
Stephen Croft
External Fundraising Officer
Tel No 01439 772700