



## GBSLEP Habitats Grants Programme 2018-2020

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

The GBSLEP Habitats Grants programme is funded through Priority 6 of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

**The first stage in applying for an ERDF Small Habitats Grant is to complete this expression of interest form. Please mark your selected answer with an 'X'**

Although the Habitats Grants Programme is managed by Solihull MBC, grants are available to projects **across the GBSLEP** for projects which **improve land and water in habitat value**.

To submit your completed form or if you need any advice please email the Small Habitats Grants Project Officer(s) on: [esif@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:esif@solihull.gov.uk)

<b>Main Contact:</b>		<b>Phone Number:</b>	
<b>Organisation:</b>		<b>Type of Organisation:</b>	
<b>Location of Project:</b>		<b>Email Address:</b>	
<p>Please give a brief description of what your project is and what activities you intend to carry out as part of the project below. (Max 500 words)</p> <p><i>Please attach a map of the location of your proposed project with the area outlined.</i></p>			
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>		<b>Hectares Improved (approx.):</b>	

1/ Is the land that you're improving located within the GBSLEP area? Yes  No

The GBSLEP is made up of the following areas:

- Birmingham
- Solihull
- Bromsgrove
- Redditch
- Wyre Forest
- Cannock
- Lichfield
- East Staffs
- Tamworth

2/ Is your project going to make improvements to an area of land or a watercourse? Are those benefits environmental and ecological? Yes  No

We are looking for projects which might include the following;

- Grassland creation
- Woodland improvement
- Wildflower seeding
- Wetland Improvement
- Access improvements through land that was also being improved
- Hedgerow planting
- Tree planting
- Planting of native species
- River Restoration

We are not looking for:

- Formal planting schemes
- Installation of recreational facilities
- Installation of football pitches

**A grant will only be given for land which our ecologist can verify has been improved for people and wildlife.**

3/ Is the land openly accessible to the public? Yes  No

3.1/ If no, is the land designated to become publically accessible? Yes  No

**(Please be aware at Full Application stage Proof of Ownership or documents to show the process is being carried out will be required)**

Projects will only be funded where the land is open to the public and where people are free to enter and enjoy the space.

**4/ Is your organisation eligible to apply for a grant?**

Yes  No

To be eligible to apply for a grant from the Small Habitats Grants Programme your organisation must be one of the following:

- Charity
- Statutory organisation
- Not for profit organisation
- Community or voluntary organisation
- Parish or Town Council
- SME

At application stage we will have proof that your organisation exists either through the provision of a copy of the governing document/constitution/terms or reference or charity number or most recent set of accounts.

We can also only give you a grant if your organisation has a bank account which has two unrelated signatories.

**4/ Do you have 60 % (or greater) in other funding that you can put towards this project?**

Yes  No

**5/ Will you be able to cash flow the project? (Grant payment will be made on a monthly or quarterly basis, this is dependant on the correct supporting evidence being received and verified)**

Yes  No

To be eligible for a grant the recipient must be able to cover 60% the total project cost.

Other funding could come from money that your organisation already has, other funding that you have applied for or staff time of the people working on the project.

**6/ Are you planning on completing the project before December 2020?**

Yes  No

**7/ Please confirm you are aware that by receiving a grant from the Small Habitats Grants programme you/ your organisation will comply with ERDF Rules and Regulations in line with the current guidance. (These will be provided upon award of the grant)**

Yes  No

If you are uncertain about any of the questions asked or want to know more before completing the form please email [esif@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:esif@solihull.gov.uk).