

COASTAL REVIVAL FUND

An invitation to apply for funding
July 2015

Hastings



Blackpool Promenade



Norfolk beach huts



The Lighthouse at New Brighton



Courtesy of Emily Green

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Ministerial foreword

Ten per cent of the English population live in coastal communities, and many more visit regularly for business and pleasure. Many coastal towns and villages are vibrant and growing, and all have huge potential.

Many of our coastal areas have suffered a decline of traditional industries and employment over the past decades, but they are rich in heritage sites, military history, community spirit and a determination to make local areas thrive.

The government is now inviting bids to a new £3 million Coastal Revival Fund that will help kick-start the revival of at-risk coastal heritage that has the potential to create opportunities for new businesses and jobs. This prospectus sets out how to apply for funding.

These grants will support communities looking to unlock the economic potential of those hard-to-tackle buildings and landscapes, facilities and amusements, such as Martello towers, parks, piers, lidos and promenades. We will do this by funding the initial work to get restoration projects underway, acting as a catalyst that attracts additional financing from the private and charitable sectors.

The government is keen to help coastal areas to make best use of such heritage assets to provide both community and economic benefits.

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Minister of State for Coastal Communities



Introduction

The government is committed to supporting coastal communities. We have invested £91 million so far in England through the Coastal Communities Fund which will deliver over 11,000 jobs, provide over 6,000 training places and apprenticeships, and attract over £128 million of further investment. The Coastal Communities Fund has now been extended with at least a further £90 million to 2020/21.

We have also recently put in place support for new 'Coastal Community Teams'. These teams will bring together local authorities, businesses, charities and communities and create a network of partnerships. Together with government, these will tackle issues facing coastal communities in England, harnessing the ideas, enthusiasm and pride of local people.

The government is now also inviting bids for a £3 million Coastal Revival Fund, which is grant funding to be spent in 2015/16.



This Coastal Revival Fund will support projects to help revive heritage assets that are important to local communities but have not yet reached their full potential or are facing neglect. The grants will support communities looking to unlock the economic potential of those hard-to-tackle buildings, landscapes, facilities and amenities and sustain them in the longer-term.

By paying for the initial or supporting work to get restoration projects underway, this Fund will act as a catalyst to attract additional financing from the private and charitable sectors. It will boost local economies by tapping into the opportunities that the heritage economy offers to new businesses and existing firms keen to grow. It will support projects that demonstrate the creativity, enterprise and passion needed to help seaside towns become year round destinations in which people want to live and work.

We are therefore inviting bids from local communities, charities and councils of up to £50,000 per project, by 23:59 on Monday 14 September.

Purpose

The overall aims of the Coastal Revival Fund are to:

- Support local communities and local authorities to develop long term strategies for dealing with coastal heritage assets.
- Support material improvements to historic structures, sites and assets to help secure their long-term future and continued use.
- Encourage the sustainable use of heritage and community assets in coastal areas to provide a focus for community activities and enhanced economic opportunities.
- Encourage greater local partnership working in coastal areas.
- Support the development of local solutions to economic issues facing coastal communities.
- Help develop innovative ideas in response to the particular challenges often faced in dealing with the ongoing maintenance and use of heritage assets in coastal locations.

This pack sets out information on the government's Coastal Revival Fund and explains the requirements to be fulfilled to access the funding.

To apply, applicants should complete the form available at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/coastal-revival-fund-bidding-prospectus-and-application-form and return it to

coastalcommunities@communities.gsi.gov.uk by 23:59 on Monday 14 September 2011.



The Coastal Revival Fund

The funding

- There is a total of £3 million in revenue and capital grant.
- Funding is for the 2015/16 financial year and must be spent by 31 March 2016.
- There is no minimum bid, the maximum bid is £50,000.
- Funding may form part of a larger and/or longer term project.

The Fund is available for both revenue and capital expenditure. The actual split between these types of grant will depend on the bid approved.

The Fund can be spent on the improvement, repair or regeneration of structures or sites. It may also be used for the initial works that will help revive the structure in the longer-term, such as feasibility studies, conservation management plans, legal advice on development and architectural surveys. So, for example, an application could be made to the Fund to pay for a survey on a derelict building with a view to renovating that building at a later point when further funding has been secured.

Margate Dreamland



Dais, Farris Dance Collective on Chatham Sun Pier



Eligibility for funding

Projects

The project should contribute to the improvements of a particular heritage or community building, structure or public area. Examples of eligible sites and assets include seafronts and public squares, as well as piers, parks, promenades, lighthouses, lidos, marinas, military structures and so on.

The outputs of the specific project do not need to constitute tangible improvements, but there should be a clear link between what the project aims to achieve and planned future improvements to the asset.

Location

Organisations are able to apply for funding to support projects located in coastal communities in England. For the purpose of the Fund, a coastal community is:



‘Any coastal settlement within an English local authority area whose boundaries include English foreshore, including local authorities whose boundaries only include estuarine foreshore. Coastal settlements include seaside towns, ports and other areas which have a clear connection to the coastal economy.’

This is the same definition that was used in relation to the Coastal Communities Fund.

Applicant organisations

Applications will be accepted from Coastal Community Teams, local authorities, charities, community groups and organisations, including social enterprises.

Funding will be passed to local authorities to hold and disburse on behalf of projects. All projects must ensure that one of their local authorities is willing to act as their accountable body.

Where applications involve other sources of funding, bidders should consider whether their bid will be affected by rules governing other funding sources. All applicants should evaluate whether their project will comply with the rules on State Aid under European Union law.

Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on how well projects meet the following criteria:

1. The project involves a site or asset which is of particular value locally.

Applicants are asked to explain the local value of the asset or site and why it would justify investment. The value does not need to be financial. It could, for example, set out the history behind the project and identify whether it has a listed or scheduled status and whether it has been identified as ‘at risk’ by Historic England. For more information, please see www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list.

2. Deliver a sustainable community benefit (though this may be realised at a later stage of larger projects/ schemes).

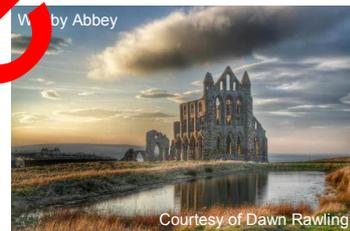
Applicants are asked to explain how the project would provide a benefit to the local community, and not just to a limited number of individuals. For example, if the long-term aim of the project was to regenerate a particular building then, following the completion of the project, that building should be available for use by/ open to the public rather than sold for private gain.



Applicants need to set out the intended community benefit, the scale of the impact and how they will make sure it is achieved. Some inclusion of quantified information would be particularly useful.

3. Deliver a sustainable economic benefit (though this may be realised at a later stage of larger projects/ schemes).

The Coastal Revival Fund is intended to help improve the economic sustainability of coastal assets and coastal communities more broadly. Applicants are asked to set out how the project is intended to bring about economic improvements to the area and the scale of that impact. For example, improvements to a public space may bring in greater numbers of tourists, which could then provide additional custom for local businesses. Some inclusion of quantified information would be particularly useful.



4. Have demonstrable support from any Coastal Community Team for the area, the local community and relevant local authorities.

Projects need to have evidenced support from their local community and applicants are asked to set out what engagement there has been with local people. If there is a Coastal Community Team in the area then the applicant should obtain their support for the project. Contact details for Coastal Community Teams can be obtained from the Department for Communities and Local Government.



In addition to this, projects will need the agreement of their local authority that the authority will act as the accountable body for this funding, as set out on page 8.

Further prioritisation

If the available funding is oversubscribed, then we will prioritise schemes based on the scale of the impact in the main criteria. We may also use the following factors:

- Evidence of the likelihood of unlocking additional funding or investment.
- Whether the building, structure or area in question is on the National Heritage List for England (www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list).
- Creating a geographical spread of projects around the English coast.



Multiple applications

The application should relate to a specific building, structure or public area. It is therefore feasible that a single organisation could bid for more than one project. In assessing the applications, attention would focus on the capacity to deliver fully to each project and cohesion with existing Coastal Community Teams and/or other community funding and projects.

Expected outputs

We anticipate a range of different proposals so the outcomes will vary but they will broadly include:

- Improvement or reuse of a local asset.
- The prospect of tangible benefit to the community and economy.
- Access to additional funding from the private and/ or charity sectors.



Transparency and engagement

Any successful applicants to the Coastal Revival Fund will be expected to spend funds in an open and transparent way. We would expect plans relating to the projects to be publically available and information on progress made available to local residents and groups. In addition, we will expect details of the projects and progress to be made available to the Department for Communities and Local Government.

All projects funded by the Revival Fund will be encouraged to promote the work they are undertaking to local people and to encourage local support for the project.

Funding arrangements

Funding will be passed to the local authority that has agreed to be the accountable body for the successful applicant.

How to apply

Applications will only be accepted on the official application form, which can be downloaded at www.gov.uk/government/publications/coastal-revival-fund-bidding-prospectus-and-application-form.

A confirmation letter from your accountable body must be submitted with your completed application. Please do not send any other additional documents.

The closing date for applications is **23:49 on Monday 14 September 2015**.

Electronic applications are preferred and should be sent to coastalcommunities@communities.gsi.gov.uk. Paper applications will also be accepted and should be sent to the following address:



Coastal Revival Fund
Coastal Communities Team
Department for Communities & Local Government
3rd Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Hard copies must arrive no later than Tuesday 15 September 2015.

Any queries should be directed to coastalcommunities@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

Information required

Please complete all sections of the application form, and ensure we are able to understand:

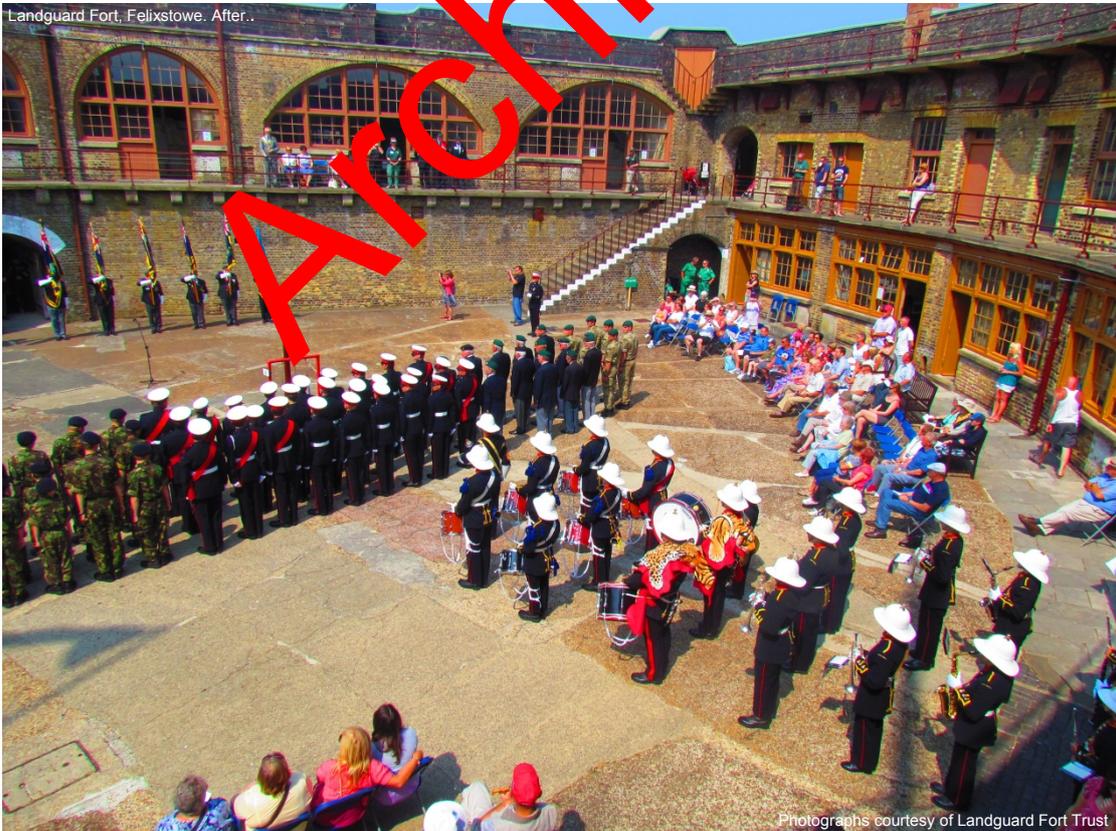
- Which local authority has agreed to be your accountable body.
- Whether there are any Coastal Community Teams in the project area and, if so, whether they are involved with or support the project.
- The commitment and support from your local area for the intended aims of the project.
- An outline of the key priorities for the coastal area.
- How the proposed project meets the criteria, demonstrates suitability for funding, and how it will make a difference.
- How much funding is sought, confirmation that the funding will be spent by 31 March 2016, and a breakdown of how the grant will be used.

- Where the project has other sources of funding, details of the rest of the funding.
- How the project will be transparent in its activities and in the use of the grant.
- Confirmation that the project will comply with the rules on State Aid under European Union law.

Landguard Fort, Felixstowe. Before.



Landguard Fort, Felixstowe. After..



Photographs courtesy of Landguard Fort Trust