



Guidance Note 1 Flagship and National Projects Application Deadlines

Flagship Projects

Access to Nature has the discretion to award a maximum of 5 Flagship awards. These awards will be for in excess of £500,000.

The main decision making meeting for Flagship projects will be the Independent Grants Panel meeting to be held on 25/26th February 2009, however, there is the opportunity for the 15/16th October meeting of the Independent Grants Panel to make awards. The following table sets out the **final** deadlines for applications.

Stage 1 Application	Stage 2 Application	Grants Panel Meeting
11 th July 2008	8th August 2008	15/16 th October 2008
17 th October 2008	14 th November 2008	25/26 th February 2009

Flagship projects must have a national impact and significance. These awards will support projects that have an England-wide focus and make a significant and lasting impact on community awareness and participation. These larger grant awards aim to enhance the capacity of the voluntary sector so that it is in a stronger position to meet the needs of communities and to encourage more active involvement in the natural environment. Grant awards will include projects that aim to complement and harness community engagement through awareness raising campaigns.

For grant applications seeking a flagship award the project **must** fulfil the following criteria:

- be asking for a grant of more than £500,000
- cover the whole of England in a thematic sense ie provide solutions to national scale issues **and/or** cover the whole of England geographically
- be able to demonstrate greater added value than a regional or multiregional project; **and**
- enhance the capacity of the voluntary sector; **and**
- come from the national office of the organisation and be managed from that national office.

Flagship project example: A project asking for a grant award of £545,000, that brings together all the NHS trusts in England with the environmental sector to develop a national campaign to take patients out into the natural environment to speed up their recovery period. The project will put in place processes so that engagement continues in the longer term through existing outdoor volunteering/exercising opportunities.

National Projects

Access to Nature will also make National awards. National project Stage 1 applications will be accepted at any time up until the end of June 2010.

National awards will be for **less than £500,000** for projects which aim to address national scale issues. These projects must:

- cover the whole of England in a thematic sense i.e. propose solutions to national scale issues
- and/or**
- cover the whole of England geographically
- and must**
- demonstrate greater added value than a scaled up regional or multi-regional project

Ideally the application should come from the national office of the organisation and be managed from that national office. If however, an application comes from a region or branch of a national organisation it must be endorsed by a letter from the chief executive of the national organisation.

Example of a national project: A project, costing £325,000 run by a national youth organisation working with national conservation organisations to develop and promote volunteering opportunities for young people in the natural environment in a young person friendly way using new media e.g. websites, social networking sites, mobile phone texts, to increase longer term volunteer recruitment in this sector.