

UKSPF Landscape Maintenance & Volunteer Programme Call Specification

Applications are invited from organisations interested in providing landscape maintenance and an associated volunteer programme to meet the priorities of the Basildon UKSPF Investment Plan. The criteria for this call is:

- This application call window **opens on Friday 19th July 2024 and closes on Monday 19th August 2024**.
- The applicant needs to be able to deliver the two project outcomes:
Outcome 1: Landscape Maintenance - to improve and maintain green spaces.
Outcome 2: Volunteer Programme - to develop and engage with a volunteer group to support the maintenance and long-term stewardship of green spaces.
- There is no match funding and the maximum amount available is £38,640.
- The grant money is to support the delivery of the project outcomes for a minimum of three years but should be seen as an investment which will create a robust legacy that will continue after the funds have been spent.
- The grant will be paid in full at conception, establishing a working relationship built on transparency and trust and emphasising the intended use of the funding as an investment in a long-term programme as opposed to payment for services delivered.
- Regular progress reporting will be required throughout the lifespan of the project to illustrate the outcomes of the work to UKSPF.
- All applications will be assessed in relation to how they meet the aims of Basildon's UKSPF Investment Plan priorities (as covered in the details below and in the application form).
- To be eligible, applicants must be one of the following formal registered legal entities:
 - A registered charity
 - A co-operative
 - A social enterprise or community interest company
 - A not-for-profit company limited by guarantee
 - A statutory organisation such as a local authority, health board or school.
- This fund is to help inform activity relating to the betterment of Basildon and its communities. It is not for activities that are for the exclusive benefit of the applicant organisation. It is therefore anticipated that the fund will mainly be of interest to organisations that provide support to communities and public spaces.
- In line with UKSPF ambitions, we are particularly keen to support organisations that can offer wider benefits for physical town centre regeneration schemes (including public realm); improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure; the creation & improvement of green and blue infrastructure, including community gardens, watercourses & embankments; enhanced educational, cultural, historic and heritage facilities; built/landscaped environment schemes to 'design out crime'; support for active travel infrastructure enhancements; and local sports and leisure facilities.
- The precise areas the programme is to provide stewardship for is to be agreed with the applicant but as a minimum will include those shown on the document named 'Basildon UKSPF Maintenance Fund Scope':
 - All planters and planting beds installed as part of the 'Urban Greening' Project between Autumn 2024-Spring 2025. Further details to be provided following installation but this involves a 100 sqm planting bed in Basildon Town Square and minimum 25 planters located in town centres across the Borough.
 - BBC-owned existing planting beds and planters in Basildon Town Centre and in the vicinity of the new planters in the Borough. As a minimum this would include those to East Square and St Martin's Square. These areas will be replanted to a reasonable standard before handover for maintenance.
- Activities include, but are not limited to:
 - monitoring the condition of green spaces
 - carrying out landscaping work
 - recruiting, training and retaining volunteers to take part in landscape work and community events

- running events to encourage engagement in green spaces to establish wider social and wellbeing benefits and long-term stewardship (e.g. community planting days, biodiversity/bug counts)

Please direct all enquiries to businessassist@basildon.gov.uk