



Cronfa Partneriaeth Eryri

Background Information

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Introduction

About Cronfa Eryri – The Snowdonia Fund

Cronfa Eryri (the Snowdonia Fund) is a fund of approximately £100,000 per annum which is administered by Snowdonia National Park Authority with the assistance of Fforwm Eryri. The Fund's purpose is to support projects which will achieve the [purposes, aims and objectives](#) of the Snowdonia National Park Partnership Plan ("The Partnership Plan").

The broad purposes of the National Park are as follows:

1. Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
2. Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of national parks by the public

We also have a duty to:

- Seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the national parks

You can view a copy of the current Plan [here](#)*.

The new National Park Plan will be focused on working together with partners delivering within the National Park in order to jointly achieve its aims. The Plan will have sustainable development at its core and have the objectives of the Well-being of Future Generations Act deeply embedded within it.

Cronfa Eryri offers grants of between £1,000-£25,000 per year (normally up to a maximum of 3 years – though this is flexible) and can cover both [capital and revenue expenditure](#). [Match funding](#) of 50% or above is normally required. Initial [screening](#) is carried out by a National Park Officer who then provides a shortlist to Members of Fforwm Eryri - which meets on a quarterly basis - for approval/rejection. [Expressions of interest](#) will be published regularly on a specific theme. Deadlines for submission will correspond with the Fforwm Eryri meetings and will be published along with the expressions of interest.

Cronfa Eryri also includes a small grant fund – for grants of up to £1,000. This grant can cover both capital and revenue expenditure and likewise does require match funding. Approval/rejection is decided by a National Park officer and subject to funding there are no deadlines for submission.

* The new Partnership Plan is due to be published in 2019 following extensive consultation. In the interim the current National Park Plan will be used as our guiding document.

Who Can Apply?

There are no restrictions on who can apply for funding. However, it is expected that most successful applications will be submitted by organisations, community groups and other partnerships. Individuals or individual businesses can only be beneficiaries where the project shows clear benefit to the wider community and National Park.

What Projects Will We Fund?

A wide variety of projects can be funded. Although the National Park Authority is administering the fund with the help of Fforum Eryri, any group or organisation can submit projects. Projects must meet at least one of the National Park's purposes, but the emphasis can be economic, health & wellbeing, social, cultural and/or environmental. Most projects will be in the National Park but some outside may be funded if they show clear benefit to the Park.

Successful projects are likely to include some or all of the following elements:

- Practical work – from the most local, to projects covering the whole of the Park.
- Project development such as officer costs, group development, partnership development
- Research, which will include learning from good ideas from elsewhere
- Awareness raising and training about sustainability - at a philosophical or a practical level

Eligibility

Projects supported shall contribute to key Strategic Objective areas of the National Park Plan (“The Plan”) as summarised below:

- Carbon Management
- Improving Habitats
- Enhancing Landscapes
- Promoting Cultural Heritage
- Improving access and understanding opportunities for all
- Supporting sustainable communities

See the next section on [Project Outcomes Guidance](#) for detailed information on how projects can help contribute towards these objectives.

The Plan and the Fund also aim to contribute towards achievement of the Welsh Government's Well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Projects supported therefore shall help contribute towards these goals. The well-being goals are:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales

- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales

Expressions of Interest

During the year we will release new themes or 'Expressions of Interest' for grant applications. Applications that meet the additional requirements of these themes will be awarded additional scoring. You can view our latest themes on our [website](#).

These themes are created in partnership with and have the approval of Fforwm Eryri. Themes will be publicised via Forum members, the press, direct contact with relevant partners and other relevant partnerships/ funding schemes. Each Theme will include a short brief to give guidance to applicants on the type of applications that would be considered. Officers from the Authority will offer support to advise candidates.

It is anticipated that it will be necessary to set 4 strategic areas (to accord with the purposes of the Partnership Plan) to be implemented within the financial year – at a rate of 22.5% for all areas, with the remaining 10% for applications under £1,000. These strategic areas will form the basis of the Expressions of Interest.

For expediency, requests for less than £1,000 will be decided by officers of the Authority, and reported to the subsequent Forum.

Fforwm Eryri members will be able to offer relevant schemes for these funding sources however a declaration of interest *must* be completed and our strict guidelines followed to ensure that no conflict of interest occurs.

Project Outcomes Guidance

What we want Cronfa Eryri to achieve

Here's how project outcomes can contribute towards the National Park Plan strategic objectives:

Outcomes for Carbon Management

- ✓ The effects of climate change are managed through mitigation and adaptation projects, including reductions in climate changing gas emissions, reductions in energy consumption and improved flood risk management.
- ✓ Good quality, sustainable designs are promoted in new and existing buildings.
- ✓ Sustainable management of waste is achieved.

Outcomes for Improving Habitats

- ✓ Habitats and species as notified in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Natura 2000 sites are protected and enhanced.
- ✓ Ecological connectivity is promoted between sites within Snowdonia and its environs.
- ✓ The project ensures sustainable use of high quality inland and coastal waters, including the marine environment.
- ✓ The project facilitates the prevention and removal of soil contamination and promote remediation.

Outcomes for Enhancing Landscapes

- ✓ Distinctive landscapes and character types including areas of tranquillity are protected and enhanced.
- ✓ Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Sites (RIGS) and general geodiversity are protected and enhanced.
- ✓ Innovative projects emanating from the UNESCO Biosphere designation in the Dyfi Valley are developed.

Outcomes for Promoting Cultural Heritage

- ✓ Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and listed historic landscapes are understood, valued, protected and enhanced.
- ✓ Non designated sites, structures and the wider historic environment are understood, valued, protected and enhanced.
- ✓ Local diversity and distinctiveness, including linguistic identity are celebrated.

Outcomes for Improving access and understanding opportunities for all

- ✓ Access to open space on land and water, including existing public rights of way is improved.
- ✓ The area accessible to people with disabilities and those from different social backgrounds is increased.
- ✓ Objectives within the Recreation Strategy for Snowdonia National Park are achieved.
- ✓ Understanding and enjoyment of the National Park's special qualities are promoted.
- ✓ Understanding and enjoyment of the Welsh language and cultural identity is promoted.
- ✓ The use of sustainable transport for visitors is promoted.

Outcomes for Supporting Sustainable Communities

- ✓ Promote safe, healthy and sustainable communities, including provision of housing to meet proven local needs.
- ✓ Promote economic growth in the environmental goods and services sectors.
- ✓ Assist in delivering regional objectives relating to sustainable tourism.
- ✓ Promote community involvement.
- ✓ Promote and improve sustainable transport services, including bus, train, walking and cycling.
- ✓ Reduce traffic and parking pressures.

How project outcomes can contribute towards the well-being goals

As mentioned above, by supporting projects that are delivering sustainable development the Fund is also contributing towards achievement of the Welsh Government's Well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The well-being goals are:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales

- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales

“Our vision is for Snowdonia National Park to be a hub for well-being with sustainable development at its heart”

The Welsh Government has produced a list of **National Well-being Indicators** – these are measures of the nation’s well-being. We’ve identified those indicators in **Appendix 1** which by working together we can really influence. *No matter how small each individual contribution is collectively we can make a difference.* **We’ll ask you to tell us how your project contributes to the indicators in Appendix 1.**

Further details on how these National Indicators are measured can be found here:

<http://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/161115-national-indicators-for-wales-technical-document-en.pdf>

Cronfa Eryri and the Welsh Language

The Welsh language is one of the special qualities of Snowdonia National Park. In the 2011 census, 58.6% of the Park’s population were Welsh speakers. The Welsh language is therefore a fundamental part of our cultural heritage, which we have a duty to conserve and enhance (as defined by the National Park Authority’s statutory purposes).

The National Park Authority has an adopted Welsh Language Scheme which sets out how to treat the Welsh and English Language on the basis of equality. Under the Language Scheme, and also giving consideration to the Welsh Language Commissioner guidelines on awarding grants and loans; the Authority ensures that the principle of language equality is reflected in any grant supported activity. Therefore, when we award grants under Cronfa Eryri, we will normally include the following conditions with regard to the use of Welsh:

- Any face-to-face services or activities, in which the public will take part, should be available through the medium of Welsh and English.
- Any printed material to be produced should be fully bilingual (this includes leaflets, booklets, signs, posters, marketing, publicity and display materials).
- Any website pages to be funded by grant must be published in Welsh and English.

Costs That Can Be Covered by the Grant

The fund will provide project grants, management grants (to support staff costs) and development grants (to provide a catalyst for new action or partnership). Your application should include all costs that are directly incurred as a result of the project. Direct project costs include:

- new staff posts to deliver the project;
- extra hours for existing staff to deliver the project;
- payments/bursaries for trainees;
- professional fees;
- capital work;
- activities to engage people;
- evaluation;
- promotion;
- extra costs for the organisation, such as a new phone, extra photocopying, new computers or extra rent.
- **Revenue costs/expenditure** = money you'll need to support new and additional recurring project costs e.g. salaries, rent, heat & light;
- **Capital costs/expenditure** = "one-off" expenses e.g. for the purchase of equipment or building works.

Costs That Can Not Be Covered by the Grant

- The fund can't cover the cost of existing staff time (unless they will be transferring into a new post or given clearly defined new duties to deliver the project, or will be given additional hours to deliver the project).
- The fund can't cover existing organisational costs.

Applicant Contributions

We ask applicants and their partners to make a contribution towards the scheme. We describe this as 'match funding' and it can be made up of cash, volunteer time, in-kind non-cash contributions, or a combination of all of these.

- The maximum match amount will normally be 50% but this figure is flexible and is subject to a financial maximum of £25,000 per year for up to three years.

The Application Process

How we Evaluate Applications

Fforwm Eryri will be responsible for assessing applications following the recommendation of a National Park Authority officer. The Forum - which includes nominated representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors - will assess all recommended applications for grants over £1,000. The Forum meets on a quarterly basis (to find out deadline dates for submitting applications please contact the Sustainability and Community Officer).

For schemes over £1,000, the evaluation process begins with the initial screening process - the Authority will be responsible for this step. An officer(s) will ensure that each project is consistent with the principles of the fund (see below).

A consideration of applications will be a standard item on the agenda of all the Forum's meetings. Once the budget has been spent for the year, the Forum will receive updates from candidates and/or officer(s).

Grants of up to £1,000 will be decided by officers of the Authority and subject to funding there are no deadlines for submission.

Principles of the fund

When we assess applications we will consider the following:

- **How do the outcomes of the scheme meet the published theme(s):** These are the [expressions of interest](#) that are regularly released. Four themes will be released per year.
- **Does the project accord with National Park purposes and its duty?** Namely:
 - 'to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area'
 - 'to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park by the public'
 - In pursuing these purposes, it is required that the NPA seeks to foster the economic and social wellbeing of local communities.
- **How do the outcomes of the scheme meet the National Park Plan strategic objectives?** These objectives are set out in the [Project Outcomes Guidance](#) section.
- **How do the outcomes of the scheme contribute towards the well-being goals?** These are also set out in the [Project Outcomes Guidance](#) section.
- **Does the fund address the challenges facing the communities, environment and economy of Snowdonia National Park?** The fund will not finance similar schemes within the same year or similar schemes after the life of a related scheme has come to an end (this is in order to guard against related schemes being funded year after year).
- **Does the application display partnership working?** The lead candidates from each scheme will need to demonstrate clearly how relevant partners offer input (these partners can include members of the Forum as long as they **declare an interest**).

- It will be possible for members of the Forum (including the Authority) to submit projects for consideration. It will be *essential* for any member with a connection(s) with an organisation submitting an application to **declare an interest** and adhere to our strict guidelines.
- **Does the scheme include the rate of match-funding from other sources (including volunteer time)?** Normally, Cronfa Eryri would not offer more than 50% of the total cost of any scheme and the amount any one scheme can receive from the fund will not exceed £25,000 p.a. for up to three years (e.g. projects funded up to a three year maximum would receive £25,000 p.a., i.e. £25,000 x 3 = £75,000).

Each scheme that successfully responds to the above will be presented to members of Fforwm Eryri – and this will be a standard item on the Fforwm’s agenda. More than one scheme could be supported under each Expression, although this will not necessarily mean that additional grant funds are available. Forum members could possibly ask potential candidates to work together to maximize benefits. Once the budget has been spent for the year, the Forum will receive updates from candidates and/or officer (s).

Each scheme supported via the Fund would be subject to the standard conditions of grant and any additional conditions that apply.

As the Authority would be offering the grant, it would be necessary for the Chief Executive (or a Director in his absence) to sign the offer letters.

Appendices

Appendix 1: National Indicators for Wellbeing

National Indicators for Wales
National Indicators for Wales as required by section 10(1) of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
No.3. Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours (not smoking, healthy weight, eat five fruit or vegetables a day, not drinking above guidelines and meet the physical activity guidelines)
No. 5. Percentage of children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours (not smoking, eat fruit/vegetables daily, never/rarely drink and meet the physical activity guidelines)
No. 9. Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked (relative to UK average)
No. 10. Gross Disposable Household Income per head
No. 11. Percentage of businesses which are innovation-active
No. 12. Capacity (in MW) of renewable energy equipment installed.
No. 13. Concentration of carbon and organic matter in soil.
No. 14. The Ecological Footprint of Wales.
No. 15. Amount of waste generated that is not recycled, per person
No. 16. Percentage of people in employment, who are on permanent contracts (or on temporary contracts, and not seeking permanent employment) and who earn more than 2/3 of the UK median wage.
No. 17. Gender pay difference

No. 18. Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age
No. 20. Percentage of people moderately or very satisfied with their jobs
No. 21. Percentage of people in employment
No. 22. Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups.
No. 23. Percentage who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area
No. 24. Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need.
No. 25. Percentage of people feeling safe at home, walking in the local area, and when travelling
No. 26. Percentage of people satisfied with local area as a place to live
No. 27. Percentage of people agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different Backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect.
No. 28. Percentage of people who volunteer
No. 29. Mean mental well-being score for people
No. 30. Percentage of people who are lonely.
No. 32. Number of properties (homes and businesses) at medium or high risk of flooding from

rivers and the sea.

No. 33. Percentage of dwellings with adequate energy performance.

No. 35. Percentage of people attending or participating in arts, culture or heritage activities at least three times a year

No. 36. Percentage of people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh

No. 37. Percentage of people who can speak Welsh

No. 38. Percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week

No. 39. Percentage of museums and archives holding archival/heritage collections meeting UK accreditation standards

No. 40. Percentage of designated historic environment assets that are in stable or improved conditions

No. 41. Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales.

No. 42. Emissions of greenhouse gases attributed to the consumption of global goods and services in Wales.

No. 43. Areas of healthy ecosystems in Wales.

No. 44. Status of Biological diversity in Wales

No. 45. Percentage of surface water bodies, and groundwater bodies, achieving good or high overall status

No. 46. The social return on investment of Welsh partnerships within Wales and outside of the UK that are working towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

<http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/communities/socialenterprise/measure/?lang=en>