

Local
Food



Local Food

Frequently Asked Questions

Local Food FAQs

Where's the money coming from?

The money is coming from the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme.

What is Changing Spaces?

Changing Spaces is the Big Lottery Fund's programme to help communities enjoy and improve their local environments. Local Food forms part of the Changing Spaces programme.

Who's managing Local Food?

Local Food has been developed by a consortium of 15 organisations, and is managed on their behalf by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT).

What kind of projects will it fund?

We will be looking to support projects that fit under our five themes. Projects could include growing, processing, marketing and distributing local food; composting and raising awareness of the benefits of such activities (see Programme Outline).

Who can apply?

Not for profit community groups and organisations in England.

Can Local Authorities apply?

Local Authorities are unable to apply directly to Local Food. However, they can be a formal partner in a bid with a community 'not for profit' organisation.

Can schools apply?

All types of schools can apply to Local Food directly if they can demonstrate additionality (that the proposed project includes initiatives outside of core funded activities) and meet Local Food's criteria (see Programme Outline).

What other organisations can apply to Local Food?

Other types of organisations including Hospitals, Universities, Primary Care Trusts and Churches can apply to Local Food directly if they can demonstrate additionality (that the proposed project includes initiatives outside of core funded activities) and also meet Local Food's criteria (see Programme Outline)

How much can I apply for?

Local Food will offer three levels of funding

Small Grants - £2,000 to £10,000

Main Grants - £10,001 to £300,000

Beacon Grants - £300,001 to £500,000

Are there deadlines?

For the **Small and Main grants** there are no deadlines, it is a rolling programme, although all funded projects must be completed by March 2014.

All **Beacon Grants** will be assessed in a single competitive round. The timetable for Beacon Grants is as follows:

- **Spring 2008** – First Stage Application Form available
- **May 2008** – First Stage Application Form deadline
- **End of May 2008** – Eligible projects to be sent Full Application Form
- **October 2008** – Full Application Form deadline
- **February 2009** – beacon grants announced
- **March 2014** – all beacon grants must be completed

If you are thinking are applying for a Beacon Grant, we would strongly suggest you begin to plan your proposal now and do not leave it until you have received your First Stage Application Form.

Is the process the same for all three levels of funding?

No, Small Grants has a far quicker turnaround time than Main and Beacon Grants. The forms and assessment will also be simpler.

Do I have secure matchfunding?

Projects have to secure the following level of matchfunding depending on the size of its grant.

Projects applying under the Small Grants Scheme do not require matchfunding.

Main Grants Total Project Costs	Total Matchfunding Required (% of total project costs)
£10,001 to £20,000	No matchfunding required
£20,001 to £100,000	10%
£100,001 to £300,000	20%
£300,001 and over	30%

Of your total match funding, at least 50% has to be cash

What costs can I apply for?

Both Capital and Revenue costs can be applied for under Local Food

Can I claim for 100% capital funding?

For projects that request a grant up to £300,000, a maximum of 80 per cent can be requested for capital costs. By capital costs this means all capital expenditure, not just land and building related costs. A minimum of 20 per cent of the grant requested must be for revenue costs.

For individual projects that request a grant from £300,001 - £500,000, there is no percentage limit on the capital grant requested. They can be 100 per cent grant funded.

Will Local Food fund land and buildings costs?

Yes, Local Food can fund Land and Building costs. However, please be aware you will be required to provide all the necessary documentation both prior to your project being assessed (i.e. options appraisal), and if your project is successful, all the necessary security documentation (i.e. certificate of title, planning permission).

How do I get a Full Application?

Only projects that are successful at First Application Stage will be invited to submit a Full Application.

For how long will Local Food run?

All funded projects must be completed by March 2014.

When can I apply?

The fund will be open to applications in Spring 2008. Please keep an eye on our website www.localfoodgrants.org for regular updates. In the meantime, we strongly recommend that you start to develop your project idea.

Will there be anyone to help me?

There will be advisers based around the country that will be on hand throughout the duration of your project. More details will be posted on our website when this service becomes available.

When will application packs be available? Where can I get them from?

The fund opens to applications in Spring 2008. Application packs will be available from a dedicated call centre. The contact telephone number will be posted on our website www.localfoodgrants.org nearer the time or will be forwarded to you by email

How do I find out the latest information on Local Food?

Keep an eye on www.localfoodgrants.org. The site will be kept up-to-date with the latest information.

Please note that we cannot answer specific questions about your project at this time.