

PRESS RELEASE

Sustainable Development Fund open for Tamar Valley projects

As Tamar Valley communities begin to ease out of lockdown, we're pleased to confirm that this year's Sustainable Development Fund is open once again for 2021. Applications are welcome for small grants to support projects that help to conserve, enhance or celebrate the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. There is £5,000 in total available for grant requests of between £500-£1,000 for projects that will benefit the area.

The Fund continues to encourage individuals, community groups and businesses to work together to develop practical and sustainable solutions to the management of their activities across the AONB.

The range of projects previously supported in the Tamar Valley includes the enhancement of village halls, wildlife conservation projects, small-scale renewable energy schemes, water-based recreation, advice for rural businesses and a number of exciting education-based projects.

Dan Cooke, AONB Manager, says; "After the strains of lockdown and COVID-19, it's great to offer a little something positive for local communities in the Tamar Valley. Though modest in scale, the Sustainable Development Fund could help kick-start some of those project ideas and initiatives that have been thought about over the past year. If you've got a good idea, please contact us, or apply to fund it."

Due to its success in 2019, Tamar TLC will offer a small community grants scheme alongside the SDF, for community groups and individuals to access smaller sums of money to help their projects. Four grants of £250 each are available to bid for.

If you have an idea for a project, where £250-£1,000 would help to conserve or enhance the area, or get people involved with the work of the Tamar Valley AONB, please get in touch.

- Closing date for applications – 12 noon, Friday 16 July 2021.
- Applicants to be notified w/c 26 July 2021.
- Successful projects must be completed by 31 January 2022 (1 March 2022 for Tamar TLC small community grant).

Please visit <https://www.tamarvalley.org.uk/tvaonb-caring/> (and scroll down to Sustainable Development Fund) for guidance notes/application forms. Applicants are strongly advised to discuss project ideas with AONB staff before submitting a completed application to ensure eligibility. Please email enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk in the first instance.

ENDS

Notes to Editor

- The main aim of the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) team is to protect and enhance the landscape of this special area.
- It is a partnership of Cornwall and Devon County Councils, South Hams District Council, West Devon Borough Council, Plymouth City Council and Natural England.
- The AONB team supports the work of the Tamar Valley Partnership – a forum of government and non-government bodies working for the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- Natural England helps protect our finest landscapes – Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coasts and National Parks – through legislation.
- We must all work together to protect our finest countryside
- For further details please contact Charlotte Dancer (Information & Communications Officer) by emailing cdancer@tamarvalley.org.uk.
- Did you know you can hire the Tamar Valley Centre, just 5-minutes' walk from Gunnislake Train Station, for your meeting or event? Please get in touch for details.

