

**Sustainable Development Fund: Annual Report 2013/14**  
Report by Administrator, Sustainable Development Fund Panel

**Summary:** This report provides a summary of the work of the Sustainable Development Fund during 2013/14, including details of the 20 projects which were supported by the Fund during the year.

**Recommendation:** That the report be noted.

1. This report covers the year 2013/2014 which is the final year of the Sustainable Development Fund. The Authority agreed at its March meeting that with the latest round of Government cuts it could no longer support the Fund. The SDF has been very successful over the past 12 years in providing grants to many organisations and it will be sadly missed. A celebration event will take place on the 30 July to mark the end of the Fund and this will include a review of the whole scheme since its launch.
2. The number of projects awarded a grant in the year was 20 with a total grant allocation of £144,819. In addition two projects that had been awarded three year grants were awarded the final years grants amounting to £17,663. The projects were very varied from GPS monitors to give actual speed on day boats to reintroducing rush harvesting on the River Waveney. A full listing of the 20 projects approved for grant in 2013/14 can be found in Appendix I. All projects approved since the commencement of the scheme can be viewed on the Broads Authority website: [broads-authority.gov.uk/authority/what-we-do/sustainable-development-fund.html](http://broads-authority.gov.uk/authority/what-we-do/sustainable-development-fund.html) and following the relevant links
3. The following gives an overview of the SDF activities for 2013/14 (the figures in brackets are those for 2012/2013):
  - 43 applications received (28);
  - 20 projects supported (21);
  - £144,819 total funding (£153,743)
  - £263,761 match funding (£221,413);
  - £7,240.95 average grant awarded (£7,321); and
  - 13 projects completed and signed off (29).

The match funding represents a multiplier of 1.82 to1 for the SDF grant given.

The number of applications was a large increase on the previous year perhaps a reflection of the fewer grant funds available and less monies to award. The match funding overall (as a % of the grant) was greater than the previous year for the projects supported although there were two projects with

high match funding and if these are excluded the figure reduces to 0.81 and gives an average grant of 58% of the total project costs.

4. The grants given in the year amounted to £144,819, a decrease from the previous year and used some of the monies carried over from the previous year. The Broads Authority allocated £150,000 to the SDF in 2013/2014, the same as the previous year. The administration costs for the year amounted to £15,000, which is the 10% aimed for. There is a carry-over of £9,912 to 2015/2016 to allow for the administration of signing off the outstanding projects.
5. The Sustainable Development Fund Panel met four times during the year in April, July, November and January. The Panel is made up of eleven members comprising one member of the Broads Authority, one member of the Broads Forum, representing the wider Broads community; four independent members, representing business and the voluntary sector; a representative from the Defra, RDPE delivery team, and three young people.
6. In line with the main Authority, the Panel has adopted the use of electronic papers and minutes for its meetings, and encouraged applicants to submit their applications electronically. The SDF pages on the Broads Authority web site give details of the scheme including the criteria, guidance and application form. The web site also gives dates of meetings, closing dates for applications and a full list of projects supported.
7. The Sustainable Development Fund has once again had a successful year in that it provided grants to a wide variety of organisations within the Broads, meeting the Defra objectives set for the Fund and providing a good spread of projects across the Defra indicators. Education figures highly in the projects for not just main stream but a number of projects targeting those vulnerable or not in employment. Projects associated with boating, conservation and promoting urban/rural links figure highly providing enjoyment and increased understanding of the Broads environment. The feedback from all the projects has been very positive in that the support of the SDF has been a major contributor to the projects going ahead. Applicants welcome the 'soft-touch' approach and the average grant award of 58% shows good value for money from the SDF grant.

Background papers: Nil

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Broads Plan Objectives: None

Appendices: APPENDIX 1 – Projects funded 2013/14

## PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2013 – 2014

Ref.	Project	Applicant	Brief description	Total cost	SDF Grant
BA.240	Paddle for a Pound	Whitlingham Outdoor Education Centre	Project to engage young people in paddle craft hire sessions and sailing tasters for a small cost to encourage more young people to take part in water activities.	£31,240	£5,000
BA.241	Wroxham Signalbox Museum	Wroxham Signalbox Trust	The provision of interpretative panels and exhibition area to show the links between the railway and Broads tourism in the refurbished Wroxham Signalbox, now a museum.	£7,200	£3,000
BA.242	Refurbishment of Argo Cat	BRASCA	Refurbishment of the 8 yr old Argocat used for moving reed from reedbeds. The Argocat has very low ground pressure and aquatic capability. Refurbishment is significantly more cost effective than a new purchase.	£5,607.08	£5,610
BA.243	Bure Valley Delivering Living Landscapes	Norfolk Wildlife Trust	Working with local communities to connect them with the natural environment. In the Bure Valley.	£91,622	£6,000
BA.244	Sustainable Living Initiative	Grow Our Own	Setting up new community allotments and conservation area in Blake's Field (Marlpit area) Norwich	£96,788	£17,980
BA.245	Communication and Education Phase II	Broads Angling Strategy Group	Creation of an online web information solution, which will future proof the BASG Communication & Education strategy objectives for modern consumer media and mobile information consumption.	£20,050	£10,000
BA.246	Access the Archive	Norfolk Wherry Trust	Digital archive database which will be searchable. It will also be a register of the Trusts artefacts.	£1,900	£1,425
BA.247	Low wash coaching and safety Catamaran	Norwich Rowing Club	The acquisition of an additional Safety and Coaching launch for the Junior members of the Club.	£7,800	£4,300

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Total cost</b>	<b>SDF Grant</b>
BA.248	Boat renovation project	Acle Academy	Additional resources for the successful after school boat club	£1,260	£1,260
BA.249	YMCA Broads Project	YMCA Norfolk	An innovative programme that will connect vulnerable, homeless young people in Norwich to the outstanding natural beauty of the Broads in their home county.	£20,000	£15,000
BA.250	Horning passenger ferry	The Ferry Inn	Electric engine for the proposed new ferry	£8,200	£2,915
BA.251	Thorpe-Whitlingham Ferry	Thorpe Marshes Ferry	Provision of new passenger ferry from Thorpe to Whitlingham	£13,300	£9,975
BA.252	Granary Staithe access	Hoveton PC	Provision of new access to the recently acquired Staithe	£10,510	£5,000
BA.253	New Toilet Block	How Hill	Replacement of existing toilet block for public use	£35,100	£20,000
BA.254	Broadview	Rutland Pedalcraft	A web based canoeists eye view of the Broads (similar to Google street view) – covering the published canoe trails.	£7,008	£4,208
BA.255	Equip on the Broads 2014	ENYP	Holiday club over 3 days for children in Norwich to learn about the Broads.	£2,057	£1,617
BA.256	Climate Change Workshop	How Hill	Two day workshop for young people to explore what effect climate change could have on the Broads.	£3,765	£1,115
BA.257	Local Rush Harvesting and Weaving	Waveney Rush	To reintroduce local rush harvesting on River Waveney and long term aim of providing community involvement and education.	£14,854	£9,654
BA.258	Day Boat Improvements	Norfolk Broads Direct	Fitting of GPS speedometers to 47 day boats	£4,784	£2,392