



How does it work?

The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) has helped a wide range of projects become reality, from education to tourism, from renewable energy to reed cutting.

The money is given out by an independent Panel, set up by the Broads Authority, that carefully assesses each application.

The aim is to make a difference in the Broads by promoting and achieving social, economic or environmental sustainability.

We have £180,000 a year to distribute and you can apply for as little or as much as you need. The largest single grant awarded to date is £50,000 and the smallest £150. The average is around £8,000.

In the case of projects run by the voluntary sector - including charities - we can fund up to 75% of costs and for other organisations up to 50%. In exceptional circumstances we will fund up to 100% but in most cases we would expect to see a contribution 'in kind' (e.g. volunteer time or the loan of equipment or facilities).

We also operate a £15,000 small grant scheme for the benefit of organisations such as parish councils, schools, community and voluntary groups. Grants of up to £1,000 are available; applications for these are considered separately and may be submitted at any time.

"The application forms are straightforward and easy to understand. If there was any difficulty the Fund Administrator was very helpful – easy to get hold of and you got an answer straightaway. The committee was balanced and experienced – they came from all walks and had a local touch. Without the grant they reed and sedge cutting industry in the Broads would have folded."

Richard Starling, Chairman,
Broads Reed and Sedge Cutters Association

A five year, £123,000 project brought the Broads reed and sedge cutting industry back to life. SDF grants totalling £64,000 helped buy new equipment and train new recruits.



Who is it for?

Individuals, business or community groups from the public, private or voluntary sector, with projects that:

- Lead to sustainable development and/or social inclusion
- Support the Broads Authority's work

The projects should also do some of the following:

- Have the support of the local community
- Benefit the public
- Be innovative and high quality
- Attract some funding from other sources
- Involve young people
- Encourage links between urban and Broads communities
- Add value to existing sustainability projects
- Have little or no access to other public funding

"The Fund Administrator was incredibly supportive right from the word go. He advised me and tied things in really neatly. He also helped me to get funding in from other sources, and several times when I felt like backing out because it was all so new he helped me to carry on. He was there all the way with us."

Jane Wells, Teacher,
Ellingham Primary School

A 5kW wind turbine has turned Ellingham Primary School's dream of becoming self-sufficient in 'green' electricity into reality - and helped them save a further seven tonnes of carbon per annum. The Fund provided a quarter of the £23,500 cost.



How do I apply?

There's a simple five step application process, and we are always happy to discuss your proposal at any stage – the earlier the better. You need to:

- 1 Think up an idea
- 2 Discuss it with us
- 3 Look at the website
- 4 Research your idea
- 5 Fill in an application form

Applications are considered by the SDF Panel at roughly four-monthly intervals and you'll know whether you've been successful within five working days.

That's it! You've got nothing to lose – so ring us soon to discuss your idea, and before long you could be helping to create a healthy future for the Broads.

"It's a simple four page application form and process compared to most – an easy grant to access and not too daunting. It was well managed and the project wouldn't have happened without it. It was great when the Panel came to see the completed work."

George Debbage, Manager,
Fairhaven Garden Trust

Creation of a new £10,000 sensory garden with wheelchair access at Fairhaven Woodland and Water Garden. An SDF grant of £5,000 has helped elderly visitors and those with disabilities or impaired vision to enjoy the gardens.





The Broads is a special area, internationally valued for its natural beauty, wildlife, boating and history. It's loved by the many people who live locally or visit.

The area has the same status as a national park and the Broads Authority was established by Parliament to look after it for the nation. But that doesn't mean things always have to stay the same. The Government has allocated money to national park authorities to foster innovative ideas that will help the environment and the quality of life of people in and around the parks.

The Broads Authority's **Sustainable Development Fund** exists to give the Broads a bright future and is open to all. Hundreds of exciting projects have already happened. If you've got an idea you think will help the area, it's easy to apply for help to make it reality – we'll be with you all the way.



Got an idea to talk through?
Contact John Ash,
SDF Administrator
on 01508 550116.

There's full information about
the Fund at:

www.broads-authority.gov.uk/authority/what-we-do/sustainable-development-fund.html

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Our funding area



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Broads Authority
The Broads - a member of the
National Park family

Bright ideas wanted

Here's your chance to
get a cash grant and be
part of the future with
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Sustainable
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