

# Guidance for Real Hedge Fund Grant Applicants

Round 3: 13<sup>th</sup> October 9am – 9 November 2022 5pm

## Our Vision

Our vision is that the Lake District will be an example of sustainable development in action. A place where its prosperous economy, world class visitor experiences and vibrant communities come together to sustain the spectacular landscape, its wildlife and cultural heritage. We want to support projects that help us to achieve this vision.

## The Fund

The Lake District Foundation launched the Fund in June 2020 in partnership with Ullswater Catchment Management CIC, The Food, Farming and Countryside Commission, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust and Eden Rivers Trust.

The Real Hedge Fund is made up of donations from businesses, visitors and residents who love the Lake District and want to help the cause.

The Real Hedge Fund aims to highlight the importance of hedgerows and trees in the environment and the role within the cultural and natural heritage of the Lake District. The Fund has an ambitious target to plant 4,000 metres of native hedgerows across the Lake District.

Applications will only be accepted if environmental value can be evidenced. Activity cannot be “doubled funded” and applicants will need to show that their proposal is not covered by an existing stewardship or grant funding scheme.

We welcome:

- Applications for project and resource funding to purchase and plant native hedgerows and/or trees
- applications up to £2,500
- First time hedge planters will be given support by the partners to make appropriate choices
- Planting native hedgerow either double or single fenced at a cost of around £25per metre (double fenced)
- Restoration of old hedgerows and using gapping up technique
- Hedgerows using a minimum of 5 plants per metre
- Applications which demonstrate a commitment to maintenance
- Applications for planting hedgerows using appropriate native shrubs and trees
- The opportunity to match fund other income, increasing the impact of our fund
- Volunteers, community groups or young people to help in the project

Murley Moss Business Park, Oxenholme Rd, Kendal, LA9 7RL

Registered Charity Number 1174201

e. [grants@lakedistrictfoundation.org](mailto:grants@lakedistrictfoundation.org)

w. [lakedistrictfoundation.org](http://lakedistrictfoundation.org)



We will not fund:

- Work that has already taken place
- Planting non-native hedgerows
- Activity cannot be “doubled funded”
- Environmental value cannot be evidenced

## CRITERIA

- Hedgerow must be between 50-100m
- Reinstate native hedgerow or restore native hedgerow using gapping up method in Cumbria
- Minimum of 60% Hawthorne and 40% local appropriate species
- Minimum of 5 plants per metre
- Double or single fenced planting scheme
- Commitment to provide an annual project and willing to provide updates, images and allow visits for the next 3 years if requested
- Willing to host knowledge sharing visits for public or interested parties
- Environmental value can be evidenced
- Activity is not to be “doubled funded”, the proposal is not to be covered by an existing stewardship or grant funding scheme
- Grant available to those whose needs are the greatest
- Applications only open to Small & Medium Size Enterprises (SMEs\*), small charities, local authority schools or community groups operating in Cumbria
- **\*SMEs definition:** small company is one that has a turnover of not more than £6.5 million, a balance sheet total of not more than £3.26 million and not more than 50 employees. A medium- sized company has a turnover of not more than £25.9 million, a balance sheet total of not more than £12.9 million and not more than 250 employees.

## THE GRANTS PANEL

- All applications that meet the criteria will be reviewed by the grants panel. Shortlisted applicants may be invited to talk to the panel and discuss their project further by phonecall or videocall.
- The panel is made up of a representative of the Lake District Foundation, a trustee from the Board, a representative from the Real Hedge Fund steering group representative. The panel will consider the applications and decide which projects to approve and the size of the grant to be awarded, if applicable.

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## Funding decisions

- Applications for funding must be made on the form supplied and returned by email to
- [grants@lakedistrictfoundation.org](mailto:grants@lakedistrictfoundation.org)

Funding will be conditional upon the recipient agreeing to the grant conditions. These will include a requirement for the applicant to provide details of progress against set targets.

Funding will not be provided if doing so would damage the name or reputation of the Fund, or if the Trustees have other good grounds for refusing funding.

Funding will be provided to allow for planting and laying to be carried out between October and March and can be paid in advance of activity.

Successful applicants will also be required to provide an annual update on ongoing maintenance, photos and lessons learned from planting native hedgerows, so that successful projects may be replicated elsewhere. These results will also be communicated by the Fund, to demonstrate the impact that the charitable funding has had and to help grow donations to the fund in the future.

Successful applicants will be required to help communicate and promote The Lake District Foundation's support.

Funding decisions are final. We will provide individual feedback where possible but this may not happen if a large volume of applications is received.

If you require further information please email [grants@lakedistrictfoundation.org](mailto:grants@lakedistrictfoundation.org) We will attempt to reply to all enquiries and may post FAQs on our website.

Good Luck!

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