

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND AND HEREFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION WYE VALLEY AONB FUND**

***Purpose***

To update members on the AONB Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) and the Wye Valley AONB Fund with Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF).

**FOR INFORMATION**

***Key Issues***

- The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) currently has £42,056 allocated from the £100,000 offered by Welsh Government for 2020/21, meaning there remains £57,944 available for applications and projects.
- Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) has produced the latest accounts for the Wye Valley AONB Fund which was established with £10,000 for immediate funding alongside an Endowment Fund of £50,000. Current balances are £6,776.51 and £52,045.26 respectively.
- Applications are welcome for both sets of funding.

***Reasons***

Welsh Government offered £100,000 of SDF in 2020/21. The SDF continues to provide an exceptional opportunity for organisations, individuals and community groups to apply for grant aid for innovative, sustainable, environmental projects, which benefit the Welsh part of the AONB.

The Wye Valley AONB Fund with Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) was established with a £10,000 Immediate Impact fund and a £50,000 Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is able to receive donations and legacies and it is hoped that the AONB Fund will grow over time.

***Implications***

The SDF supports living and working more sustainably in association with enhancing natural beauty, wildlife, culture, landscape, land use and community within the context of the sustainable development goals and principles in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The SDF Assessment Panel is delegated with deciding on each application over £3,000. Smaller applications are determined by the AONB Manager supported by the NRW Senior

People & Places Officer, South East Wales. The list of approved grants totalling £42,056 is in the table below.

The Wye Valley AONB Fund with the Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) has a £6,776.51 Immediate Impact fund for grants for environmental, community and cultural projects. There is also a £52,045.26 Endowment Fund from which the income generated each year can be used to award grants once the Immediate Impact fund is exhausted. The Endowment Fund is able to receive donations and legacies so it is intended that the AONB Fund will grow over time, including donations via text messages by texting 'WVAONB' to 70085 to donate £5. The SDF Assessment Panel recommends applications to the HCF for funding. Two grants have so far been issued by HCF, endorsed by the SDF Assessment Panel: £1,666 to Herefordshire Wildlife Trust - Recovering Herefordshire's Pine Martens project £1,675 to Dynamis Adventures - Wye Valley Year 7 Adventure Project.

### **2020/21 Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) grants approved**

<b><u>2019/20</u></b> <b><u>Code</u></b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>years</b>		<b>Total</b> <b>Cost</b>	<b>SDF</b> <b>Grant</b>	<b>%</b>
			<b>This</b>	<b>Total</b>			
WV00 YR20W	Wye Valley AONB Unit	10% Admin	1	1		£10,000	
WV01 YR20W	Wye Valley AONB Partnership	Wye Valley River Festival	2	2	£106,300	£25,000	23.5
WV02 YR20W	Friends of our Lady of Tintern	Words and Landscape - Poetry workshop walk	1	1	£5,857	£1,056	18
WV03 YR20W	Wye Valley AONB Unit	Documenting Now	1	1	£4,700	£3,000	63.8
WV04 YR20W	Jon Dunkleman	Drystone walling	1	1	£7,660	£3,000	39
			<b>TOTALS (to date)</b>		<b>£124,517</b>	<b>£42,056</b>	<b>Av36%</b>
					<i>Remaining from £100,000</i>	<i>£57,944</i>	

For more details on grants and the application process see <https://www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk/caring-for-wye-valley-aonb/grants/>. For further advice or to discuss any project ideas, please contact Sarah Sawyer, AONB Community Links Officer, on [community@wyevalleyaonb.org.uk](mailto:community@wyevalleyaonb.org.uk).

### ***Background***

The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) has been available in the Wye Valley AONB for 20 years in Wales. It is administered by the Wye Valley AONB Unit and is a delegated fund from Welsh Government. The Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) host and manage the Wye Valley AONB Fund as a legacy of the Overlooking the Wye Landscape Partnership Scheme and on behalf of the Wye Valley AONB Partnership.