

The Linnean Society's Our Local Nature 2021 Grant Guideline

The Linnean Society is providing the Our Local Nature (OLN) grant scheme for the second year running. This grant aims to empower young people across the UK to take the lead on projects that involve their local nature and natural spaces. This scheme is part of the Society's vision of a world where nature is understood, valued and protected.

The OLN grant scheme funds projects which increase access to local natural spaces and improve understanding of local biodiversity, with young people at the helm. Adult applicants

The Linnean Society aims to inform, involve and inspire people about nature and its significance through our collections, events, programmes and publications

The Linnean Society of London, *Communicating Nature since 1788*

must demonstrate that they're working closely with young people on the proposed project. Young people must be the leaders of these initiatives, and not just passive participants or beneficiaries.

This grant guideline will answer these questions:

1. What are the main dates and details?
2. Who can apply?
3. What can the grant cover?
4. What will be asked in the application?
5. What are the terms & conditions?
6. How can I apply?

If you have further questions, please attend/watch the [Grant Q&A event](#) (live at 4pm, 13th September) or send an email to our friendly Education Manager at joe@linnean.org

The Linnean Society's Our Local Nature grants in 2020

Last year we funded 11 projects, detailed below. Incidentally, all of these were based in England but the scheme is open to all UK regions and the Republic of Ireland.



Q&A

1

WHAT ARE THE MAIN DATES & DETAILS?

Apply by 1st November, funded by end of 2021

1 st Sept.	Applications open
13 th Sept.	Q&A Webinar
1 st Nov.	Applications close
mid Nov.	All applicants receive update email
early Dec.	All applicants informed of outcome
mid Jan.	All applicants receive feedback

Read this paragraph three times!

The proposal and activity must be youth-led and should seek to affect change or empower local young people and their surrounding communities to increase access to natural spaces and improve understanding of local biodiversity.

The maximum award is £1,000 per proposal. However, we welcome and encourage applications for significantly lower amounts. The Society is happy to co-fund any project with another organisation.

2

WHO CAN APPLY?

Show your link to a group of young people (under 18)

Applicants must belong to a registered UK organisation and have an associated bank account (e.g. school, community group, small charity).

Applications should be created in partnership with young people - and, ideally, led by them.

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WHAT CAN THE GRANT COVER?

The Our Local Nature grant scheme welcomes novel ideas

We recognise the expertise of young people and those that work closely with them, and so we are keen to hear what activities you think would work best for engaging people with your local nature and natural spaces.

The grant can be used for materials, room hire, publicity, public-speakers, training-professionals, contractors and

CASE STUDY

A 2020 applicant requested £1000 to hire an artist to create a nature mural on their schools grounds.

This is a great idea but there were a few problems:

1. The project requested more than half of the grant on project-specific staff costs (the artist).
2. The application did not stipulate how young people would be playing an active leadership role.
3. We believed that the project was over-funded and could have been achieved with a slimmer budget.

freelancers, project-specific staff costs (see limitation below), audio-visual hire, reasonable volunteer expenses, transport or other costs of activities/ events.

The grant cannot be used for large prizes, large non-consumable equipment (e.g. purchasing microscopes or computers), on-going salary costs, costs that are already covered by other funding, general running costs and overheads that are paid for by other income. More than half of the grant cannot be spent on refreshments or project-specific staff costs.

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WHAT WILL BE ASKED IN THE APPLICATION?

Top tips for each section below!

You will be asked to provide the following information in your application:

- Details of the person/people making the application

This is your chance to tell us about who is involved in the development of this application. We want to support *youth-led* projects so make sure you indicate the role that young people are playing in development and decision-making processes.

- A description of your proposed project

Fill us in on your plans and ideas! We will be assessing proposals on their potential to *increase access to natural spaces and improve understanding of the local biodiversity*, and we also want to ensure that your plans are detailed enough to cover all practicalities.

- An outline of who would benefit

This grant seeks to *affect change or empower local young and their surrounding communities*. This means that the beneficiaries of the project could be a wide range of people. We are interested in projects that have a legacy - think about what the long term impacts of this grant could be.

- A budget outline (ideally in bullet points) of how the grant money will be used

We will be assessing applications on whether we think the project is well-budgeted - check you're not asking for too much, or too little. A good budget provides us with confidence that you will be able to follow through with your plans and complete your project.

- Details of the bank account which the grant will be paid into:

Please triple check the details entered are correct so that we can quickly transfer the grant if you are successful. Financial information is stored securely until January 2022 when it will be erased.

**“Young people must be the leaders of these initiatives,
and not just participants or beneficiaries”**

- **Leaders:** those who influence the direction of the project
- **Participants:** those who take part in the project
- **Beneficiaries:** those who gain from the project

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WHAT ARE THE TERMS & CONDITIONS?

Please read these before applying

By applying for the Our Local Nature grant, you are agreeing to the following conditions:

- If successful, your project should aim to take place within 2022
- If successful, you must complete an evaluation process after your project is complete
- If the provided bank account details are incorrect, your grant payment will be significantly delayed, or your grant offer may be withdrawn
- The Linnean Society must be correctly acknowledged in any project-funded materials
- The Linnean Society of London will not be held responsible or liable for any consequences, whether direct or indirect to any loss or damage, personal or otherwise, injury or death however arising in grant-funded activities

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How do I apply?

A P P L Y I N G

To apply, visit www.linnean.org/OLN/apply

We advise you to type out your application into a word document and paste this into the online form.

Applications must be received by 23:59 GMT on Monday 1st November.

Q U E S T I O N S ?

Applying for a grant may be a brand new experience for you.

You are invited to attend/watch the [Q&A Webinar](#) (live: 4pm, 13th September) or you can send an email to our friendly Education Manager at joe@linnean.org

Y O U T H P A N E L

We will be forming a [youth panel](#) made up of 16-18-year-olds across the UK. These young people are tasked to read and evaluate all grant applications and select the final grant recipients.

They will be guided by these questions:

Are the applicants eligible for this grant?

Do you fully understand this proposal?

Have the applicants shown that their proposal is feasible financially and logistically?

Does this proposal have a long term impact on the intended audience?

Do you believe that this proposal is the best one to achieve the grant's objectives?

Are the grants you have selected spread out across the country?

Good luck!