

Grants Available – the Derwent Valley Partnership Project Callout is now OPEN !!

The Derwent Valley Partnership Board has a budget of £75,000 available, and applications are invited for projects from community & voluntary or not-for-profit organisations and groups. **Minimum Grant limits have been agreed at £5,000**, our average grant level in 2017 was around £9,000. Projects must take place in the Derwent Valley Partnership AAP area and address at least one of our key priorities and the respective project criteria, as outlined below. **The closing date for applications is 5:00pm on Friday 15 June 2018.**

There is £25,000 available under each of the priorities; applicants are permitted to submit an application under all three priorities, but there is a limit of one project per priority. Applications can be for either capital or revenue funding, however all applications need to have a minimum 25% capital element to them. If you need advice on the specific definitions for capital/revenue, please get in touch. Applications which have qualified 'match' funding are encouraged. Our partnership priorities and the project criteria for applications are as follows:

- **Employment, Enterprise and Training**

Projects are invited which aim to help improve positive outcomes for Derwent Valley residents to gain employment and/or access to training, we wish to also encourage enterprise. The key issues of particular interest are:

- **Develop future workforce skills in partnership with employers, training and education providers by supporting the development of higher level Science, Engineering and Manufacturing (STEM) skills/qualifications, specifically in certain sectors**
- **Raise the profile of the visitor economy in Consett and the Derwent Valley and its social, cultural and environmental attractions to make it a go-to place for residents and visitors.**

A more detailed action plan for this priority will be available as part of your application pack

- **Environment**

Projects are invited which help improve the Environment of Derwent Valley for communities to gain pride in where they live and also in tackling climate change issues. Projects must address at least one of the following key issues:

- **Encouraging people to improve their environment from a visual/aesthetic perspective both in terms of natural and built environment**
- **Encouraging people to appreciate and improve their environment from a cleanliness perspective.**
- **Energy Efficiency and Reducing Carbon Emission**

A more detailed action plan for this priority will be available as part of your application pack

- **Health and Wellbeing**

Projects are invited which help support residents in the Derwent Valley area to live a happier and healthier life. Projects must address at least one of the following key issues:

- **Reduce smoking and drinking (alcohol and caffeine in the form of high energy drinks).**
- **Mental health and isolation which includes both older, younger residents and families.**
- **Reducing childhood obesity.**

A more detailed action plan for this priority will be available as part of your application pack

Please note, any prospective projects should have a **start date no earlier than October 2018** to allow time for applications to go through our technical appraisal process. After the closing date, all eligible applications will be assessed and ranked by our respective task groups for each of these priorities, where a series of questions may arise. You will be expected to attend a task group meeting in response to questions raised. The task group will then choose which projects are 'recommended' for support by the AAP Board who will have the final decision. Your project may not be recommended by the task group or indeed be agreed by the Board. On average 30% of applications we receive through this process are supported.

**Please contact us for an application pack and guidance notes,
or if you'd like further information about the process
Telephone the DVP team on 03000 260725 or email: dvaap@durham.gov.uk**