

# BMSDC Grants - Communities Mid Suffolk District Council

2026-28 Community Nature Recovery Grant Application Form  
Large Grants, £2,000 to £50,000

## 1. Organisation Details – All Projects

Before submitting an application, applicants are required to submit a Grant Enquiry Form as the first part of a two-stage application process.

Applicants are advised that projects which score under 50% on the Community Nature Recovery Grant Scoring Matrix will not be eligible for funding. All information, including contact details, Criteria and the Scoring Matrix, can be found on our webpage. [Find out more about Mid Suffolk District Council Community Grants.](#)

Organisation Name			
Contact Name			
Project Name			
Is your project taking place in Mid Suffolk?  <i>If your project is taking place in Babergh, your application will be ineligible</i>			
Project Address  <i>Address where the project is taking place</i>			
Postcode		Phone Number	
Email Address		Website	
Organisation Address  <i>If different to the address where the project is taking place</i>			

## 2. Organisation Status

How is your organisation constituted?

- Parish Council, Town Council or Parish Meeting
- Registered Charity or Trust
- Community Interest Company
- Community Benefit Society
- Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- Sports Club
- Other (add detail below)



Please specify from the above list:	
Charity Number, Companies House Number or Registered Trust Number if applicable	
If a Community Interest or Limited Company, is your organisation limited by shares or guarantee (please specify)	
Date of Registration	

### 3. Financial

Please provide information about previous and forecast financial year end and enclose a copy of your accounts alongside your application.

*Please note: we can only fund organisations that have bank accounts in the organisation's name with two signatories*

Details	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Total Income	£	£	£
Total Expenditure	£	£	£
Surplus/carry forward into current financial year	£	£	£
Total Grant Aid received	£	£	£

Does your organisation have reserves (Yes or No)? If yes, please detail below	
Unrestricted	£
Restricted	£

### 4. VAT

Can you reclaim VAT?		VAT Registration Number if applicable	
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### 5. Volunteers

How many volunteers does your organisation have?	
Will this application support additional volunteers? If so, how many?	
Approximately how many volunteering hours per week are supported by your organisation?	

## 6. Policies

Does your organisation have the following policies in place? Yes, No, or Working Towards

Equal Opportunities	
Health and Safety	
Adult and Child Safeguarding	
Environmental	
Financial Payments	

Does your organisation serve all sectors of the community irrespective of political, religious belief, ethnic origin etc.?

## 7. Project Details

What are the main activities or services of your organisation in Mid Suffolk?

What are you applying for funding for? Please be as specific as possible on what you will do and how you will do it

## 8. Need

How have you identified the need for your activity or project? Please show why your project is needed and how the community has been involved in identifying said need

## 9. Community Benefit

How many people will benefit from the activity you are applying for funding towards?

How will people benefit from the activity you are applying for funding for?

What have you done to ensure that your project is accessible to everyone, ensuring that the whole community have the opportunity to engage fully and meaningfully?

## 10. Mid Suffolk District Council Biodiversity Priority Actions

The [Biodiversity Action Plan](#) outlines the priority species and habitats for Mid Suffolk District Council. Please select which of the following priority species or habitats your project will protect or enhance:

### Priority Species

- Swifts
- Hedgehogs
- Bumblebees
- Toads
- Native Black Poplar

### Priority Habitats

- Arable Field Margins and Hedgerows
- Calcareous Grassland
- Lowland Meadows

### Priority Habitat or Species

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

## 11. Suffolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy Priorities

The [Suffolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy \(LNRS\)](#) outlines the nature recovery priority habitats, assemblages and species for Suffolk. Projects must align to one or more of the 10 main aims and ambitions of the Strategy:

1. Create, enhance and expand priority habitats
2. Reconnect fragmented landscapes
3. Recover and protect key species
4. Support sustainable farming and land management
5. Restore wetlands, rivers, and peatlands
6. Safeguard and enhance coastal habitats
7. Expand woodland and tree cover
8. Integrate nature into towns and cities
9. Empower communities and landowners
10. Deliver co-benefits for climate, health, and the economy

Please select which of the aims and ambitions your project will support, and how.

### Aims and Ambitions

1)

2)

3)

### 11.1. Mapping

The LNRS's Mapping Tool ([Suffolk Local Habitat Map](#)) outlines areas in Mid Suffolk which are considered Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity (APIB) and Areas that Could Become Important for Biodiversity (ACB). Does your project take place in an area covered by an APIB or ACB?

If yes, does your project take into account the recommended considerations?

## 12. Outcomes and Indicators

Using the boxes below, set out up to two outcomes you hope to achieve as a result of our funding. Please use no more than 25 words to describe each one.

If your application for funding is successful, it gives us an agreed framework within which we can monitor progress.

Your outcomes should align with one or more of the above aims and ambitions.

Please also provide no more than 2 progress indicators for each outcome, each of which to be described within one sentence. An indicator defines how a piece of information can be assessed or measured to show whether outcomes have been met.

Outcome 1	Outcome	
	Indicator 1	
	Indicator 2	
Outcome 2	Outcome	
	Indicator 1	
	Indicator 2	

### 13. Timeline

Estimated project start date:		Estimate project end date:  <b><i>Funding must be spent or project complete within 12 months of any grant offer, unless otherwise stated</i></b>	
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### 14. Costs

Please provide a breakdown of project costs, based on quotes if applicable	
Cost	£ Amount
	£
	£
	£
	£
	£
	£
	£
Net Cost	£
VAT	£
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>£</b>

### 15. Quotes

Please list project quotations received below. <b>Please note that a minimum of 2 quotes are required for each project element.</b>		
Project Element	Supplier	Amount £
1.		

2.	
3.	
Preferred Supplier?	

Project Element	
Supplier	Amount £
1.	
2.	
3.	
Preferred Supplier?	

## 16. Funding Package

Where have you obtained or where will you be seeking the remaining funding for this project or activity from?

Funding Source	Secured (Yes or No)	If not secured, when will you know?	Amount £
			£
			£
			£
			£
			£
			£
			£
Amount being applied for from Community Nature Recovery Grant			£
<i>If applying for Pre-Project costs such as feasibility studies, the maximum which can be applied for is £5,000</i>			
<b>Total Funding (this should match the total cost figures provided)</b>			£

## 17. Additional Documentation

Please submit alongside your application form any documentation that may assist us in assessing your application. For all projects, this includes accounts. For Capital projects, this includes quotes. If a document such as a community consultation is referenced in the application, this must be submitted alongside it. Other documents you may wish to provide include but are not limited to:

- Photographs
- Community Surveys
- Ecology Surveys
- Parish Council or District Councillor support
- Site Plans
- Business/Project Plans
- Management Plans
- Community Planning Documents such as Parish Infrastructure Investment Plans, Neighbourhood Plans or People & Place Plans
- Maps
- Planning Permission Notices

Have accounts been submitted alongside this application?	
If applicable, have quotes been submitted alongside this application?	

## 18. Subsidy Control (Formerly State Aid)

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils will be providing this grant to your organisation as a Minimum Financial Assistance (MFA) subsidy under the Subsidy Control Act (2022).

MFA subsidy limit is £315,000 over a three-year period (including your current financial year and the previous two financial years). This means that all subsidy received by your business/organisation over the last three years, including the total requested from this grant fund, should not exceed a total of £315,000.

Has your organisation received in the last three years, or are you currently applying for, any grants or Subsidies/State Aid?	
<i>This includes any public funded grants (including from national bodies), Mid Suffolk District Council Community Grants/CIL, National Lottery, business rate discounts, Growth Hub business support etc.</i>	

If yes, which grants have been received?

Grant	Amount	Year
£		
£		
£		
£		
£		
£		

## 19. Security of Tenure

How do you hold the land or buildings at present? Please specify Leasehold or Freehold.

If you lease the land, are seeking to, or if the application relates to land owned by someone other than the applicant, please provide written confirmation that the landowner agrees to the proposed project alongside your application.

If leasehold, please state the name and address of the owner as well as the expiry date of the lease	
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## 20. Planning and Building Control (Complete if Applicable)

Have you liaised with Planning and Building Control regarding your project?		If applicable, the name of the Planning Officer who has been dealing with your case	
Building Control certificate number, if applicable		Planning Permission reference number, if applicable	
Which organisation is responsible for the management of the facility?			
What is the expected life of the project once complete?			

## 21. Declaration – All Projects

Please ensure that this application is signed and dated.

I confirm that the MFA threshold has not and will not be exceeded by the enterprise receiving the proposed assistance.

I declare that I am authorised to make this Grant application on behalf of the above organisation and that the information given is correct and complete.

I understand that you will use the information I have provided to assess and process the Grant application. You may check some of the information with other sources within the Council, other Councils and Government departments. You may also get information from other organisations to make sure the information is accurate.

Has every section relevant to your project been completed?			
<i>If there is important information missing or not in the relevant section, we will not be able to accept your application</i>			
Signature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name	
Position		Date	

## 22. Completed Forms

Please return the completed form by email to [BMSDCGrants@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:BMSDCGrants@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)

Alternatively, please return by post to the following address:

The Grants Team - Communities  
Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils  
Endeavour House  
8 Russell Road

Ipswich  
IP1 2BX

### 23. Data Protection Notice

Any personal information processed by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council arising from a Community Nature Recovery Grant Fund Application will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we process your personal information or for information regarding Mid Suffolk District Council's Data Protection Policy and your right to information go to <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/privacy-policy1>

If you are part of the Voluntary, Community, Faith or Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector further support is available from [Community Action Suffolk](#) (CAS) which includes:

- [Advice and Support](#): CAS provides support to help set up new community organisations and charities, as well as advice on legislation, governance, funding and management
- [Health check](#): a free to use self assessment tool which can help organisations identify strengths and weaknesses, as well as helping to prepare for submitting funding applications
- [Funding 4 Suffolk](#): search for available funding using the Funding 4 Suffolk Portal