Blue Spaces – Wales: Expression of Interest Guidance and Sample Form

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| **Please note this Expression of Interest is for Blue Spaces - Wales. If you would like to submit an Expression of Interest for anything else, please see:** [**how to apply**](https://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/applications/)**.****Updated 3 May 2023: Please note we are now closed to expressions of interest. Thank you for your interest.****Applying for Blue Spaces - Wales**When you are ready to tell us about your work, you can submit an Expression of Interest through our online application system. * This document outlines what is contained in the online Blue Spaces – Wales Expression of Interest form, so you know what to expect when you complete the form.
* The Expression of Interest form itself is split into two sections: page 1 features guidance; and page 2 is for you to complete about your organisation and work.
* After submitting the form, you’ll be redirected to a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion monitoring form.

Please note that applications can only be submitted through our online application system.  |

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# Page 1: Guidance for completing the Expression of Interest

You'll first be asked for some details about your organisation, the work that you do and your contact details. You will then have space to give more information about your work.

We want to know more about what you’re aiming to achieve and how you will make it happen with Esmée funding by answering the following two questions. Both answers are meant to be short, and you will have 250 words to answer each question. We'll use your answers along with your organisation details and website, to judge whether your work is a potential match for our aims.

* What would you like Esmée to support?
* How is your organisation well placed to deliver this change?

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| **Please note that you will not be able to save the form so if you’re not ready to complete your Expression of Interest, you will need to start again.** |

## Response times

We will get back to you by 25 May about your Expression of Interest.

## Are we the right funder for you

It is difficult to get funding from Esmée. The vast majority of people who apply for our funding are not supported.

For the Blue Spaces Programme, we are seeking to encourage organisations to develop projects, a few of which we may support at a higher level in the longer-term.

We are aiming to support new ideas and partnerships, which may be more undeveloped so may consider smaller grants where we think the proposed work fits well with the aims of the Blue Spaces programme.

Before continuing, please check if we are the right funder for you.

### What Blue Spaces-Wales doesn’t support:

* Organisations without an asset lock – unless they are a registered charity
* Grants for less than £10,000.
* Work that is not legally charitable.
* Work that does not have a direct benefit in Wales.
* Grants to individuals.
* Capital costs including building work, renovations, and equipment
* Academic research – unless it can demonstrate real potential for practical outcomes.
* Healthcare with a clinical basis
* Independent education.
* Work that is primarily the responsibility of statutory authorities.
* The promotion of religion.

### We’re looking to support work that:

* Aims to improve freshwater habitats and species in a place.
* Engages with and is shaped by the diverse communities in a place particularly those who experience discrimination or face barriers to accessing nature, as well as landowners, land managers and farmers.
* Involves new and unusual collaborations and ambitious partnerships, engaging with local communities and a range of charity, public sector or corporate stakeholders.
* Has benefits for people and communities – for example: flood risk management, opportunities for access to and enjoyment of freshwater, engaging in citizen science, links to community-led regeneration and enterprise.
* Is ambitious and has a longer-term vision to deliver, or is seeking resources to co-create a vision with communities and partners.
* Has the potential to leverage partnership funding to develop innovative approaches to funding (including private investment).
* Is pioneering by breaking new ground, or using tried and tested models to push things forward in a new way.

Please note, that we do not expect applications to meet all of the above.

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

We are also gathering Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) data from organisations who apply for our funding. Once you’ve submitted your Expression of Interest, you will be redirected to a DEI monitoring form. We want to use the information we gather to help us identify and address structural inequity, and ensure that the reach of our funding and our funding practices are fair and just.

# Page 2: Grant Applications

**Please note:** All questions are mandatory unless specified otherwise.

## About your organisation

| **Question** | **Answer** |
| --- | --- |
| Is your organisation a Registered Charity? | Multiple choice – choose from:* We are a registered charity in England and/or Wales
* We are a registered charity in Scotland
* We are a registered charity in Northern Ireland
* We are not a registered charity

Registered charities will be asked for your Charity Number. Those registered in England and/or Wales can search for their Charity Number using the search tool, which will automatically complete some of the relevant fields about your organisation. |
| Does your organisation have a Company Number | Multiple choice – choose from:* Yes
* No

If selecting ‘Yes’, you will also be asked to select the ‘Legal Type’ of your organisation from a dropdown bar. Options include:* Building Society
* Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
* Charity
* Community Benefit Society
* Community Interest Company (CIC)
* Company Limited by Guarantee
* Company Limited by Shares
* Cooperative
* Credit Union
* Industrial & Provident Society (IPS)
* Limited Liability Partnership
* Other
* Unincorporated Association
* University
 |
| Name of your Organisation | Free Text box  |
| Organisations website | Free Text box |
| Number of employees  | Free Text box (number of FTE – full time equivalent staff) |
| Number of Trustees and/or non-executive directors | Free Text box (number) |
| Most recent accounting year’s annual turnover (£) | Free Text box (please enter a round number, without commas or a currency sign) |
| Address of the Organisation | Free Text boxes for you to fill in:* Street
* City
* County
* Postal Code

Drop down box for you to select which country your Organisation is based in |

## Your organisation’s leadership

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| --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Answer** |
| Does your organisation’s leadership share one or both of the following identities? | Choose from the following options:* Communities experiencing racial inequity
* Disabled
* None of the above

You can choose Communities experiencing racial inequity AND Disabled by using CTRL + clicking both options. Additional guidance is below.Definitions:* **Communities experiencing racial inequity:**by this we mean, that 75% or more of the Board/Management committee AND 50% of senior staff (where staff exist) are from communities experiencing racial inequity. This is often referred to as 'Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic', BAME or Black and Minority Ethnic (BME).
* **Disabled people:**by this we mean that 75% or more of the Board/Management committee AND 50% of senior staff (where staff exist) are D/deaf or disabled.

In addition to this question, applicants will also be asked to complete a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion monitoring form, which you will be directed to after completing your Expression of Interest. |

## Your contact details

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| --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Answer** |
| Your contact details | Free Text boxes for you to fill in:* Primary Contact First Name
* Primary Contact Last Name
* Primary Contact Job Title
* Primary Contact Telephone
* Primary Contact Email
* Confirm Primary Contact Email
 |

## Name of your work and type of funding

| **Question** | **Answer** |
| --- | --- |
| Enter the name of the work you’d like Esmée to support | Free Text box (please use one sentence to sum up your work – maximum 230 characters) |

## Further questions about your work

| **Question** | **Answer** |
| --- | --- |
| Are you looking to fund a building project, or renovation work? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Are you looking to support an individual? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Is the funding for healthcare?  | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Is the funding for independent education? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Is the work for the advancement of religion? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Is the work primarily the responsibility of statutory authorities? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Is the work you are asking us to fund legally charitable?  | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Does your organisation have an asset lock clause in its constitution? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Is the primary focus of this proposal in Wales? | Choose from:* Yes
* No
 |
| Please select from the fields below the level and geographic that will benefit from the work proposed | Choose from a range of options |

## Funding request

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| How much money are you applying for? | Free Text box (Please enter a round number – no decimals. Do not include the currency sign or any commas) |
| How many months support are you applying for? | Free Text box (Please enter the number of months, to the nearest whole month. There is no need to write “months”) |

## Your Expression of Interest

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| **Question** | **Answer**  |
| What would you like Esmée to support?*We’re interested in:* * *What you plan to do*
* *How it will support people and organisations to look after their local freshwaters*
* *Your longer-term vision for the work*
 | Free text 250 words |
| How is your organisation well placed to deliver this change? *We’re interested in:* * *Who you’re working with*
* *The stage of development you’re at in your idea or project*
 | Free text 250 words |
| If you have an existing 1-2 page summary about your work, you can upload it.  | You can use the ‘Choose file’ button to upload a supporting document. Please note this is optional, and if you don’t already have an existing document to upload, please don’t worry about creating something new. |

## Submitting your form

You will be redirected to a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion monitoring form. You will know that all the information has been submitted when you are taken to a ‘thank you’ page.

We will then review your expression of interest and get back to you within the next month. In the meantime, if you have any queries, you can get in touch with us by emailing us.

There are two buttons at the bottom of the page:

* Previous page (this will take you back to the Guidance)
* Submit (this will take you to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion monitoring form)