

## Bright Green Nature

### 'Wild Your Space' Microfund

#### Guidance Document v2

##### Background

Much community funding is focused on supporting collectively owned or used places in the community, or providing resources for broad community use. Very little, if any, support is available for 'microfunding' individuals, families or small school groups to restore or preserve nature on a very small scale. However, small areas of land, such as gardens, are incredibly valuable in creating areas where wildlife can flourish, especially if connected with similar spaces.

##### Objective

The objective of the microfund is to provide a small amount of grant funding for individuals families and small school groups in the Scottish Borders to 'wild' their garden, balcony or other small green space that they own.

##### Benefits

Direct benefit to grant recipients through increased knowledge and engagement with nature based activities. Direct benefit to locality through providing spaces to benefit wildlife, habitats and ecosystems, including potential contribution to Nature networks on a small but important scale.

##### Grant

Grants are awarded once every two months (the funding period). Initially there will be a total 'pot' of £500 available for each funding period.

**The maximum amount of grant that an applicant can request is £350.** The number of successful recipients and the amount awarded to each will vary depending on the number and scope of suitable applications approved.

##### Eligibility

- Open to households (people living at one address) in the Scottish Borders
- Open to schools in the Scottish Borders
- Own or have unrestricted access to a garden or outdoor space in the Scottish Borders

##### Focus for Applicants

To be eligible, projects must fulfil at least one of the following criteria:

- Restore natural places to benefit native wildlife
- Connect habitats with other similar habitats (including gardens)

## **Call for Applications**

- Funding calls will be made via the Bright Green Nature website ([www.brightgreennature.org](http://www.brightgreennature.org)) and social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram)
- Calls will be made every two (2) months, on or close to the 21<sup>st</sup> of every second month
- The microgrant will run as long as there are funds available to support it.

## **Application Process**

Please complete the short Word based form (see “**Wild your Space Application Form**”). Questions are centered around what the funds will be used for; how they will benefit wildlife and/or nature and a basic budget breakdown, as well as providing details on sources of costs.

One question will be around need/additionality (need for funding) – i.e. what would happen if this wasn't funded?

A further question will explore whether other sources of funding have been explored.

## **Funds and Guidance**

Funds will be sent directly to successful applicants bank account.

Guidance on projects will be provided to applicants if required, but no help will be provided with labour etc.

Grant recipients should spend the grant monies within six (6) months of receipt.

## **Reporting requirements and use of information**

Successful grant recipients will be expected to compile a short (email/bullet point) report to detail how the grant has been spent, including photographs showing the project.

Successful grant recipients will not be able to apply again to the BGN Microfund for (12) months.

BGN reserves the be able to use photographs for its own marketing purposes. GDPR principles to apply to applicant's data.