

Expression of Interest Guidance

Please contact Mark Rose (01730-819219, mark.rose@southdownstrust.org.uk) with any queries relating to the Expression of Interest.

Please note the following important points:

- Unfortunately, we are **unable to provide project advice at this stage** of the programme – we will work directly with landowners in further phases.
- The site on which you intend to improve habitat for pollinators **must lie within the South Downs National Park boundary** to be eligible. Please see <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-applications/residents/> to check whether the site falls within the National Park
- The program is open to the following types of applicants within the following grant and match funding parameters:
 - a. **Partner** (Wildlife Trust or National Trust for instance) – max grant of £5,000, 50% match funding and partner must commit to maintain the site without further support after year 1.
 - b. **Farmer** – max grant of £5,000, 50% match funding which can include in-kind and farmer must commit to maintain the site without support after year 3.
 - c. **Local authority** (parish, town, district or county councils for instance) – max grant of £5,000, 50% match funding can include in-kind and council must maintain the site without further support after year 3.
 - d. **Private landowners** (large houses or small holdings for instance) – max grant of £2,500, 50% match funding can include in-kind and landowner must commit to maintain the site without further support after year 3.
 - e. **Other** - Contact Mark Rose if you do not fall into any of these categories but would still like to apply.
- Please note that **we do not require you to undertake any detailed planning or research before you submit your Expression of Interest.** However, if you do have a project plan then we would appreciate as much detail as you can provide at this stage.

Submitting your Expression of Interest:

- 1) Visit www.projects.southdowns.gov.uk and register as a new user.
- 2) Login to www.projects.southdowns.gov.uk using your email address and password.

- 3) Click on “My applications” and then “New Applications”
- 4) Click on “Apply” next to “Beelines – Expression of Interest”
- 5) Complete the Expression of Interest and ensure you fill out each section which is mandatory (marked with a red dot).
- 6) The final page is a validation page and will show any outstanding fields which are required on the previous page. If there are no areas outlined to be completed, then click “Save and Close”.
- 7) You will then be taken to the “covering” page for your application where you can edit, delete, validate and submit it. Click “Validate” (if the Validate button is not available it is because not all of the required fields have been completed) and then “Submit” to submit your application

Please see below for specific guidance relating to each question on the EOI.

2. **Applicant type** – applicants are expected to be one of the following:

- a. **Partner** (Wildlife Trust or National Trust for instance) – max grant of £5,000, 50% match funding and partner must commit to maintain the site without further support after year 1.
- b. **Farmer** – max grant of £5,000, 50% match funding which can include in-kind and farmer must commit to maintain the site without support after year 3.
- c. **Local authority** (parish, town, district or county councils for instance) – max grant of £5,000, 50% match funding can include in-kind and council must maintain the site without further support after year 3.
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- e. **Other** - Contact Mark Rose if you do not fall into any of these categories but would still like to apply.

3. **Site Address** – please provide the street address of the site.

4. **Site Town** – please provide the name of the town, village or parish in which the site sits.

5. **Site County** – please provide the name of the county in which the site sits.

6. **Site Location** – please provide the Easting and Northing coordinates for the site using www.gridreferencefinder.com:

1. Access the website; enter whichever location details you have into the search bar on the left of the screen and click "go".
2. Ensure that you have the correct location selected by checking the location using the map which is represented by a drawing pin.
3. If you would like to create a new drawing pin closer to the actual location Right Click on the desired location
4. Details of the location will appear when you hover over the drawing pin. The X and Y coordinates are the Easting and Northing coordinates.
5. Copy both sets of the 6 digit accurately and insert them into the Easting (X) and Northing (Y) fields in the form.

7. **Landowner name and address** – please provide the name and address of the landowner if it is different from the applicant.
8. **Describe the proposed site and explain why you feel it has the potential to improve habitat and connectivity for pollinators** – please consider:
 - a. the **beelines connectivity map** (<https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/>)
 - b. **other habitat** sites in the local area which your site could connect with (for instance in terms of hedgerows, ponds, chalk grassland, wildflower meadows, heather, heathland or field margins) – sites with high levels of connectivity will be prioritised.
 - c. **community impact** – will there be a broader community impact? For instance, is the site accessible to the public? Would a wildflower meadow adjacent to a footpath improve public amenity and provide opportunities for education through interpretation panels etc.
9. **Please provide an explanation of estimated project cost if you are able to do so – this is not required.** Please share any quotes or project budget information that you may have already established for the delivery and ongoing management of the site. We will work with projects who are shortlisted to establish a plan and costs so this is not a requirement for your submission.
10. **Rough estimate of grant request from SDNPA** – please provide an estimate in numbers of how much grant you may require from Beelines.
11. What, if any (not necessary), **research and planning** have you carried out thus far. Please consider any information you have on:
 - a. Which **pollinator species** you would like to improve habitat for.
 - b. What type of **habitat** you would like to create and how this would support the pollinators.
 - c. **budget** including annual management costs.
 - d. **match funding** (pending or secured).

We will work with projects who are shortlisted to establish a plan and costs so this is not a requirement for your submission.

12. What added value can you, your organisation or the site itself bring:

Some examples of added value may be:

- Cash contributions to the project's cost
- In-kind contribution of equipment, materials or volunteer time to the project's delivery and maintenance.
- Will be accessible for educational and/or research visits

13. Uploads:

- a. The sitemap should clearly show your site and surrounding features which could contribute to a pollinator corridor.
- b. Photographs which may show how the site currently looks and perhaps pictures giving an idea of how you would like it to look once developed.