

## Visual Impact Provision Landscape Enhancement Initiative

### Guidance on Match Funding

Applications to the Landscape Enhancement Initiative can be for up to 75% of total project costs. All applicants are expected to submit a detailed project budget that clearly shows where the remaining 25% contribution will come from. Note, the matching 25% contribution must be confirmed and in place *prior* to submitting a full application.

The match funding might come from the applicant's own reserves or fund-raising activities, however, the matched contribution could include in-kind contributions such as:

#### **Volunteer time**

Volunteer time can include anyone required to help deliver a project and make it a success. This might include people giving time to help with labouring, fundraising, project management or any other part of a project. National Grid does not prescribe rates to apply for volunteering but expects applicants to include costs at realistic market rates depending on the type of work being carried out. For general volunteering you might want to consider using the national average wage, which is around £14 an hour.

Note: Time spent designing the project and writing the application should NOT be included.

#### **Pro-bono work**

Similar to volunteer time, applicants can include any pro-bono work such as from a lawyer, accountant or project manager. For example, someone providing accountancy or legal advice should be able to tell you his or her normal hourly market rate.

#### **Donations of land**

If there would normally be a charge for use of the land where a project is taking place or if a landowner has agreed to provide land for a project this could be included in the 25% contribution.

#### **Donations machinery**

Applicants might be able to find people willing to donate resources such as specialist machinery needed to deliver a project. This should be costed in at the equivalent rate of hiring or purchasing this equipment.

#### **Donations of other resources**

Similarly, if items needed for a project such as plants, stone, gravel, timber etc can be sourced for less than full cost, or even for free, then the difference can be added to the 25% contribution.

#### **Fundraising**

If there are plans to undertake any fundraising activities to raise income for a project the cost of putting on these activities could also be included in the 25% contribution.

#### **Income from other funders**

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The 25% contribution could be in the form of a grant from another funder, however, this funding needs to have been confirmed before you apply and it is also important that the funder is happy for their award to be used as match funding in this way.