



22 JUN 2007



26 JUN 2007

Ref: E815/TG/Jun07

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25 June 2007

Dear Mr Guthrie

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE/NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK & ASSOCIATED PROJECTS – GRANT BID 2008/10

Following your recent discussions with John Lauder, Sustrans Scotland Director, I am writing to inform you of our invitation to bid for funding for the above programme.

We currently receive £4 million a year from the Scottish Executive under the heading 'Developing, managing and promoting the National Cycle Network', £3 million of which goes to partners (Local Authorities, National Parks, British Waterways and Forestry Commission). The funding supports walking and cycling route design, construction, and the promotion of active travel, all aimed at reducing short car trips.

With the creation of RTP's we are now in a position to seek your involvement in project delivery.

All our partners bid for funding through a four step process:

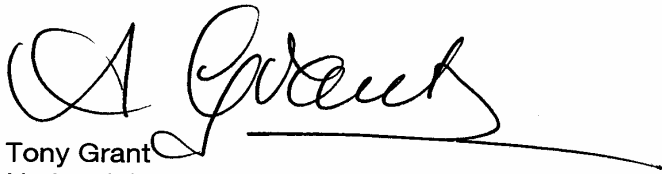
- initial feasibility studies
- detailed design preparation
- addressing land, access and planning issues
- final construction, marketing and monitoring

We are now seeking applications from our partners for the financial years 2008/10 and I attach a copy of the letter and enclosures which have just gone out to them.

If you would like to be involved with your local authorities in this bid, please discuss ideas with them and let me know how you intend to proceed on joint project delivery.

I look forward to working with you in due course

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Grant', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Tony Grant
National Cycle Network Manager
Sustrans, Scotland

Enc(s): Bid Letter
 Bid Pro-forma
 Possible Partner Projects List
 Partner Contact List



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Dear

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE/NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK & ASSOCIATED PROJECTS – GRANT BID 2008/10

As you may be aware, during 2006/08, Sustrans has been managing an £8 million grant from the Sustainable Transport Team of the Scottish Executive's Transport Division. Over £6 million of this has been made available to Local Authorities and other partners for works on or associated with the National Cycle Network and other strategic cycling and walking projects.

We are now putting together a bid for the period 2008/10 for a similar level of partner grant.

In view of the sustainable sums available, we and the Executive have agreed that partners must:

- consider cycling and walking as serious and viable methods of transport and are prepared to allocate staff accordingly;
- be prepared to take an innovative approach to cycling and walking infrastructure provision;
- take a robust attitude to planning, land and access matters;
- have the political support for projects of this type

We will therefore be targeting the grant at those who can demonstrate enthusiasm, flexibility, imagination, commitment and resource allocation. Too often, in the past, we have been disappointed that these qualities have not been applied to the projects we are funding.

As in previous years the bid is speculative, although to date the Executive have granted us the requested allocation in full. A request will also be sent to the Regional Transport Partnerships with whom you may wish to co-ordinate your bids.

The following guidance should be applied when considering your bids:

- projects should be implemented in the financial year 2008-09 and/ or 2009-10 i.e. bids can be made for projects in one or other of the years or phased over both years;

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- anticipated grant decision by the Executive is late autumn 2007 with allocation early in 2008;
- projects need to be substantially complete by the end of the corresponding financial year, with expected 2-3 month flexibility for grant claim processing;
- expected grant level is 100%, although willingness to match-fund will assist selection.

The types of project which might be considered are:

- preparation work towards project implementation, such as design, negotiation and planning studies;
- construction work for studies/designs previously funded;
- upgrading of routes or re-routing to a better alignment in particular to meet DDA requirements;
- new on- or off-road cycle/walking schemes
- sustainable links to generators of use, such as communities, stations, schools, health facilities, historic sites and other cycle routes (*note: we will also be managing a separate short links project and will be contacting you on this in due course*);
- signage and promotion;
- user monitoring and surveys;
- cycle parking;
- public art, seats and gateways on off-road paths.

We wish to have your preliminary proposals by the end of July for our bid submission to the Executive in August.

In order to assist you with selection of projects, my colleagues and I have carried out a brain-storming exercise based on our knowledge of the National Cycle Network and other cycling projects. The results of this are enclosed but are, of course, not exhaustive. We hope this will help when choosing your bid.

I hope you will be interested in working with us to submit bids which should be made on the enclosed pro-forma. We would appreciate an indication of your interest in principle by the end of June.

Should you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Tony Grant
National Cycle Network Manager
Sustrans, Scotland

Enc(s): Bid Pro-forma
 Possible Partner Projects List