



National Trails UK

Member Newsletter

Issue # 8 August 2025

Welcome to the latest issue of the NTUK newsletter!

It has been another busy month for NTUK. Having welcomed Rob last month to NTUK, this month we had one of our quarterly in-person team meetings. As a remote team, these meetings are really important times to harness our collective thinking power to work through projects in particular depth. During this time, we officially begun planning for the Summit 2026! We'll be sending a save the date in the coming weeks. NTUK members get discounted tickets as part of our membership offer. Not sure if your National Trail is a member? Just get in touch with us: info@nationaltrails.uk

Policy Corner

APPG response:

As mentioned in the last newsletter, NTUK responded to the call for evidence from the newly-formed APPG for Outdoor Recreation and Access to nature. You can read our response, created in consultation with NTUK members, on our website via the link below.

<https://www.nationaltrails.uk/news/ntuk-responds-to-appg-call-for-evidence>

NTUK at National Trail Partnership meetings

We're looking at how we can better connect with our National Trail members. As a part of this, we'd love to attend and present updates at your partnership meetings. Having attended many Partnership meetings, I have found them incredibly useful, helping me and the team stay up to date with the current progress, plans and problems of the different National Trails. This helps NTUK to better serve our members. We can also present updates on our work, and answer any questions that the Partnership might have. Speaking to National Trails who have invited NTUK to their Partnership meeting, many have found it a helpful additional agenda item.

If you would like to have NTUK present at your National Trail Partnership meeting, please can you send the invite to our join inbox: info@nationaltrails.uk. We look forward to seeing you!

The Nineveh Charitable Trust grants open for applications

The Nineveh Charitable Trust supports a broad range of UK-based projects and activities of benefit to the General Public, and that further their charity objectives:

- 1.The health, welfare and education of the general public
- 2.The study and appreciation of agriculture, silviculture, ecology and land management
- 3.The study and appreciation of land and estate management that encourages conservation of the countryside.

While the Trust prefers to pay grants to UK registered charities or Community Interest Companies, individual applicants may be considered if the outcome benefits are clearly defined.

To find out more, please visit their website: <https://ninevehtrust.org.uk/>

Get a £1,000 funding boost in just one minute!

The next Movement for Good prize draw is taking place on the 22nd of September. You can nominate any registered charity to win £1,000 by **filling in a short form** that takes no longer than one minute. If your National Trail has an associated charity then please do nominate them and share with your audiences.

You can nominate as many charities as you like, and the more nominations a charity receives the more likely its chances of receiving £1,000 of unrestricted funding.

We have already nominated every National Trail charity and we'd be delighted if you could include National Trails UK in your nominations by clicking **here**.

For more information visit movementforgood.com.



Motability funding for active travel

The Motability Foundation has opened its organisation grants, including for better access to active travel experiences and equipment. As the name suggests, this fund aims to improve active travel options for disabled people, including:

- Active travel equipment hire.
- Grant programmes for active travel equipment.
- Services supporting disabled people to engage in active travel.
- Training for disabled people that want to engage in active travel.
- Pilots to test new models or solutions.

Grants will be from £50,000 to £1million, over a maximum period of three years.

This funding is for organisations which have been active for three years and are one of the following: charities, Incorporated Charity, Company Limited by Guarantee, Community Interest Company (CIC) or Community Benefit Society.

The Grant can be used for:

- Active travel work which is helping disabled people get from A to B, or active travel as a recreational activity. This does not include competitive or social sport.
- Funding for schemes, programmes and initiatives that already exist, and provide best practice solutions, but need support to remain operational or scale up the service they provide to help more disabled people.
- Test new solutions or approaches to addressing barriers.



- Staff and volunteer training or costs.
- Full cost recovery grants which include indirect costs.
- Local, regional or national initiatives to increase awareness of active travel.

Applicant organisations should have:

- an annual income of at least £50,000 for each of the last three financial years.
- free reserves equivalent to at least three months' worth of unrestricted expenditure at the point of application.

The deadline for applications is 15 December 2025.

For full eligibility and how to apply, please see the Motability Foundation website:

<https://www.motabilityfoundation.org.uk/organisation-grants/better-access-to-active-travel-experiences-and-equipment/>

Protected Landscapes Partnership Corner

NTUK Coastal Wildbelt and Nature Recovery Test & Trial Fund

We've had our first four applications to the Test & Trial Fund and are looking forward to seeing more in the coming weeks!

Just a reminder... With funding from the Protected Landscapes Partnership, this grant provides flexible criteria with a simple application process to deliver innovative people and nature projects. You do not need to be a National Trail Officer (NTO) to apply, but we do require that NTOs are engaged in your project development and delivery. The funding pot, totalling £70,000, is split equally between two programmes:

1. Coastal Wildbelt: a national initiative whose vision is to see a coast where nature thrives and communities flourish—where people feel connected, the landscape is celebrated, and anyone can enjoy its beauty, culture, and opportunities.

2. National Trails Nature Recovery Programme: is supporting National Trails to become nature-rich corridors that connect people to nature.

This funding is for capital works (including Research & Development), with a maximum of £10,000 per application. Funding can only be used for projects in England and cannot make up the trail partnerships 25% match funding.

You can apply to the Coastal Wildbelt pot for all project proposals located on the English coastline.



Our Nature Recovery Programme pot is available to all other English National Trails/sections of trails (where delivery is not on the coast).

Applications are open now, with no fixed deadline. We will be reviewing applications on a rolling, first come first served basis. We will update the website when these pots are closed. Should you wish to apply but are concerned with capacity, please reach out to the relevant fund manager below to see how we can best support you.

All projects must be delivered by 31st March 2026.

For more information and how to apply, check out our website [HERE](#).

For any further questions please contact:
Coastal Wildbelt fund – contact Kate Jury on kate@nationaltrails.uk
Nature Recovery Programme fund – contact Hannah Brightley on hannah@nationaltrails.uk

Data & Evidence support for the National Trails

National Trails UK is fortunate to have support on Data & Evidence from the Protected Landscapes Partnership's Senior Evidence Coordinator, Leo Fisher.

As part of this, here are some of the recent tools Leo & the team have produced and some upcoming opportunities:

- [NTUK Data webinar – Protected Landscapes Partnership new tools/data](#) – recording of our recent webinar, where Leo presented the Evidence Finder Tool and gathered your feedback
- [Evidence Finder Tool](#) – developed to help you find nationally available evidence on nature, people, and heritage all in one place. For more background to the tool, please see the above webinar recording. A reminder to download the excel file to your computer for best functionality.
- [Data Download Newsletter](#) – subscribe if you want to keep up with the latest data/evidence stories across the protected landscapes and National Trails
- **Offer of support** – to further develop the PLP's offer to National Trails, Leo is offering 1:1 support to 1 National Trail to help with your data needs.

If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please reach out to hannah@nationaltrails.uk by COB Friday 5th September

Big Chalk Nature Recovery Fund - information session

Earlier this month, the Big Chalk Nature recovery fund was launched. Funded by DEFRA through the Protected Landscapes Partnership, this fund is for capital projects that could help restore and reconnect southern England's chalk and limestone landscapes.

If you're looking for further information about the fund priorities, how the application process works, what the assessment panel will be looking for, and any other questions you might have, you can join the **applicant information session** — your practical guide to applying for the [Big Chalk Nature Recovery Fund](#). This **session will be 14.00 - 15.00, on Wednesday 3rd September.**

Before you join:

- [Review the fund guidance so you can make the most of the session](#)
- Bring your questions for the Q&A
- The session will be recorded and available to watch later

You can book a slot the session via the link below:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/076d10d4-658c-4d2d-b01b-b588a68cada0@8a459a14-b31f-4225-9cd3-3b7f17028cbc>

Local Nature Recovery Strategies

Submit a response to your Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation.

The following are currently open and closing by:

- [Surrey](#) – 25th September (North Downs Way (74 km), Thames Path (28 km))
- [Worcestershire](#) – 26th September (Cotswolds Way (6 km))
- [Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin](#) – 15th October (Offa's Dyke Path (45 km))

With the following soon to be released for consultation:

- Gloucestershire – Cotswolds Way (124 km), Offa's Dyke Path (30 km), Thames Path (16 km)
- Greater London - Thames Path (104 km), ECP (21 km)
- Hertfordshire - Ridgeway (8km)
- Somerset - South West Coast Path (72 km), ECP (134 km)

If you don't have time, keep an eye out for an email from Hannah (Nature Recovery Programme Manager) to review, input into and/or copy her draft response.

Not sure what LNRSs are and how they relate to National Trails and coastal margin? [Check out our recent blog post.](#)



Dates for your Diary



Coast Path Forum

Wednesday 10th September 2pm – 3:15pm

Email Helen Terry, Chair of the Coast Path Forum should you not be on the list and want to get involved at helen.terry@norfolk.gov.uk

NTUK Webinar: Responsible Dog Ownership on National Trails – 25 September 10:30-12 (online)

Please join us for an exciting agenda that will share tools, resources, and practical case studies of working with dog owners that can be replicated across the National Trails. If you haven't yet received the invite, please contact hannah@nationaltrails.uk



Delivering benefits for access & heritage on Hadrian's Wall Path with a Generic Consent

Wednesday 15th October 5pm – Friday 17th October 12pm
The Sill National Landscape Discovery Centre, Northumberland National Park

Our National Trails connect thousands of heritage sites across the UK. Maintaining the trail is often fundamental to the protection and continued access to these sites. Few appreciate this more than the team behind Hadrian's Wall Path.

Join us to hear how the team has utilised a Generic Consent to deliver more streamlined and effective outcomes for access, heritage and nature along the Wall. This field trip will be hosted and led by the Northumberland National Park, and is aimed at National Trail Officers/staff with existing experience in working with scheduled monuments. Places are limited, **please sign up [HERE](#) by COB Friday 5th September or if you would like further information, please contact: hannah@nationaltrails.uk**

If you're new to this area of work, do keep an eye out – we hope to offer an introductory field trip along Offa's Dyke Path later in the financial year.