

ISLAND RIVERS PARTNERSHIP

Island Rivers Catchment Project Fund

The Fund will be financed by Southern Water and managed by the Island Rivers Catchment Partnership Hosts (Natural Enterprise).

Its aims are:

1. To enable the development and delivery of new catchment actions associated with Southern Water and the Island Rivers Catchment Partnerships objectives.
2. To support and help coordinate ongoing partnership projects aligned to Southern Water and the Catchment Host/Catchment Partnership priorities.

The fund will be overseen and coordinated by the Catchment Partnership's Project Officer who will have delegated authority to agree grants up to £500. Applications for amounts exceeding this will be assessed by an Approvals Board.

The fund's Approvals Board will consist of:
Southern Water Catchment Management Team
Natural Enterprise Managing Director
Island Rivers Partnership Manager

All applications will be assessed according to their alignment with the fund's priorities and value for money.

The **Island Rivers Partnership Catchment Project Fund** seeks to support Southern Water's AMP8 objectives (Appendix 1) and the priorities of the [Island Rivers Partnership Management Plan](https://islandrivers.org.uk/island-rivers/island-rivers-catchment-plan/) – <https://islandrivers.org.uk/island-rivers/island-rivers-catchment-plan/>.

The first round of the **Island Rivers Partnership Catchment Project Fund** will open for applications on the **1st of June 2026**, with funding of £50,000 to be made available until March 2027. However, if funds are exhausted prior to March 2027 the fund may close early. There is an expectation that further funds will be made available in the future.

Summary

- Grants are available for capital and revenue expenditure.
- Priority will be given to projects in the Catchment Partnership's Priority Project Pipeline Plan.
- The project must benefit the Island Rivers Partnership catchment area.
- Priority will be given to collaborative projects involving more than one Island Rivers partner.
- Grants do not need to be matched with private funds, but if a match is available, this will enhance the value for money assessment.
- Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis.
- Successful applicants are responsible for obtaining any required landowner permissions, licences and statutory consents before commencing project activity. The Island Rivers Partnership cannot accept liability for works undertaken without the appropriate approvals.

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- All expenditure and delivery must be completed by 31st March 2027 unless otherwise agreed.
- Evidence of expenditure and a project report are to be provided by the project lead by 31st March 2027.
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- Those projects delivering the greatest benefit and aligning to the fund's priorities will receive funding. It is a competitive fund and therefore it is anticipated that it will not be possible to support all the applications received.
- We aim to respond to applications received within five working days.

For more information and an Application Form please email marianne.combe@naturalenterprise.co.uk or call us on 01983 224926.