Appendix 1

Spelthorne Borough Council

Requests for Funding from the Green Initiatives Fund

Prior to making this application, please consider carefully the criteria below to the make sure you meet and evidence meeting the criteria below. If you do not meet the criteria your application will not progress to the Climate Change Working Group and Environment Sustainability Committee for consideration. If you require any further assistance with completing this form or would like to receive the form and guidance in an alternative format, please ask.

Your project must meet at least one of the following criteria:

The project …

a) Contributes to meeting the Council's climate change targets of meeting net zero in the Council estate or the wider Spelthorne community.
b) Provides opportunities to create and support carbon sink initiatives within the Borough, including landscaping and more tree planting.
c) Contributes towards reducing the carbon footprint of the Council's estate and the Borough as a whole.
d) Develops opportunities to improve facilities for walking and cycling in the Borough to help reduce car use.
e) Encourages more sustainable travel.
f) Improves and encourages waste prevention and recycling.
g) Meets Spelthorne Borough Council's objectives for the Environment in the Corporate Plan and complies with at least one of our key objectives.
h) Contributes to developing opportunities for larger projects which address 'green' priorities within the Corporate Plan.

Applicants must …

i) Belong to an organisation that can prove financial stability over a period of time and not have any existing large balances not allocated.
j) Not apply for multiple elements of financial support for the same objective. (Unless you are specifically requesting match funding.)
k) Have clearly defined outcomes and deliverables for the funding requested.
l) Address how they will monitor key performance indicators towards their goals and demonstrate how they have been successful in achieving them.

Appendix 1

Contact details

Name and position	Stewart Pomeroy, Managing Agent
Organisation	Colne Valley Regional Park Trust
Charity CIO number (if applicable)	1181303
Address of organisation	Colne Valley Visitor Centre, Denham Court Drive, Denham, Bucks, UB9 5PG
Location services will be provided or project will take place	North and West Spelthorne inc: Staines Moor, Stanwell Moor, paths, rivers and landscape around Staines town ctr, Reservoirs etc
Contact phone	
Contact email	

Your Project

Please provide information to clearly demonstrate what you wish to achieve with the funding you are applying for and how you will measure success.

Please provide as much detail as possible here including who are your stakeholders, where and how the funding will be spent. Please detail the importance of this and why you believe this funding will contribute positively to mitigating or adapting to climate change. Please refer to our Corporate Plan and aims and detail which one/s your proposal supports.

You can also submit additional information to support your application by email.

Considerations	**Response**
Aims and Project Objectives Corporate Priority Alignment	Overall aim is for Protection and Enhancement of Natural Assets: Safeguarding the environmental quality, biodiversity, and landscape character of the Colne Valley, including key Spelthorne sites such as Staines Moor and the Colne, Wraysbury, Ash river corridors. This will be delivered by: A) Strengthen joint working on land-use planning, nature recovery, and biodiversity enhancement across Spelthorne/CVRP geographical crossover. B) Support a coordinated approach to regional landscape management that reflects both local and cross-boundary priorities. C) Ensure consistent and aligned communications when engaging with political stakeholders and during lobbying activity.

	D) Develop environmental projects and fundraise to bring in external funding to, at least, quadruple the investment from SBC. **This will help the Council deliver the following aims from the corporate plan:** **Community** Theme 2 Healthier Communities. **Resilience** Theme 3 Preparing for the effects of climate change. **Environment** Theme 2 - Protecting and enhancing our environment. Theme 3- championing local action.
Business justification provided and options considered including. - Benefits, Deliverables & Objectives - High Level Financials & ROI in terms of carbon savings, wellbeing benefits, reduction in pollution, seed corn funding	This will enhance the environment for the benefit of Spelthorne residents, improve walking & cycling and access to nature. The project will help deliver the Colne & Crane valley's Green Infrastructure Strategy – which is referred to in Policy SP5 of the Spelthorne local plan. It will benefit the council and residents in terms of improved and better-connected green spaces – with the proven health and wellbeing benefits that access to nature brings. The seed corn funding of this grant will enable us to work in partnership with the Council and community groups to develop and fundraise to secure external funding to deliver large projects to address green priorities of the Corporate Plan – as explained in the question below we will multiply the benefits of the grant **at least** four-fold pound for pound in real cash terms.
How will you measure success?	**Workstream 1, Engagement:** involving required engagement with Staines Moor Steering Group, Engaging with strategic planning consultations and responding to relevant planning applications. **Workstream 2, Projects:** No. of projects delivered that align with Spelthorne Local Plan policies, Corporate Plan and CVRPT objectives. Amount of external funding secured: over the course of the 2-year project we will deliver £4 of environmental projects for every £1 invested by Spelthorne Borough Council (We have a track record across the wider CVRP that demonstrates we can achieve this as a minimum – in some years we have brought in over £10 for every £1 invested by local authorities – this is our aspirational aim, but we cannot guarantee that year after year)
Indicative Timeframes	• **start Nov 2026.** Project development and planning inc. liaison with stakeholders inc via Staines Commons group. Make case for funding for environmental enhancement

	within SBC/CVRP crossover to Thames Water and Bupa. Lottery project development forum. • **First bi-annual review with SBC: Feb '26.** Project delivery plan in place. First tranche of external funding secured. Update on making the case to Natural England for them to invest in producing a 'Protected Sites Strategy' for the CVRP. • **2nd review: Apr '27.** ½ way point checking on track with at least ½ the funding raised and a clear plan in place for remaining funds. • **May/June '27:** Submission of large funding application to the Lottery (£multi-million, 5 year project) • **3rd review: Oct '27:** Update on Protected Sites Strategy (or equivalent) • **Autumn '27:** result of Lottery Application. • **Completion & 4th review:** March 2028
Risks	**1)** Any speculative developments and planning appeals that are approved harm the Colne Valley faster than we can restore it! But, this is less likely in Spelthorne than in other boroughs as a) large areas are protected as SSSI b)the council has an up to date local plan that includes a CVRP policy – therefore they are not as vulnerable to speculative applications and appeals as other Councils are. **2)** Further changes to government policy and NPPF weaken Green Belt and SSSI protection. Mitigation = our advocacy for CVRP with Minister for Housing & Planning and the Minister for Nature. **3)**Unable to secure external funding: Mitigation = we are in discussions with Thames Water and BUPA about funding for Staines Moor. We are 1/3rd way through the development phase for an application to the Lottery: 'Colne Connections'
Stakeholder Identification	Nearly 100 organisations have joined as members of the CVRP. In Spelthorne this includes Staines Town Society, Spelthorne Natural History Society, Colne Valley Fisheries & Conservation, Spelthorne Borough Council, Surrey County Council and landowners within the borough such as Thames Water and Affinity Water.
Roles & Responsibilities	CVRP will work with stakeholders on project identification, development and will then fundraise to secure external funding to implement projects.

	A biannual partnership meeting with SBC will review progress, coordinate delivery, and identify future priorities.
Communication Plan	We will use social media channels to reach the general public. We will engage with specialist audiences through Staines Commons Steering Group, Colne Catchment Action Network and liaise as appropriate with community groups eg Spelthorne Natural History Society, Staines Town Society and Residents Associations. To ensure consistent messaging: • We will work collaboratively with Spelthorne Borough Council (and other local stakeholders) on political engagement with government (to advocate for Protection and Restoration of the CVRP) and public facing communications. • Where appropriate, CVRP may support SBC led engagement, particularly on cross boundary, strategic landscape, or regional policy matters. • Both parties will endeavour to coordinate approaches when engaging regional or national stakeholders, while recognising that complete alignment may not always be possible due to differing roles, responsibilities, or operational constraints.
Amount of funding applied for from Spelthorne	£20,000
Funding agreed from elsewhere	Other local authorities and parish councils are providing funding for other parts of the CVRP outside of Spelthorne. For example: Hillingdon have agreed to provide £27,500/year + RPI-linked increases till 2033.
Please identify where services will be delivered	In the Spelthorne/Colne Valley Regional Park geographical crossover
How have you identified the need for carbon reduction or environmental improvements?	The need for environmental improvement is identified in the 2018 Colne Valley Landscape Character Assessment, 2019 Colne & Crane Valley's Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2026 Surrey Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the 2026 Colne Valley Vision.

Reviewing the application

Once applications have been received, they will be reviewed to ensure that they meet the criteria.

Where applicants do not meet the criteria, they will be told that their application cannot be taken further and signposted to other potential financial support available for what you are trying to achieve.

If it is obvious that an error has been made and crucial information has mistakenly been omitted, and where we are able, we will endeavour to contact you to give you the opportunity to provide the missing information.

It is important to note that unfortunately meeting the criteria does not guarantee you will receive funding from the Green Initiatives Fund. Applications received and those evidencing that they meet our criteria will be considered by the Climate Change Working Group who will then recommend those to go to the Environment and Sustainability Committee for formal approval.

In exceptional cases we may ask you for further information or clarification during the Climate Change Working Group's consideration of your application. The Environment and Sustainability Committee has the final say. We are required to follow this process as we are using public money and need to follow due process.

The final decision and payment

The Climate Change Working Group may decide to recommend to the Environment and Sustainability Committee:

a) That your organisation gets awarded the full amount applied for.
b) That your organisations receive an award for a lower amount than applied for.
c) That your organisation has been unsuccessful for the current year.

Contact details S.Muirhead s.muirhead@spelthorne.gov.uk

Appendix 1 For Non-Council Organisations the following will also be required

Financial status:

Please provide your last set of audited accounts and preferably, where possible, for the previous year. Please note that these will be treated in the strictest confidence, but we need to be reassured that your organisation is financially able to deliver what you are applying for. If you are unable to provide audited accounts, please contact us as a matter of urgency to discuss what you can provide and when. They can be sent securely by email or attached to the electronic application form.

Please provide details of all funding that you have applied for. Please include any applications you have made for funding that remain pending, along with those refused, agreed, or agreed in part. In addition, if you have been advised that an offer of match funding has been made please include that in the table below.

Other grant or applications for financial assistance for the year 2022-2023 and 2025

Organisation applied for, for funding	Reason for application to Green Initiatives Fund	Application amount	Current status of application
London Borough of Hillingdon (outside Spelthorne)		£24,500	Approved.
Buckinghamshire Council (outside Spelthorne)		£12,413	Approved
Parish Councils X 6 (outside Spelthorne)		£13,879	Approved
Corporate Supporters X 10 (inc. Thames Water, SEGRO, Grundon….)		£21,250	Approved
Grants for projects		£9,207	Approved
National Lottery	Colne Connections Development Grant (2025)	£198,158	Granted
Currently developing Colne Connections, a proposed £5.1 million National Lottery			November 2026

Heritage Fund project to restore, enhance and celebrate the natural and cultural heritage of the Colne Valley Regional Park.			

The Aims of your organisation:

It is extremely helpful for the Committee to know about your organisation. How, why and when it was set up and for what purpose. What are your key objectives and how have these changed?

When was your organisation set up?	The Colne Valley Regional Park was established in the mid 1960's (Spelthorne's predecessor organisation 'Staines Urban District Council' were one of the founders). The Colne Valley Regional Park Trust was established in 2018.
If you have charity status when was it awarded?	2018
Why was your organisation created?	To act as lead organisation for the Colne Valley Regional Park.
What are you aiming to achieve?	To restore, enhance and promote the Colne Valley Regional Park
How do you measure success generally?	External funding secured for project delivery, length of path improved, length of river improved, No. of environmental enhancement projects delivered, No. of people engaged with volunteering, No. of MPs/Ministers engaged with the Park.