



1 In order to be considered for financial support from the Trust, projects must

- **be relevant**
 - to UK forestry in the broadest sense
 - to wider UK forestry research priorities
- **have clear**
 - objectives / research questions
 - methods
 - expected research outcomes
 - timeframes
- **have additional funding** from other sources

2 The Trust will not normally support

- projects that have already started
- projects that are the statutory responsibility of other organisations
- general appeals

and will not fund

- major capital costs
- working capital costs
- equipment hire costs
- overheads

3 Intervention rates

Assistance from the SFT will not normally exceed 30% of eligible project costs and will not normally provide more than £20,000 in any one year to a given project. There may be exceptions to this general position if the project is particularly significant in impact terms and the Trustees will take a flexible approach where it is appropriate to do so. All awards are paid net of VAT, which will not be eligible as part of the grant award.

4 Open Access

Where possible, we wish to support open access to the results of projects and research that we support. We realise that there is a cost attached to securing open access rights and are willing to consider this cost as an eligible item of expenditure to which our intervention rates would apply.

5 Full applications and concept notes

Full applications are required for all project proposals, but applicants are encouraged to discuss their project ideas with the Director and to submit a concept note before writing a full application. Full applications and concept notes must be submitted using the Trust's forms.

6 Project assessment

Each project is assessed by a sub committee of Trustees. Further details are available on our website. Applications are reviewed to ensure that there is good relevance to the Trust's aims and objectives; the proposal represents good value for money and has contributory funding in place and, importantly, has a strong project rationale and method description with clear evidence of prior experience, collaboration with others and shows an appropriate dissemination plan.

7 Appeals

The decision of the Trustees is final and no appeals will be considered under any circumstances.