

Landowner Partnership Projects

Landowner Partnership Projects are now being established in the Mid Kent Downs area. These are partnerships between the Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership (MKDCP) and landowners or community groups for small-scale landscape and wildlife conservation projects.



The Character of the Mid Kent Downs Landscape . . .

The Mid Kent Downs is the central part of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The area is characterised by sweeping chalk-downland with great viewing points, wide arable fields interspersed with hedgerows and pockets of ancient woodlands, also extensive parkland and a striking horticultural area with orchards, hop-gardens and shelter-belts. This scheme, along with others in the AONB, aims to conserve and enhance the diverse elements of the landscape in accordance with the wants and needs of local people.



Work areas that can be supported . .

- Replacement / creation of new hedgerows, hedgerow trees, shaw lines, shelter-belts and traditional orchards.
- Traditional hedgerow and woodland management
- Removal of conifers from mixed woodland
- Fencing or other protection of new areas of planting
- Fencing and protection of areas threatened by mis-use such as fly-tipping and dumping
- Scrub clearance and other measures for chalk-grassland restoration and management
- Wildlife pond creation and restoration
- Work to interpret the importance of the landscape and wildlife habitats
- Enhancements to countryside access.

Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership – Linking People, Land and Nature

The Mid
Kent Downs
Countryside Partnership

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Countryside Partnership
gives support and advice
for countryside
conservation work in the
central part of the Kent
Downs Area of
Outstanding Natural
Beauty (AONB).

Linking

People

Land

&

Nature

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Work areas that cannot be supported . . .

- Work already supported by other grants such as Environmental Stewardship and the English Woodland Grant Scheme
- Works required by conditions attached to planning consent or to screen anticipated development
- Routine maintenance such as hedge trimming or weed control
- Planting of commercial orchards, ornamental or coniferous trees and single-line windbreaks
- Work in private gardens


Details of a partnership project

If you have a project which fits the above criteria, you will need to consider the following:

- 1) The MKDCP can cover up to 50% of eligible project costs and you will need to find the rest elsewhere. Eligible costs can not include 'in-kind' contributions such as if you were to carry out some of the labour from your own resources or using volunteers. The applicant will be expected to provide the remainder of the project costs.
- 2) The maximum contribution that can be given by the MKDCP will be £2000; more will be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- 3) You must be in a position to pay the remaining costs of the project and have agreed to maintain works for up to 5 years prior to commencement.
- 4) The remaining costs must be paid by the partner before any costs are incurred. All costs will then be met by MKDCP.
- 5) All works must be completed by 15th February 2010 and supporting evidence such as before and after photos will need to be provided.
- 6) Details and photos of the work may be used in promotional material for the MKDCP.



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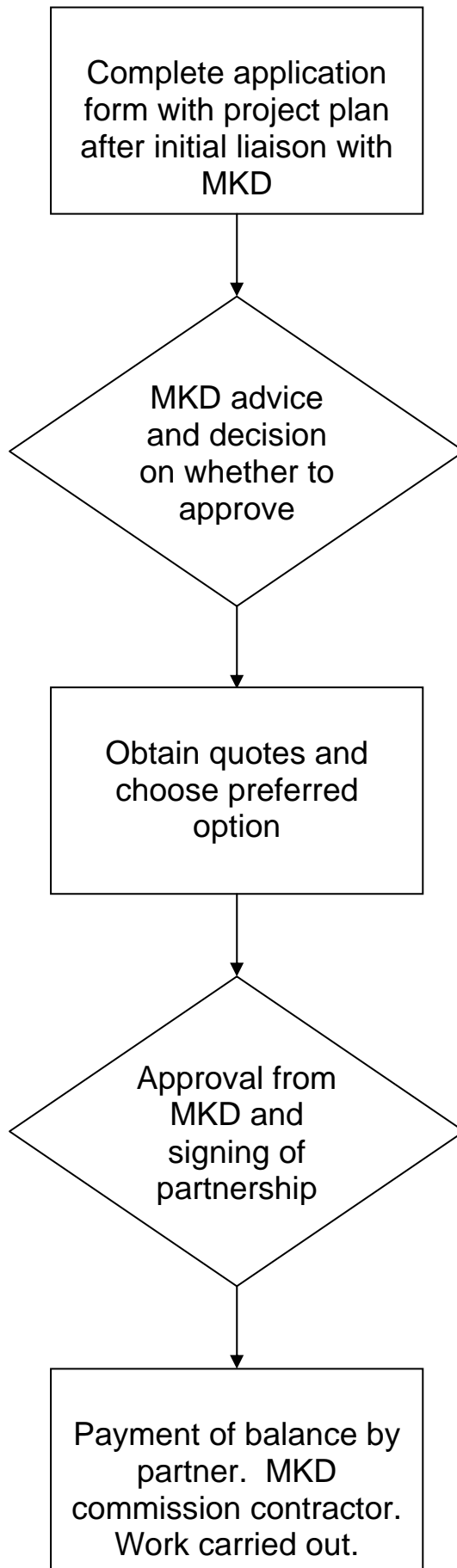
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Project Flowchart



Landowner Partnership Project - Example Project Plan

