**About the Landscape Research Group & Research Fund**

The Landscape Research Group (LRG; [www.landscaperesearch.org](http://www.landscaperesearch.org)) is an international, independent and not-for-profit organisation. We work to advance interdisciplinary landscape research through dissemination, communication and exchange across global communities of interest. We do this by funding research and publications, collaborating on research projects, organising and sponsoring events, seminars, conferences and conference sessions, giving educational awards and providing expert advice. We also publish the peer-reviewed journal [Landscape Research](https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/clar20/current).

We believe that research has a vital role to play in realising a fairer, ethical and more sustainable future, in terms of the relationships that people have with the places they live, and the environments they share with each other and with other living things. We wish to ensure that research can play this role in the fullest possible way.

We are committed to creating, maintaining and enhancing network ties and linkages among people interested in landscape research across boundaries:

* Between nation states or cultures
* Between academia and the various forms of landscape-related practice
* Between different landscape-related disciplines, different approaches to landscapes and different perspectives on landscapes.

We are concerned with all types of landscape. LRG represents (through our trustees, members and partnerships) a broad range of disciplines and sectors. Our [membership](http://www.landscaperesearch.org/members/join-the-lrg/) is open to anyone who has an interest in landscape and the ways we shape, and are shaped by, the places in which we live.

The 50th Anniversary Research Fund was created in 2017, and it is our plan to continue with an annual Research Fund to support a small number of high-quality projects which align strongly with LRG’s current strategic priorities, as outlined in our [Research Strategy](http://www.landscaperesearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/LRG-Research-Strategy-2015.pdf) and specified below.

**2021 Research Fund Theme**: **Landscape, virtue and the common good**

While 2020 has often offered a relentless focus on the negative, with this year’s call we wish to focus upon the positive. This year’s call focuses, in line with our [Research Strategy](http://www.landscaperesearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/LRG-Research-Strategy-2015.pdf), on **landscape, virtue and the common good**. The aim of the call is to explore how landscapes can contribute to well-being and social good.

Landscape is often positively identified with virtue and the common good, but there are also examples of the opposite, such as Oliver Goldsmith’s famous reference to a landscape garden/park as being both a “garden and a grave” in his 1770 poem, *The Deserted Village*. We are interested in funding research projects that are concerned with the topic of landscape, virtue and the common good (or common weal), either positively or negatively or by contrasting one to the other. Relevant topics might be the debates concerning landscapes funded by the slave trade, or the renewed interest in the virtues of public parks, and the behaviour suitable to their use, related, for example, to their increased popularity during the pandemic, or to their possible value in stimulating a sense of community across ethnic and racial divides. Applicants might find inspiration in Ambrogio Lorenzetti’s 1339 landscape paintings of the "The Allegory of Good and Bad Government” in the Siena Palazzo Pubblico <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Allegory_of_Good_and_Bad_Government>.

The Research Fund will support applications for:

* research into the circumstances in which injustice is generated and sustained in landscape contexts in relation in particular to landscape governance;
* research into injustices that are historically-embedded in the landscape, that are emerging now or that might emerge in the future, particularly in relation to landscape governance;
* research into the impacts of the language used in communicating ideas and issues around landscape with different audiences. “Language” is here understood in the broad sense to include visual/pictorial/image and tonal based forms of language, as well as verbal and written language;
* research that addresses the interplay as revealed through language used between organisations, audiences and outcomes in developing policies and practices that address landscape injustice;
* projects and activities that make use of research in the development and implementation of policies, practices and/or actions that address landscape injustice;
* projects and activities that create opportunities and mechanisms for the generation, dissemination and/or use of knowledge, understanding or insight into landscape justice.

### Eligible projects

The Research Fund is open to projects dealing with any aspect of landscape, as consistent with the way that term is used and defined in our Research Strategy.

The LRG adopts a broad definition of ‘research project’ in this context. Projects should aim to produce, disseminate and/or use knowledge, understanding or insight, or to create opportunities and mechanisms which enable people to work towards these ends. We will consider proposals for activities including but not limited to: fundamental research; applied research; research & development; knowledge exchange; dissemination; and capacity-building.

Priority will be given to projects which include a strong element of collaboration and exchange which transcends individual disciplines; different sectors; and/or the boundaries between professional researchers, practitioners and the public. As a charity, the Landscape Research Group is particularly interested in funding projects with a clear public benefit.

### Applicant eligibility

There are no restrictions as to discipline, sector or nationality. All applications will be assessed against the criteria specified below.

The LRG wishes to support early career researchers and practitioners in the field of landscape and we encourage applicants at any stage in their career to apply for funding for projects appropriate to their experience.

Applicants must be LRG members to apply for the Research Fund; [click here](https://landscaperesearch.org/membership/) for more information and how to join.

### Funding Available

**The LRG Board has allocated a total of £10,000 to the 2021 Research Fund. Applications are invited for an LRG funding contribution of between £1,000 and £5,000.**

Preference will be given to applications that propose to maximise the impact of LRG’s funds by securing additional funds and/or in-kind contributions. In sections 4 and 5 of the Application Form, applicants should provide details of the costs to be covered by LRG funding and the costs to be covered from other sources.

### Arrangements for Payment

For smaller grants, payment will be made in two stages: 1) part payment following confirmation of the award, and; 2) payment of the balance following satisfactory completion of the agreed deliverables (e.g. an end-of-project report to LRG; submission of agreed projects outputs). For larger grants, payment will be in three stages, with an additional stage payment being made part-way through the grant period. LRG will specify details of the funding stage payments in its letters of award to successful applicants and reserves the right to withhold any part of the payment if the specified conditions of grant are not complied with.

### Timing

Deadline for submission of applications: 8th April 2021

Applicants notified of funding decision by: 23rd April 2021

Earliest possible project start date: 1st May 2021

Projects to be completed by\*: 30th April 2022

\* The project completion date refers to the main project activities. It is accepted that some activities, particularly relating to project outputs, may continue on after this date (e.g. where a paper has been submitted to a journal for publication but has yet to go through peer review and be published). Applicants should specify a project timetable in Section 2 of the Application Form and, where an activity is anticipated to continue beyond 30th April 2022, this should be explained and justified.

### How to Apply

Completed applications should be submitted to the LRG Research & Policy Co-ordinator, Dr Hannes Palang at the email address: [research@landscaperesearch.org](mailto:research@landscaperesearch.org).

### Criteria for the Evaluation of Applications

LRG will assess any applications for the 2021 Research Fund against the following criteria:

*1. Alignment with the 2021 Research Funding Call*

Does the proposed project align clearly and strongly with 2021 Funding Call and the LRG Research Strategy? What contribution will the project make in relation to the LRG’s over-arching priority of advancing research that contributes towards just and sustainable relationships between people and landscape? What contribution will the project make in relation to the 2021 Research Fund objective of supporting research which addresses the challenge of injustice in landscape contexts? Does the project, if appropriate, seek to integrate with other LRG sponsored work, such as the publication of the journal *Landscape Research*, the e-newsletter, seminars and conference sessions and other events?

*2. Significance of the project*

Relative to the scale of the project and the funding requested, how significant will the project be in terms of:

* advancing landscape research and/or making use of the results of research?
* the delivery of public benefit?

*3. Credibility and deliverability of the project*

Is the project coherent? Are the proposed activities reasonable, proportionate and appropriate in relation to the stated aims and objectives of the project? Will the proposed activities realistically deliver the stated outputs and outcomes?

*4. Credibility of the applicant/project team*

Are the applicant and, where applicable, the project team suitably qualified and/or experienced to undertake the project and deliver its stated outputs and outcomes?

*5. Financial justification*

Is the funding sought appropriate and realistic in relation to the project’s aims and objectives? Is the budget for the proposed project coherent and reasonable? Does the LRG funding contribution represent value for money?

6. *LRG membership*

If the applicant is a member of the Landscape Research Group ([click here](https://landscaperesearch.org/membership/) for more information and how to join).

**Application Form**

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| **1. Applicant Information** | | |
| Name of applicant: | | |
| Date: | | |
| Institution/organisation, where applicable: | | |
| Address: | | |
| Email address: | | |
| Are you an LRG Member?  (please tick the appropriate box) | Yes |  |
| No  (please note we only accept applications from LRG members; join online at [landscapereseach.org](http://www.landscaperesearch.org/)) |  |

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| **2. Project Description** |
| Title of Project: |
| Aims & objectives [maximum 200 words]:  *State the aims of the project (i.e. the desired outcomes which the project is intended to deliver or support) and the specific objectives through which the aims will be achieved.* |
| Methods/activities [maximum 500 words]:  *Describe the methods/activities through which the project objectives will be met.* |
| Outputs [maximum 300 words]:  *List any outputs which the project will generate and briefly describe any dissemination/promotion plans.* |
| Project timetable:  *Please include start and end dates. Where appropriate to the scale of the project, please detail major phases, significant milestones and any reporting arrangements.* |
| Project applicant/team [maximum 500 words]:  *Summarise the relevant qualifications and/or experience of the applicant and, where relevant, the project team and any partners/collaborators who will contribute to delivery of the project. Where appropriate, indicate the roles that the different contributors will play in delivering the project. Early career applicants are encouraged to apply for projects appropriate to their career stage.* |

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| **3. Significance of the Project and Alignment with LRG’s Priorities** |
| *Explain the significance of the project in terms of advancing landscape research and/or making use of the results of research and in terms of the delivery of public benefit. Explain how the project aligns with the 2021 Funding Call* [maximum 500 words], and how the results might, if appropriate, be disseminated through the various LRG sponsored research venues, such as the journal *Landscape Research*, the newsletter, the e-bulletin, seminars, conference sessions and events. |

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| **4. Costs**  *Give detailed estimates of:*  *1) the costs that will be incurred by, or on behalf of, the applicant while pursuing the planned project and for which funds are being sought from the LRG (section 4a below), and;*  *2) other costs which will be incurred in delivering the project but for which funds are not being sought from the LRG (section 4b below).* | |
| ***4a Funds requested from the Landscape Research Group*** | |
| *Description of cost* | *Amount* |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
| **Total requested from the Landscape Research Group** | **£** |
| ***4b Additional project costs (funds not requested from the Landscape Research Group)*** | |
| *Description of cost* | *Amount* |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
| **Total additional project costs** | **£** |
| ***Total project costs*** | |
| **Total project cost (total requested from LRG + total additional project costs)** | **£** |
| **% of total funds requested from LRG** | **%** |

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| **5. Budget Narrative** [maximum 500 words] |
| *Provide a justification for the resources requested from LRG. Confirm whether or not the project is dependent on LRG grant support. Provide details of other funding sources which have been secured or are being sought (funder and amount of funding). Provide details of any in-kind contributions which have been secured or are being sought.* |

**Landscape Research Group Evaluation and Decision**

Applicants should leave this section blank

*Summary of evaluation*

(evaluator to briefly summarise conclusions in relation to the four funding criteria):

1. Alignment with the 2021 Funding Call

2. Significance of the project

3. Credibility and deliverability of the project

4. Credibility of the applicant/project team

5. Financial justification

*Funding decision and conditions of grant:*

Signature Date