# 2024 Funding Call Key Dates

Launch of call: 6 May 2024

End of call: 24 June 2024

Applicant Notification: 8 July 2024

# About the Landscape Research Group & Research Fund

The [Landscape Research Group](https://landscaperesearch.org/) (LRG) 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 Research Fund was created in 2017, and continues to annually support a 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. You can find summaries on previous projects supported by our research fund on our [Landscape Exchange website](https://lex.landscaperesearch.org/explore-media/?_sft_collections=funded-projects).

# 2024 Research Fund Theme:

# Climate Communities: People and Landscape in an Age of Change

This year’s theme focuses on the interface between climate and landscape transformation, with an emphasis on community action. While the urgency of the climate emergency calls for immediate action, the complexity of sustainability transitions is evident, especially in the face of climate vulnerabilities and injustices. In response to this urgency, there is a growing demand for multi-level climate actions, with a strong emphasis on applied research and experimental approaches. We seek proposals that explore innovative governance structures facilitating just transitions, examine how place meanings shape community responses to climate change across different scales, and expand the discourse on social and environmental justice beyond the long-standing anthropocentric bias of justice framings to embrace multispecies perspectives.

The call consciously builds on last year’s theme of landscape and care and invites applications that delve into the intractable ’meta-crisis’ of climate and biodiversity breakdown to think critically and creatively about how ’people and landscape’ speak to this issue. LRG’s Research Strategy aims to promote a transdisciplinary landscape approach to analysing and finding solutions to environmental problems, and to identifying and promoting those interactions with landscape that lead to all species flourishing. This approach includes social and human considerations together with those of a biophysical nature.

We are eager to support intersectional, interdisciplinary and community-grounded responses and are particularly interested in applications that explore the following areas:

* Local responses to planetary crises
* Climate and landscape transformations
* Social justice, resilience and transformation
* Coastal and island climate vulnerabilities

The research fund will support applications within these possible areas for exploration:

* research into novel approaches prioritising transdisciplinary co-design and co-production in climate action research especially at the local level
* research into means of implementation of place-based transformative solutions aligned with climate goals in the various contexts
* research into ways of translating abstract theories of justice into practical applicability in the particularities of everyday community experiences, practices and contexts
* research into new ways of understanding coexistence in the Anthropocene, including inter and intra coexistence of living organisms
* projects and activities that work on innovative varied methods to understand the needs and capabilities of ‘voiceless’ entities, including nonhuman nature, and incorporating them into local climate action
* projects and activities that create opportunities and mechanisms for the generation, dissemination and/or use of knowledge, understanding or insight into environmental and biodiversity justice scholarship
* projects and activities that explore local transition initiatives and experiments that can play a role in the testing, advancing, and institutionalising sustainable landscape solutions and new novelties that support radical transformative ideas

# 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](https://landscaperesearch.org/about-us/our-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.

Applicants must be LRG members, joining details are on our [website](https://landscaperesearch.org/join-lrg/).

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.

# Funding Available

**The LRG Board has allocated a total of £15,000 to the 2024 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. An update on the progress of the project may be required midway through the funding programme.

# Timing

Deadline for submission of applications: 24 June 2024

Applicants notified of funding decision by: 8 July 2024

Earliest possible project start date: 8 July 2024

Projects to be completed by\*: 30 June 2025

\* 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 30 June 2025, this should be explained and justified.

# How to Apply

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

# Criteria for the Evaluation of Applications

LRG will assess any applications for the 2024 Research Fund against the following criteria:

*1. Alignment with the 2024 Research Funding Call*

Does the proposed project align clearly and strongly with the 2024 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 humans, non-humans and landscape? What contribution will the project make in relation to the 2024 Research Fund objective of supporting research which addresses the interface between climate and landscape transformations on a community level? Does the project, if appropriate, seek to integrate with other LRG sponsored work, such as the publication of the journal *Landscape Research*, [LEX](https://lex.landscaperesearch.org/), 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?

# Application Form

| **1. Applicant Information** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of applicant: | | |
| Date: | | |
| Institution/organisation, where applicable: | | |
| Address: | | |
| Email address: | | |
| Are you an LRG Member?  (please tick the appropriate box – **applicants must be a member to be considered**) | Yes |  |
| No |  |

| **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. These outputs can be outside of the traditional written report as appropriate to the project and as agreed with the LRG Research Team.* |

| 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.* |

| **3. Significance of the Project and Alignment with LRG’s Priorities**  [maximum 500 words] |
| --- |
| *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 2024 Funding Call and how the results might, if appropriate, be disseminated through the various LRG sponsored research venues, such as the journal* Landscape Research*, LEX, seminars, conference sessions and events*. |

| **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** | **%** |

| **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 2024 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