

Lengthsman / Drainage / Public Right of Way Grants 2026/27

Funding. Cap of £25,000 per council.

Lengthsman £1,374 + £687 = £2,061.00 (Plus £687 to be match funded by APC)

Drainage – Maintenance, up to £4,000

Drainage – New Asset – bids to be made.

PROW – up to £5,000.

Labour, max day rate £200.

Summary of information received. We = Herefordshire Council.

2026/27 Lengthsman Funding Scheme

Annual Maintenance Plan and Lengthsman Agreement – sign and return before **1 May extended to 15 May**.

£60 per kilometre of C and U roads within the Parish Council's area.

Scope of works has been updated. See Agreement, page 13 onwards (Part 2A).

Work to be completed by 31 Mar 2027 and invoices submitted by 9 Apr 2027.

2026/27 Drainage Grant Funding Scheme

Deadline for applications is **3 May 2026, extended to 17 May**. Oversubscribed last year, all submissions will be assessed before funding is allocated. Depending on the volume of applications, our intention is to have awards issued by 12 June 2026.

The 2026/27 scheme offers funding to Parish and Town Councils for two main elements: maintenance of existing assets/features and creation of new ones. All works must be completed by suitably qualified individuals.

Maintenance of existing assets/features

Maintenance funding covers tasks such as ditch clearance, scraping kerbs, and clearing grips to reduce flooding or standing water, but excludes gully emptying. Maintenance can also be carried out on privately owned assets if it benefits the public highway, with a funding cap of £4,000 per council for 2026/27.

Creation of new assets/features

Such as installing culverts, drains or pipes, as part of minor schemes intended to reduce flooding on highways. Proposals should be supported by estimated costs, photographs and what3words locations. Councils should also state if any proposed works were previously approved but not completed.

Funding is available for minor schemes that help prevent flooding, with applications needing to include detailed proposals and supporting information. Councils should highlight if any works are being resubmitted due to previous approval but incomplete delivery. *This may be relevant to APC.*

2026/27 PROW Grant Funding Scheme

Applications to be submitted between now and 30 September 2026. prow@herefordshire.gov.uk.

Capped at £5,000 per application. Once all works completed and invoiced, a further application up to the same amount may be submitted. Funding is for:

- the replacement of minor PROW assets such as stiles, finger posts and gates.
- minor maintenance works on the PROW network such as steps or handrails, by suitably qualified individuals.
- the replacement of smaller bridge structures where replacements can meet the necessary specification for use on the PROW network.
- ditching improvements and minor surfacing works along Byways Open to all Traffic (BOATs) subject to written approval from the PROW team.

We will contribute towards the cost of labour in 2026/27, as we did in 2025/26. The cost of labour should be clearly stated as part of each application detailing how many persons will be working on each job and for how long, e.g. 1 Lengthsman, 1 day. This will then be assessed on an individual basis by Herefordshire Council to determine if it represents value for money, based on a **maximum day rate of £200 per person**.