Applicant: **Howell, Jatavia** Organisation: **Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (TCIG)**

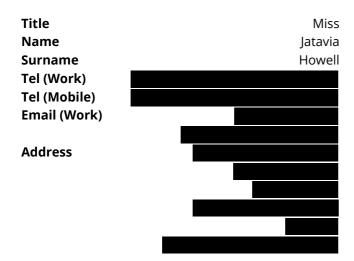
Funding Sought: Funding Awarded: £0.00

DPLR3\1069

Conservation and Enforcement Mobility Support for Marine Protected Areas.

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) carries out several conservation projects, fire mitigation responses and enforcement patrols in Providenciales and around the various Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI). Currently we utilise a large fuel intensive vessel that is becoming unsustainable. The DECR is seeking to procure a smaller, effective and fuel-efficient vessel that reduces emissions, to patrol the MPAs and ensure compliance.

CONTACT DETAILS



DPLR3\1069

Conservation and Enforcement Mobility Support for Marine Protected Areas.

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

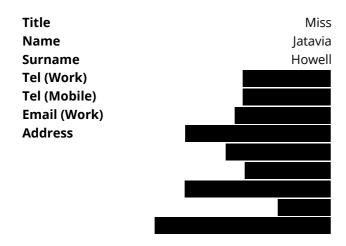
Q1. Project Title

Conservation and Enforcement Mobility Support for Marine Protected Areas.

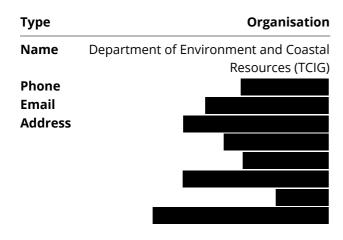
Q2. Please select whether you are applying as an organisation or as an individual (Guidance section 3 and Guidance Glossary)

Organisation

CONTACT DETAILS



GMS ORGANISATION



Section 2 - Overseas Territory(ies)

Q3. Overseas Territory (Guidance section 1.3):

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in? Please note that in case of a non-permanent resident population you need to demonstrate a clear, meaningful, long-term link to the territory.

☑ Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI)

* if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:

No Response

In addition to the UKOT(s) you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other UK OT(s) or country(ies)?

No

Section 3 - Project Partners

Q4. Project partners (Guidance section 3.2)

In this section, please give details of all the partners involved (including the Lead Partner) and provide a summary of their roles.

Project Leader name (Guidance section 3.1):	atavia Howell					
Lead Partner name (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1):	Department of Environment and Coastal Resources					
Lead Partner Website (if applicable):	No Response					
Is the Lead Partner based in a UKOT where the project is working (Guidance section 3.1)?	⊙ Yes					
List other partners involved and where are they based:	There are no other partners involved in this project.					

Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) is mandated to ensure the sustainable use of the natural resources of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to protect and promote biodiversity and economic prosperity through sustainable livelihoods, environmentally sustainable development, protected areas system and improved climate change resilience. The DECR has the responsibility of sustainably managing 34 Protected Areas in the Turks and Caicos Islands, 27 of those Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The Department is further mandated to preserve and improve the quality of the environment, wildlife and tourism through beach vending and climate change resilience of the territory. Towards achieving this goal, all activities and policies are developed without compromising the integrity and the well-being of the populous and the environment. The department will be responsible for all aspects of procurement for the vessel.

I confirm that all listed partners are aware of this application and have indicated support:

Checked

Attach a Cover Letter for your application (Guidance section 4.2).

- ♣ DPLR3 COVER LETTER
- O 14:23:43
- pdf 151.03 KB

Section 4 - Project Summary & Description

Q5. Project Summary (Guidance section 3.8)

Please provide a brief summary of your project. This may be used in communication activities and/or published online, if your application is successful.

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) carries out several conservation projects, fire mitigation responses and enforcement patrols in Providenciales and around the various Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI). Currently we utilise a large fuel intensive vessel that is becoming unsustainable. The DECR is seeking to procure a smaller, effective and fuel-efficient vessel that reduces emissions, to patrol the MPAs and ensure compliance.

Q6a. Description (Guidance section 2.1 and 6)

Please provide a description of your project, including:

- the overall objective
- the current situation and the problem the project is trying to address
- · what success will look like and how you will measure it

Please be as specific as possible when describing the project, using quantified data and evidence where available. You may wish to consider: what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address, and what should we know about these threats? What does your successful project look like? And how will you demonstrate whether and how your project has been successful?

Efficient, reliable and sustainable vessels are vital to conservation fieldwork, protected area infrastructure, enforcement, compliance and monitoring and environmental management and disaster response. The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) supplies both as part of its recurrent work toward its remit, and its efforts towards the management of various conservation projects, conducting enforcement and responding to environmental disasters.

The DECR currently has a 33 ft Jupiter with two 300hp outboard engines. While these engines offer powerful performance, they also have a higher fuel consumption, increased upfront and maintenance costs and potential environmental impact due to greater emissions. A higher horsepower of a 300 outboard engine generally means it burns more fuel to produce the necessary power, resulting in increased emissions of pollutants such as carbon dioxide (CO2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and particulate matter. These emissions contribute to air pollution and can have environmental consequences, especially insensitive ecosystems like the mangroves, shallow coral reef systems and turtle habitats as protected in the Protected Area systems that requires constant patrols. Additionally, the DECR manages 34 Protected Areas, of which 27 are Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) separated by miles of open water as seen in the attachment Map of TCI Protected Areas. With an increase in tourism and water sports activities, the DECR has noticed an increase in unsustainable tourism, non-compliance within protected areas especially with jetskis and vessels operating recklessly in the parks, illegal wildlife engagement and pollution within the marine environment. There has also been an increase in wildfires on small islands and protected areas which required immediate response from the DECR, Fire Department, National Trust etc and multiple trips using a vessel which was very expensive and inefficient. In order to curb these issues, there needs to be constant patrols within these problem marine areas, and effective, onsite communications and outreach to tourist and operators. With this said, the DECR are in dire need of a vessel that is fuel efficient, sustainable and reduces emissions and potential adverse environmental impacts. A vessel is required to carry out enforcement in these areas and efficiently conduct conservation response operations efficiently when required.

The DECR is confident that this smaller more efficient vessel will improve compliance within the marine protected areas and improve the departments' response capacity to enforcement and emergency scenarios. This vessel will reduce fuel costs and maintenance fees for vessels while also reducing emissions and potential environmental impacts. Having this sustainable vessel will allow officers to be on the water constantly monitoring the MPAs on a daily basis, thus ensuring compliance, improved wildlife interactions, more visibility for officers offering better communication and support to operators and immediate response to marine pollution or disasters such as wildfires. This vessel will also be used to support current Darwin projects including DPLUS 164, 153, 121 and 147, and other marine conservation DECR projects. The DECR expects an initial increase in the number of reported ticketed offences and the number of operators visiting the office to renew and receive National Parks Licences; as time progresses compliance will also increase with a decline in reported offences and more efficient responses to pollution and emergencies. This would demonstrate that this project is successful. This grant request is simple but will permit the DECR to continue its vital work in conservation and enforcement. The success of this application will be demonstrated by the on-schedule delivery of the other conservation projects and the data records from daily and seasonal monitoring efforts.

Q6b. Long-term sustainability (Guidance section 2.1 and 6)

Please describe the long-term benefits of the project and the change it will bring about. How will the outcomes of the project be sustained after the funding is finished?

The DECR is confident that this smaller more efficient vessel will improve compliance within the marine protected areas and improve the department's disaster response. This vessel will reduce fuel costs and

maintenance fees for the the Department, while also reducing emissions and potential environmental impacts. Having this sustainable vessel will allow officers to be on the water daily, monitoring the MPAs, ensuring compliance, improved wildlife interactions, more visibility for officers offering better communication and support to operators while at sea, as well as immediate response to marine pollution or emergency scenarios. The DECR expects an initial increase in the number of reported ticketed offences and the number of operators visiting the office to renew and receive National Parks Licences; as time progresses compliance will also increase with a decline in reported offences and more efficient responses to infractions, pollution, disasters and emergencies.

(Optional) Please upload any additional and supporting materials or files (such as maps of project sites, etc) below. Maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF:

- & Map of TCI Protected Areas
- O 14:41:48
- pdf 2.56 MB

Section 5 - Project Outcome(s)

Q7. Project Outcome(s) (Guidance section 1.2)

Successful Darwin Plus Local projects must demonstrate measurable outcomes in <u>at least one of the</u> <u>themes of Darwin Plus with a clear focus on biodiversity and the natural environment</u>, either by the end of the project or soon after through a credible plan.

Please confirm that your project has a clear focus on biodiversity and the natural environment.

Checked	Biodiversity: improving and conserving biodiversity, and slowing or reversing biodiversity loss and degradation;
Checked	Climate change: responding to, mitigating and adapting to climate change and its effects on the natural environment and local communities;
Checked	Environmental quality: improving the condition and protection of the natural environment
Checked	Capability and capacity building: enhancing the capacity within OTs, including through community engagement and awareness, to support the environment in the short- and long-term.

Please justify your selection. Please use quantitative information where possible here.

Biodiversity and Environmental Quality: The vessel will allow for timely achievement of conservation fieldwork activities, regular policing of the MPAs and reporting of infringements; more efficient response times to marine disaster events, and ensuring sustainable use of the environment.

Climate Change: A smaller, sustainable vessel will burn less fuel and reduce its emissions and potential environmental impact.

Capability and capacity building: Allowing more officers to gain boat captaining skills in a vessel that is easier to

manoeuvre. Officers' constant presence on the water will allow for more effective communication to operators, acting as a deterrent to engaging in illegal activities.

Section 6 - Workplan

Q8. Workplan (Guidance section 2.2)

<u>Please provide anticipated dates for the start and end of your planned project here.</u> Please use the <u>Darwin Plus Local Project Workplan</u> (available at: <u>Darwin Plus website</u>) to provide a list of the individual activities you have planned for this project, a brief description of what each activity entails, and the months in which the activities will be carried out. If the project involves only one activity (e.g. a purchase), please still provide project start and end dates (noting estimated times for procurement). <u>Please note that your project must start after 1 April 2024 and be completed by 31 March 2025.</u>

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 3 months):
01 April 2024	17 March 2025	12 months

Please upload the completed Darwin Plus Local Project Workplan with your proposed project activities here

- & R3-DPlus-Local-Workplan-Conservation and Enforcement Mobility Support FINAL
- **ii** 29/11/2023
- ① 14:59:59
- pdf 167.2 KB

Section 7 - Costs

Q9. Costs (Guidance section 2.2 and please read the Finance Guidance)

Please provide a breakdown of costs to be funded through Darwin Plus Local (in GBP). Are you seeking any matched funding for this project?

No

Explanation	Cost in GBP
Staff costs will be subsidised by the Departments Budget	£0.00
N/A	£0.00
Shipping/transport and fees.	
N/A	£0.00
	Staff costs will be subsidised by the Departments Budget N/A Shipping/transport and fees.

Operating costs:	Operating costs will be subsidised by the Departments Budget	£0.00
Capital equipment:	Purchase of suitable patrol vessel: 22 ft Centre Console 2023 Trophy or similar with fibreglass hull. Purchase of one 150 - 250hp outboard engine.	
Other Costs	Rigging the vessel for enforcement (these include lights, sirens, vhf radios, life vests and other accessories) and procuring a boat trailer.	
Total:		

This section provides more information on the budget to help evaluators understand how you will use the funds you are requesting. You do not need to list all costs, but please list and detail costs of more than £1,000 per item below, under the appropriate budget line.

Details	of staff	costs ove	r £1 000	(if relevant)

No Response

Details of overhead costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

Shipping and handling is estimated to be at due to the vessel being shipped from the United States of America. This figure is based on the regular shipping rates of Cargo Express Ltd (Tropical Shipping), who normally ships vessels to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Details of travel and subsistence costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

No Response

Details of operating costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

Operating costs will be subsidised by the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources annual Budget.

Details of capital equipment costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

will be used to purchase the vessel and its engines. We would like to procure a 22 ft Centre Console 2023 Trophy or similar with fibreglass hull and a 150hp to 250hp outboard engine at a maximum price of

Details of consultancy costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

No Response

Details of other costs over £1,000 (if relevant)

These costs of will cover rigging the vessel for enforcement and conservation, these include adding enforcement lights, sirens, vhf radios, life vests and other necessary accessories. We will also need to purchase a boat trailer.

If your project budget was prepared in another currency and converted to GBP, please provide the exchange rate, its source, and the date it was accessed:

Other currency: Exchange rate: Source of this exchange Date exchange rate rate: accessed:

USD	0.78	xe.com	29 November 2023	

Darwin Plus Local has been created to build capacity and contribute to local economies in-territory.

What % of the total will be spent in the OTs?

30

If less than 80% of the total project spend is to be spent within the OT(s), please explain why.

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources will do its best to source the vessel locally and utilise all the funds within the Territory. However, due to the TCI Government policy, and the vessel type required for daily use, it is possible that local vendors will be unable to supply the vessel. It is very likely that we will be able to purchase the engine and boat trailer locally, within the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Section 8 - Local and National Priorities

Q10. Local and national priorities

Please explain how this project aligns with local and national priorities? You may wish to consider the project in the context of national environmental laws, objectives, strategies, territory specific agreements, action plans or policies.

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) mandate is to regulate and promote sustainable use of the Turks and Caicos Islands natural resources whilst conserving its critical habitats, flora and fauna and managing TCIs Protected Areas and its human use. The procurement of a smaller more efficient patrol vessel through this grant will enhance the mobilisation capacity of the dedicated staff within the DECR to execute tasks in Providenciales for Enforcement, marine pollution, research, development, emergency response as well as search and rescue operations. Securing this vessel will strongly support all of DECR initiatives, enforcement activities, projects and conservation programmes across the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) of the Turks and Caicos Islands. More specifically, Princess Alexandra Land and Sea National Park and Nature Reserve, as it is the most heavily used and anthropogenically impacted MPA in the Turks and Caicos Islands. This vessel will also aid with other Darwin Plus projects, international and local initiatives.

Will the project take place on Government owned land or water or involve biocontrol, invasive alien species control or eradication?

Yes

Please attach evidence that you have Government support for this project i.e. a Letter of Support. Applications which indicate that they do not take place on Government land or water, but which propose work that appears to the reviewers would be difficult/impossible to carry out without working on government land or waters may be ineligible if no Letter of Support is provided.

- <u>A DPLR3 Conservation and Enforcement Mobility</u>
 <u>Support Letter</u>
- © 16:37:33
- pdf 167.32 KB

Section 9 - Project Risks

Q11. Project Risks

Please demonstrate your consideration of any risks involved in this project and how you intend to manage them. Please note the importance of health and safety and environmental risk assessment in the design of your project. If there is any possibility that your project may have negative impacts on the environment or human health, it is important that you provide a comprehensive analysis of potential environmental and human health risks, and the prevention measures you will take to ensure the work does not cause harm.

Depending on your project, you may wish to consider:

- Biosecurity risks particularly for projects involving external equipment.
- Safeguarding risks particularly for projects involving vulnerable groups such as children, older people or people with disabilities.

Risk	Mitigation						
Biosecurity risk for imported vessels (low)	Imported conveyances are inspected at port of entry and vessels are required to be shipped clean. Upon arrival to Providenciales, the vessel will be inspected by the Maritime Department, Customs Department and Environmental Health. The vessel will also be inspected and washed again and cleared of any suspected biosecurity threats by DECR staff.						
No Response	No Response						
No Response	No Response						

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 10 - Terms & Conditions

Q12. Terms and conditions (Guidance section 3.10)

By applying for Darwin Plus Local you are adhering in full to the grant Terms and Conditions in full (available at: <u>Darwin Plus website</u> and as referenced in the Guidance at section 3.10). For information, the Terms and Conditions include requirements for all applicants to (amongst other requirements as per the full Terms and Conditions):

- Uphold a zero tolerance for inaction approach to tackling sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.
- Where appropriate, make all reasonable and adequate efforts to address gender inequality and other power imbalances.
- Notify all cases of fraud and theft (whether proven or suspected) relating to the project to the Grant Administrator as soon as they identified.

Please indicate you have read, and understood, and will adhere to the Terms and Conditions.

Checked

Supporting documents list (please have these ready to attach with application)

- Cover Letter of no more than two A4 pages. (Guidance section: 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).
- If the project takes place on public land or water or is addressing invasive alien species, a Letter of support from OT Government.
- Project Workplan in the template provided for Darwin Plus Local (available at: Darwin Plus website).
- Map and additional information (optional) maximum five additional pages.

If your application is successful

If your project application is successful, the Fund Administrator (NIRAS) will ask you to provide some financial evidence for due diligence checks before you receive your project grant. (Please see section 3.3 of the Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance). Please be ready to provide this evidence promptly.

- **Financial evidence for organisations**: Year-end financial statements, the latest management accounts or audited accounts (if you have these).
- **Financial evidence for individuals**: Proof of identity such as a passport, ID card or driving licence and solvency (such as bank statements) and a police check.

Section 11 - Certification

Certification

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made in this application are true and the information provided is correct.

Checked

I have the authority to submit an application on behalf of my organisation.

Checked

Name:	Jatavia Howell				
Position in the organisation: (if applicable)	Acting Deputy Director				
Signature (please upload e- signature)	 ♣ Jatavia Howell Signature ★ 29/11/2023 ♠ 17:00:31 ♠ pdf 25.91 KB 				
Date:	29 November 2023				

Section 12 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the "Darwin Plus Local Guidance" and the "Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance".	Checked
If my proposed project takes place on public lands or water or is addressing alien invasive species, I have uploaded a Letter of Support from Government.	Checked
I have uploaded a cover letter that details the information requested in the guidance (Guidance section 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for my project that fit this Round.	Checked
I have provided my summary budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP in the application form.	Checked
I have uploaded my project workplan using the specific template provided.	Checked
I have uploaded all supplementary documents if I have any.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Plus website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under Darwin Plus. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share project news. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the <u>Forms and Guidance Portal</u>.

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising Darwin Plus including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: Conservation and Enforcement Mobility Support for Marine Protected Areas.

Darwin Plus Local

Provide a **Workplan** that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project. Round 3 is for a **maximum of 12 months** with activities starting from 1 April 2024. All activities must be completed by 31 March 2025.

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the months in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

		No. of		UK Financial Year 2024/25										
Activity #	Description (max 25 words)	months	Calendar Year 2024								Calendar Year 2025			
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1	Prepare and submit business case to Ministry of Finance for approval.	1	Х											
2	Prepare Invitation to Tender (ITT) Document and share with Procurement Department.	2	Х	Х										
3	Publish ITT through Procurement Department.	1			Х									
4	Review and evaluation of received bidders.	2				Х	Х							
5	Selection of Preferred Bidder and progression to contract.	2					Х	Х						
6	Make payments based on terms and conditions of contracts.	4							Х	Х	Х	Х		
7	Delivery of Vessel to Turtle Cove Marina, Turks and Caicos Islands.	2									х	Х		
8	Examine and accept delivery of vessel.	2									Х	Х		
9	Register vessel locally and start enforcement processes.	3										Х	х	Х