

STP Funding Finder March 2025

Welcome to Scotland's Towns Partnership's Funding Finder covering March 2025. All funds are categorised in the following sections:

- 1) **Regeneration**
- 2) **Environment**
- 3) **Energy**
- 4) **Healthy Towns**
- 5) **Culture and Arts**
- 6) **Employment and Training**
- 7) **Innovation and Growth**
- 8) **Community – All Scotland Funds**
- 9) **Community – Regions and Localities**

Note: for ease of viewing and jumping between sections and funds, on the list below you can right-click on each section heading or fund name and choose to 'collapse' or 'expand' all headings.

Within each theme you will find the **name of the fund** along with the **amount available** and **application deadline date**. Those funds highlighted in **RED** have a deadline approaching, those highlighted in **GREEN** are new additions. New additions with approaching deadlines are also highlighted in red.

If you would like to bring a fund to our attention that is not included in this document, or have any queries, please [contact us here](#).

Disclaimer: while we endeavour to maintain this guide both up to date and accurate, the information below is always superseded by that provided by funders themselves. Please check funders' own websites/application guidance for the most up to date information. If you note inaccuracies in this report, please do let us know in order to correct these.

Special Feature from SCVO: Cost of Living & Running Costs Crisis

As the cost of living crisis takes hold, people and communities need voluntary sector services more than ever. At the same time, voluntary organisations face spiralling costs, falling income and an uncertain future. It's a worrying time. We're here to provide practical support and help fight your corner.

We are regularly updating this page with new information, news and updates, so please keep checking to make sure that you're up to speed with all of our latest #RunningCostsCrisis resources. More information: <https://scvo.scot/policy/campaigns/running-costs-crisis#close>

Note: for ease of viewing and jumping between sections and funds, on the lists below you can right-click on each section heading or fund name, select 'expand/collapse' on the menu, and then choose to 'collapse all headings' or 'expand all headings'. This allows you to view either the overall category headings only, or a drop-down list of all funds within a category of interest.

1) Regeneration

The Association for Industrial Archaeology - Restoration Grants | max £20,000 | 31 March (annual applications)

Grants are provided for the restoration of historically, technically, architecturally, and/or archaeologically important industrial buildings, structures, machinery, vehicles and vessels within the UK. Applications will usually relate to a single, tangible structure or artefact which must be covered by a Conservation Policy and/or Statement.

The heritage asset must be sustainably managed, displayed and interpreted for the public and the public must have full access to the asset.

Grants are divided into two categories:

- Major projects where the maximum grant that can be awarded is £20,000. The AIA would not normally fund projects where their grant represents less than 20% of the total project costs;
- Small projects which are allocated at least 20% of the available funds. The grant limit is £7,500, for which the total cost of the project, excluding the value of volunteer labour, must not exceed £10,000.

Who can apply: The applicant organisation must be a not-for-profit organisation such as a Trust, charity or CIC.

How to apply: Guidance on the funder website. Please submit your application on no more than four sides of A4 paper. See guidance notes for what your application should include.

Exclusions: Grants are not available for private businesses or individuals

More information: www.industrial-archaeology.org/aia-awards/restoration-grants/

The Ironmongers' Company - Iron Projects Grants | max £5,000 | 31 March 2025 (bi-annual deadlines)

The Ironmongers' Company, as part of its charitable activities, works to promote the craft of ironwork. Support is given primarily for the conservation of historic ironwork or the creation of new decorative iron or steel work.

Applications are accepted from registered charities, churches and schools for projects in the UK only. For church bells projects, only the repair/rebuilding of existing iron framesides, or the provision of new framesides cast in iron, will be considered.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£5,000

Notes on award amounts:

The Company prefers to fund entire projects, or specific elements of a project. The majority of grants awarded are under £5,000. Grants are paid on completion of the project and must be claimed within eighteen months of the date awarded.

Who can apply

Registered charities, churches and schools for projects in the UK only. For church bells projects, only the repair/rebuilding of existing iron framesides, or the provision of new framesides cast in iron, will be considered.

When to apply

The Company's Iron Committee meets twice a year in April and October to review grants for Iron Projects. The deadlines for receipt of applications are 31 March and 16 August respectively.

Next deadline: 31 Mar 2025

How to apply

Applicants should email charities@ironmongers.org with details of the project. See website for full details of what to include.

National Churches Trust –Medium and Cherish Grants | max £10,000 | 15 April

Medium Grants are available for urgent and essential maintenance and repair projects. They will also support project development and investigative work up to RIBA planning stage 1, to support churches preparing for a major project, and in developing their project to the point at which they can approach a major grant funder.

The **Cherish project** provides grants to churches, chapels or meeting houses for church maintenance, urgent repair work or project development. They aim to see churches open and in regular use, available to all. The main goals of the funding are that:

- Church buildings are well maintained, adaptable and in good repair
- Church buildings are suitable, open and welcome

Funding will prioritise:

- Work to architecturally and historically significant buildings;
- Urgent/essential maintenance and repair projects as evidenced in a recent QIR, building survey

- or condition report;
- Places of worship that can demonstrate a suitable maintenance system is in place, including a maintenance plan, to protect your building and the investment;
- Places of worship with regular opening hours;
- Places of worship that can demonstrate strong community engagement and sound plans for economic viability.

Full guidance is available on the National Churches Trust website.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£500

Maximum:

£10,000

Who can apply

Listed and unlisted Christian places of worship, of any denomination, that are located within North-West England, Wales, or Scotland.

Buildings must be open for regular public worship for a minimum of six services per year.

Buildings must be open to the public for at least 100 days per year in addition to worship times, or meet this requirement within a year of project completion.

When to apply

The next deadline is 15 April 2025.

How to apply

Apply online via the National Churches Trust website.

Medium Grants information: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/medium-grants>

Cherish Grants information: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/cherish-grants>

FCC Scottish Action Fund | £2,000 - £40,000 | 14 May

The FCC Scottish Action Fund offers funding to projects through the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF). It will consider applications across all types of projects included in the SLCF:

- Land Reclamation (Object A): The reclamation, remediation, restoration or other operation on land to facilitate economic, social or environmental use.

- Community Recycling (Object B): Community based recycling, re-use and waste prevention projects.
- Public Amenities and Parks (Object C): To provide, maintain or improve a public park or other public amenity.
- Biodiversity (Object D): The conservation or promotion of biological diversity through the provision, conservation, restoration or enhancement of a natural habitat or the maintenance or recovery of a species in its natural habitat.
- Historic Buildings (Object E): The maintenance, repair or restoration of a building, other structure or a site of archaeological interest which is a place of religious worship, or a site of historic or architectural or archaeological interest and is open to the public.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£2,000

Maximum:

£40,000

Notes on award amounts:

The maximum total project cost is £250,000 including VAT.

Who can apply

Charities, community councils, church or community organisations and voluntary groups can apply for funding as long as they are operated on a not-for-profit basis and have a formal constitution and bank account. In addition Local Authorities can also apply.

When to apply

2025-2 Round opens 26 February 2025 and closes at 5.00pm on 14 May 2025.

2025-4 Round opens 3 September 2025 and closes at 5.00pm on 19 November 2025 Apply online via the FCC Communities Foundation website.

More information: <https://fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk/funds/fcc-scottish-action-fund>

SUEZ Communities Trust – Scottish Landfill Communities Fund | £3,000 - £50,000 | 14 May

SUEZ Communities Trust provides funds to undertake work that is eligible under the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF). Applications are considered for the five main areas of work:

- Land Reclamation (Object A): The reclamation, remediation, restoration or other operation on land to facilitate economic, social or environmental use
- Community Recycling (Object B): Community based recycling, re-use and waste prevention projects
- Public Amenities (Object C): To provide, maintain or improve an amenity that is used primarily for leisure and recreation. The amenity must be open to all sections of the community for at least 104 days a year
- Biodiversity (Object D): The conservation of biodiversity through the provision, conservation, restoration or enhancement of a natural habitat or the maintenance or recovery of a species in its natural habitat
- Historic Buildings, Structures or Sites (Object E): The maintenance, repair or restoration of a building, other structure or a site of archaeological interest which is a place of religious worship, or a site of historic or architectural or archaeological interest and is open to the public. Places of religious worship must Grade A listed.

Eligibility and application

Not-for-profit basis groups e.g. community groups, parish councils, charities, community interest companies, sports clubs, community associations, local authorities and voluntary organisations who own or hold a lease for the project site with at least 5 years remaining.

There are normally three funding rounds each year.

The next closing date is 14 May 2025, decision by end of July

More information: <https://grantscape-scotland.scot/our-funds/suez-communities-fund-scotland-details/>

The Wolfson Foundation - Funding for Places | min £15,000 | 1 July

The Foundation's main grants programme provides support for places. These grants are for capital initiatives, i.e. buildings (new build or refurbishment) and equipment. They fund a broad range of organisations working across the fields of education, science and medicine, health and disability, places of worship, heritage, and arts and humanities. Each category has its own specific funding criteria, more detail on which can be found on the Foundation's website.

Geographical areas funded: UK

Notes on award amounts: They prefer that you do not request a specific amount. In a Stage 1 application, and simply want to know the total cost of your project and the amount you still need to raise towards it. Grant sizes vary between different categories.

Who can apply: Registered charities. Some categories of funding also allow Local Authorities, schools and universities to apply.

When to apply

There are two funding rounds each year:

Round 1 - Open from 20 November - 5 January (for decisions in June)

Round 2 - Open from 14 May - 1 July (for decisions in December)

How to apply:

Online via the Foundation's website.

Exclusions: They don't fund projects where the total cost is below £15,000. See each category of funding for specific exclusions

More information: <https://www.wolfson.org.uk/funding/funding-for-places/>

National Churches Trust - Large Grants | max £50,000 | 1 July

The National Churches Trust is the national, independent, charity dedicated to promoting and supporting church buildings of historic, architectural and community value across the UK. The Large Grant Programme can award grants towards major urgent structural repair projects, or the introduction of kitchens and accessible toilets.

Priority is given to projects that demonstrate well-developed plans for the building that are supported beyond the congregation, and into the future.

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£10,000

Maximum:

£50,000

Notes on award amounts:

Grants will never exceed 50% of the project cost. Grants of £40,000 to £50,000 are extremely limited and reserved for cases which demonstrate a very high case for investment.

Who can apply

Places of worship of any denomination and age can apply. They will consider applications from listed and unlisted Christian places of worship across the UK.

When to apply

Stage 1 deadline: midnight on 1 July 2025

Next deadline: 1 Jul 2025

How to apply

The application process begins with an eligibility quiz via the Trust website. If you cannot answer yes to each question your application will not be successful.

More information: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/large-grants>

The Theatres Trust - Theatre Improvement Scheme | max £20,000 | 5 September

Theatres Trust's Theatre Improvement Scheme, in association with the Wolfson Foundation, offers capital funding for theatres. The theme for the fund for the next three years is Improving Environmental Sustainability as this is an urgent priority for the sector.

This scheme will prioritise capital development projects which improve a theatre building's environmental sustainability and demonstrate how a small intervention can produce big reductions in environmental impact, such as:

- purchase of key plant and machinery
- replacement of inefficient or out-dated equipment
- improvements to building heating or insulation
- planting sedum roofs or green walls
- impactful, high-quality interventions

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#) [UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£20,000

Who can apply

To be eligible applicants must:

- own or manage theatres with titles or signed leases of more than 5 years on buildings in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- run a year-round programme of live performance, of no less than 30 performances a year
- have a bona fide UK charitable or not-for-profit legal structure and be able to provide certified or audited accounts for at least two years.

When to apply

The deadline for the 2025 round will be midday on Friday 5 September 2025.

How to apply

Application form on the Trust website. Potential applicants are encouraged to get in touch to discuss their projects before applying.

More information: <http://www.theatretrust.org.uk/how-we-help/grants-funding/theatre-improvement-scheme>

The Grocer's Charity - Memorial Grants | max £5,000 | 5 September

The Grocers' Charity typically provides one-off grants for U.K. registered charities working in the following areas:

- Relief of Poverty
- Elderly
- Disability and Inclusion
- Health
- Military
- The Arts
- Heritage
- Environment and Conservation
- Children and Young People (0-25)

For full deadlines on each category, please visit the Charity website.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Applicant success rate:

17%

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£5,000

Who can apply

Registered charities in the UK

Maximum annual income:

£500,000

When to apply

Next initial inquiry deadline: 5 September 2025

How to apply

There is a two stage application process. Submit an initial enquiry form via the Charity website.

More information: <https://grocershall.co.uk/the-charity/memorial-grants/>

Barcapel Foundation Limited | max £100,000 | pre-November (date TBC)

The Barcapel Foundation provides financial assistance mainly to organisations that have Registered Charitable Status. The three priority areas of funding are:

- Health, specifically looking at mental health and complimentary medicine
- Heritage, specifically looking at the built environment and cultural heritage.
- Youth, which focuses on all aspects of children and young people, however focused more on those from socially and financially disadvantaged backgrounds.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£100,000

Annually awarded:

£349,655

Notes on award amounts:

Annual total and average from 2022 accounts. Grants ranged from £1,000 to £20,000.

When to apply

The board meets twice a year in, usually in May/June and November.

How to apply

Download the application form from the Foundation's website and submit via email attaching a covering letter & a copy of your annual accounts.

More information: https://barcapelfoundation.org/?page_id=3030

Dalrymple Donaldson Fund | max £5,000 | 31 October (annual applications)

The purpose of the fund is to make grants for the judicious restoration and repair of buildings of historical or antiquarian interest in Scotland, England, France, Spain, Germany, Italy, and Greece but especially in Scotland.

The Trustees meet in December and applications can be submitted at any time. Applications should be submitted before 31 October in the year preceding start of work. Grants cannot be given retrospectively.

Next deadline: 31 Oct 2025

How to apply: In writing to the funder. Applicants are asked to complete an information summary form in advance of the trustees' meeting, so that up-to-date information on the progress of fundraising can be taken into account.

Address: Tho& JW Barty Solicitors 61 High Street, Dunblane, FK15 0EH

Email: bartys@bartys.co.uk

The Architectural Heritage Fund – Grants and Loans | >£10,000 - £500,000 | open now

Article information source: [Funding Scotland News](#)

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) is a registered charity, working since 1976 to promote the conservation and sustainable re-use of historic buildings for the benefit of communities across the UK, particularly in economically disadvantaged areas.

It supports communities to find enterprising ways to revitalise the old buildings they love. It provides charities and social enterprises with a unique mix of advice, grants and loans to help them give valued historic buildings new, relevant and financially sustainable purposes, now and for future generations.

Grant Support

The AHF can provide grants to help with assessing the viability of a project, or to help fund development costs for historic building related regeneration projects.

The AHF's **core grants and project support programme** in Scotland is made possible with funding from Historic Environment Scotland. Through the delivery of early-stage **Project Viability Grants (up to**

£10,000) and **Project Development Grants (up to £40,000)**, it provides financial support for groups looking to test potential project ideas, prove the viability of their plans, and then develop these to the point where they are ready to apply to larger capital funders.

Thanks to funding from the William Grant Foundation, projects in Scotland may also be eligible to apply to the **Tailored Support Fund**, which is intended to help organisations and projects that may not fit within the criteria for the AHF's core grants programme. With **grants of up to £10,000** available, this funding could, for example, be used in situations where an unexpected cost arises, or emergency repairs are required; support meanwhile uses, or other physical enabling works that help sustain the development of a larger project; and support projects or aspects of a project that are particularly innovative or possibly hard to fund through other sources.

Loan Support

As the UK's only specialist lender for charities and social enterprises working on or operating from historic buildings, the AHF can also support projects in Scotland with **loan finance**.

Loans of up to £500,000 are available with flexible and competitive terms. This funding could, for example, be used to buy a building; provide working capital; bridge funding gaps until further funding becomes available; help manage cashflow needs; or support the development of new activities or a new service.

The **Heritage Impact Fund (£25,000 to £500,000, maximum five-year repayment term)** provides finance to projects that support the sustainability of historic buildings, while also seeking to deliver demonstrable local economic and community impact.

The AHF's **General Funds (£25,000 to £500,000)** are available to invest in more traditional heritage projects. These include projects which may require longer-term finance or demonstrate less community benefit than is required to access other loan funds.

[More information: https://funding.scot/news/2024/07/24/funding-for-heritage-led-economic-social-regeneration-projects](https://funding.scot/news/2024/07/24/funding-for-heritage-led-economic-social-regeneration-projects)

The Architectural Heritage Fund - Heritage Impact Fund | £25,000 - £500,000 loans | open now

The Heritage Impact Fund offers tailored, flexible loans to charities, social enterprises and community businesses that want to acquire, reuse or redevelop historic or architecturally important buildings in the UK.

Projects can focus on buildings that are listed, in a Conservation Area, or of special significance to the local community. They should be financially viable and help support the objectives of the organisation and provide impact on or benefits for the community.

Loans can be used for a wide variety of activities including working capital during the construction phase of a project and capital to grow the scope of a business or finance the acquisition of a property.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Loan

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes**Minimum:**

£25,000

Maximum:

£500,000

Notes on award amounts:

They offer loans from £25,000 to £500,000 for up to five years.

Who can apply

To apply, you must be a formally constituted and incorporated charity, community business or social enterprise whose members have limited liability.

When to apply

Applications can be made at any time.

How to apply

Complete an Initial Enquiry Form available on the Fund website so that they can get in touch to discuss your requirements. They encourage applicants to contact them to discuss their project before applying.

Contact information

More information: <https://ahfund.org.uk/loans/our-loan-funds/>

Historic Environment Grants Programme | £1,000 - £500,000 | open now

Source and more information: https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#overview_tab

The below information provides a summary of the Historic Environment Grants (HEG) programme. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the main programme guidance which can be downloaded from the [Programme Resources section](#).

Depending on your project, additional guidance has been produced for projects which involve any work to historic buildings, monuments or other structures (Guidance for Repair Grants and Annex: Advisory Standards for Repair Grants) or archaeology (Guidance for Archaeology Grants). These can also be

downloaded from the [Programme Resources section](#).

Please ensure that you read all guidance relevant to your project before submitting your expression of interest or application so that you are aware of our requirements and processes.

Our Historic Environment Grants Programme (HEG) can support a wide range of projects which clearly relate to and will benefit Scotland's historic environment. To be eligible, all projects will need to:

- clearly relate to a Scottish historic environment asset (tangible or intangible);
- be able to demonstrate how they will contribute to [HES Grants Priorities](#);
- offer good value for money;
- be able to demonstrate that they are deliverable;
- have not started (unless discussed and agreed by HES Grants Team); and
- not already be funded by a City Heritage Trust or through any of our other funding programmes

Depending on the type of historic environment asset your project relates to, there may be additional eligibility criteria to be met. Please check the [Programme criteria section](#) and the main programme guidance for more detailed information.

While the programme is open to all people and organisations to apply, it is our expectation that we will mainly support not-for-profit organisations. Private owners or commercial organisations are unlikely to be a priority for support unless they can demonstrate that the wider benefits to the public to be delivered from the project would significantly outweigh the private gain.

[More information on all programme criteria.](#)

Projects that can be supported through the HEG programme should be focussed on an aspect of Scotland's historic environment, from the tangible (e.g. historic buildings, ancient monuments and archaeology, designed or cultural landscapes and historic gardens and battlefields) to the intangible (e.g. historic environment skills, stories and traditions).

You can apply for funding for a project with one or several different component activities where they clearly link to the same main project

[Find out more about the types of projects and activities we can help to support.](#)

There are three different funding streams under the Historic Environment Grants (HEG) which are:

- Express Grants (£1,000 to £25,000)
- Small Grants (£25,001 to £100,000)
- Large Grants (£100,001 to £500,000)

The stream that you should apply to will relate to the level of grant being requested, not the project cost. For example, if your project cost is £500,000, but your funding request to HES is for £100,000, then you should apply under our Small Grants funding stream.

Before proceeding to submit an application, you will first need to have submitted and have approved an Expression of Interest on our [Grants Portal](#).

[More information on the funding streams, our application process and timeframes.](#)

[If you are awarded a grant](#) under the HEG, you will be required to meet a number of conditions and fulfil specific reporting requirements.

[View our full programme guidance along with a number of other HEG resources.](#)

Read more information and how to apply here: https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#how-to-apply_tab

LandTrust - Scottish Landfill Communities Fund I open now

This is a Government initiative which was introduced to reduce the impact of landfill sites on neighbouring communities by funding local environmental projects. The aim of the scheme is to enable landfill operators to support various types of environmental projects by donating a percentage of their landfill tax liability.

Projects must conform to one of the following criteria:

- projects that involve reclaiming land, the use of which has been prevented by some previous activity
- projects that reduce or prevent pollution on land
- projects that provide or maintain public amenities or parks within 10 miles of a landfill site
- delivery of biodiversity conservation for UK species habitats
- projects to restore or repair buildings for religious worship, or of architectural or historical interest within 10 miles of a landfill site
- community based recycling, re-use and waste prevention projects

Who can apply

Charities and not for profit organisations.

When to apply

Applications can be made at any time.

How to apply

Pre-proposal forms are available via the LandTrust website. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their projects before submitting an application.

More information: <http://www.landtrust.org.uk/>

EB Scotland – Scottish Landfill Communities Fund | total fund £1.5m | open now

The fund offers funding to projects through the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF). It will consider applications across all types of projects included in the SLCF Objects including: land reclamation, community recycling, public amenities and parks, biodiversity and historic buildings.

Notes on award amounts: The fund gives between £1 million and £1.5 million annually. They don't operate any minimum or maximum application amounts.

Who can apply: Community groups and those acting for communities e.g. community councils etc can apply.

When to apply: They do not operate strict timescales and assess based on demand. Once they decide on a meeting they will set a deadline for receipt of applications. They prefer to speak to applicants in the first instance and make them aware of deadlines at that point.

How to apply: Please contact the funder for information on how to apply.

More information: www.ebscotland.co.uk/

War Memorials Trust – Grant Scheme (UK) | £30,000 max | open now

War Memorials Trust (WMT) raises funds to support grants to war memorials. The fund seeks to facilitate repair and conservation works through its grants and act as a catalyst for action. It promotes current best conservation practice. This is a key principle at the heart of the scheme to ensure no works are damaging to a memorial and ensure it is maintained for future generations. Some works may be considered to be outside the scope of funding if funds become limited but this does not mean they necessarily contravene conservation principles.

General maintenance is considered to be the responsibility of custodians. They can fund conservation, like-for-like repair, structural repair/stabilisation, reinstatement of lost elements that form an integral part of the design, professional condition surveys and structural reports.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland UK

Notes on award amounts: Grants of over £30,000 will be considered if the need is great. Annual total and average for UK from 2021 accounts.

Who can apply: It is open to war memorials of any type, from any conflict

When to apply: Submit a grant pre-application form at any time.

How to apply: Submit a pre-application form - available on the Trust's website. If your project is eligible you will be sent the appropriate application documents.

Exclusions:

- dedications that have been added to other gravestones which commemorate a war casualty buried elsewhere
- items which do not meet the criteria for recording on the War Memorials Register
- memorials commemorating representatives or associates of groups that have appeared on the government's list of Proscribed terrorist groups or organisations

More information: www.warmemorials.org/wmt/

Business Premises Renovation Allowance – HMRC | open now

To increase private investment, enterprise and employment in the UK's most disadvantaged communities (designated as "Enterprise Areas"), by bringing longer term vacant business properties, in those areas, back into productive use. The measure is part of the UK's holistic approach to regeneration.

A full initial allowance of 100% can be claimed in the year in which the expenditure is incurred. If this allowance is not claimed in full in the first year, writing down allowance of 25% based on cost can be claimed in subsequent years until tax relief has been claimed for the total capital expenditure on the project.

Eligibility: The property must have been unused for a year or more prior to the renovation exercise beginning. It must have been last used for the purposes of a trade, profession or vocation or as an office (and not as a dwelling) and it must be used for one or more of these purposes after the renovation or conversion has been completed.

More information: <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/manuals/camanual/CA45300.htm>

Scottish Government - Regeneration Capital Grant Fund | N/A | currently closed

The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, delivered in partnership with COSLA and local government, supports locally developed regeneration projects that involve local communities, helping to support and create jobs and build sustainable communities.

Projects should focus on:

- areas that suffer from high levels of deprivation and disadvantage
- demonstrate clear community involvement
- that will deliver large scale transformational change with strong regeneration outcomes
- that can encourage additional investment and address market failure

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: The fund is open to all 32 Scottish local authorities individually, or whether they exercise their functions through urban regeneration companies (URCs) or other special purpose vehicles (SPVs). Voluntary organisations should check details with their own local authority.

When to apply: Timings depend on your local authority area.

How to apply: Contact your local authority for more details on their application process. A Second Stage, full submission will not be accepted for this project unless this proposal has been recommended by the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund Investment Panel.

More information: www.gov.scot/policies/regeneration/capital-investment

2) Environment

The Woodland Trust - Free Tree Packs | August

Tree packs give the opportunity to bring people together to plant trees - encouraging local wildlife, protecting our landscape against tree disease and creating wooded areas. There are thousands of free trees to give away to schools, community and youth groups.

Packs are dispatched in November and March when the trees are dormant and perfect for planting.

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Equipment

Type of cost:

Capital

Who can apply

Schools across the UK, plus nurseries, colleges, universities and outdoor learning centres plus kinds of different groups such as resident associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts, guides can apply. You don't need to belong to an official organisation. The land the trees are planted on need to be accessible to the public.

When to apply

Applications for November 2025 delivery are now open.

Applications are expected to close in August 2025.

How to apply

Apply online via the Woodland Trust website.

More information: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>

Exclusions

- Western Isles
- Orkney
- Shetland

If you wish to plant in one of these specified areas of Scotland please email your enquiry to crofting@woodlandtrust.org.uk.

Faith in Community Scotland - Greener Spaces, Fairer Places | max £500 | open now

This small grants scheme supports the work of faith groups taking small scale local actions which address the link between climate change and poverty.

Grants of up to £500 are available for local action around the following themes:

- Community mobilising (eg events in your community bringing people together on climate action; outdoor installations & recycling; banner/ poster-making to raise awareness)
- More effective use of community land (eg using land to grow food, create a community garden)
- Respecting the environment (eg organising a local clean up, using buildings in a more eco-friendly way)
- Local action on reducing fuel consumption (eg supporting sustainable energy use)

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£500

Who can apply

Local faith group registered as charities in Scotland, whose annual income is normally lower than £80,000, and who normally employ no more than 2 full-time equivalent staff members.

Maximum annual income:

£80,000

When to apply

Applications are open now.

How to apply

Apply online via the Faith in Community Scotland website.

More information: <https://www.faithincommunity.scot/gsf>

EST - Plugged-in Communities Grant Fund | max £75,000 per vehicle | open now

The Plugged in Communities Grant Fund supports community transport operators in Scotland to replace a community transport vehicle with a zero-emission alternative, to support community trips and services.

Grants are available to cover the following zero-emission vehicles:

- Cars
- Light goods vehicles
- Minibuses
- Mopeds/ motorcycles

You must provide community transport services.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes**Notes on award amounts:**

The funding can cover 100% of costs for one vehicle, either purchase cost or lease costs, up to £75,000 per vehicle. This excludes VAT (unless deemed non-reclaimable), and no match funding is required.

Who can apply

Community transport organisations or operators in Scotland who have been operating for at least 12 months.

When to apply

Applications are open now.

How to apply

Complete a pre-application check on the Fund website to get started.

More information: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/grants-and-loans/plugged-communities-grant-fund/>

Coastal Communities Network - Community Support Fund | max £5,000 | open now

The Community Support Fund is intended to enable community groups to meet specific, locally-determined goals and outcomes, with the overall aim of progressing local biodiversity conservation or group development.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£5,000

Annually awarded:

£25,000

Who can apply

Scottish community-based organisations who are active in biodiversity conservation, either via the Coastal Communities Network, or through engagement with Fauna & Flora International.

How to apply

Download an application form from the website and submit via email.

<https://www.communitiesforseas.scot/community-support-fund-2/>

Zero Waste Scotland SME Loan Scheme | £1,000 - £100,000 | open now

The SME Loan provides unsecured, interest free loans from for the installation of energy efficient measures such as lighting and heating upgrades, double glazing and insulation. The loan can be used to pay for: heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades: from single improvements to controls to complete system replacement lighting systems: fitting and controls building fabric: including insulation, draft-proofing, double and secondary glazing water saving: be it installing a grey water system, harvesting rain water or sampling installing water efficient taps waste reduction: installation of equipment to improve handling and reduce waste at source.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Type of funding: Loan Type of cost: Capital, Revenue

Notes on award amounts: Apply for the SME Loan to help you install eligible measures and you will receive cashback on completion of your project (to a maximum value of £20,000).

Who can apply: The scheme is aimed at providing loan funding for Scottish businesses that fall within the European Commission definition of Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME), not-for-profit organisations and charities.

Exclusions: If a charity or not-for-profit organisation, your memorandum and articles must allow you to borrow money.

When to apply: Applications are processed on a rolling basis all year round, subject to the overall availability of loan funds.

How to apply: Contact the Resource Efficient Scotland helpline or fill in the online form. A personal adviser will help you identify eligible measures that will reduce your energy use before you submit your loan application.

More information: <https://energy.zerowastescotland.org.uk/SMELoan>

Home Energy Scotland Loan Scheme | £32,500 | open now

The Home Energy Scotland loan helps homeowners make energy and money saving improvements to their home. This interest free loan is funded by the Scottish Government and is currently open to applications.

Funding up to £38,500 per home is available to owner occupiers and eligible registered private sector landlords in Scotland. This covers a range of improvements including:

- energy efficiency improvements (such as insulation, glazing and boilers)
- home renewables systems
- connections to an approved district heating scheme powered fully or partially by a renewable energy source
- energy storage systems

Cashback grants are also available for a limited time for certain energy efficiency improvements.

If you are interested in applying or would like more information please call **Home Energy Scotland** on **0808 808 2282** (free from landlines and most mobiles).

Funding operates on a first-come, first-served basis and is subject to availability.

More information: <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/grants-loans/home-energy-scotland-loan>

SEPA - Water Environment Fund | £1m annually | open now

Previously known as the Restoration Fund, the Water Environment Fund provides funding to projects to help restore Scotland's catchments from the source, down through rivers, lochs, floodplains into the estuaries and out to sea. The primary focus of the funding is to tackle impacts on the morphology or physical condition of these ecosystems. Applications welcomed from all, including individuals, charities, non governmental organisations, local authorities, and companies.

Funding will only be provided to projects that go beyond an applicant's duty or regulatory responsibility. Projects funded will: restore the morphology (i.e. the condition of the banks, bed and shore) of the water environment; remove barriers to fish migration; control invasive non-native species (the fund is currently fully committed for this aspect and is closed to new applications for projects controlling invasive non-native species).

More information: <https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/water-environment-fund/>

3) Energy

Scotland's Heat Network Fund | max £1 million | open now

Scotland's Heat Network Fund (SHNF) offers capital grants to businesses and organisations in the public,

private and third sectors to develop heat network projects.

It aims to support the roll-out of zero emission district heat networks and communal heating systems. SHNF supports:

- new low or zero direct emissions district heat networks or communal heating systems
- the expansion of existing district or communal heating systems where the heat demand of the extension as a minimum is supplied by a low or zero direct emissions heat source - the decarbonisation of existing district heat networks or communal heating systems where a zero direct emissions heat source replaces an existing polluting heat source

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£1,000,000

Notes on award amounts:

The funding is for up to 50% of the project costs, and cannot be used for work that existed before the awarding of the fund.

Who can apply

Organisations, including third sector organisations, across Scotland. The project must be entirely delivered in Scotland, and the organisation must have a UK-based bank account.

When to apply

There is no specific deadline but funds must be drawn down by March 2026.

How to apply

You should submit an expression of interest via the website. You will then, if eligible, be invited to complete a fuller application.

Read more: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/heat-network-fund-application-guidance/pages/overview/>

Business Energy Scotland - SME Loan Scheme | £1,000 - £100,000 | open now

The SME Loan provides unsecured, interest free loans from for the installation of energy efficient measures such as lighting and heating upgrades, double glazing and insulation. The loan can be used to pay for:

- heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades: from single improvements to controls to complete system replacement
- lighting systems: fitting and controls

- building fabric: including insulation, draft-proofing, double and secondary glazing
- water saving: be it installing a grey water system, harvesting rain water or sampling installing water efficient taps
- waste reduction: installation of equipment to improve handling and reduce waste at source

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: Apply for the SME Loan to help you install eligible measures and you will receive cashback on completion of your project (to a maximum value of £20,000).

Who can apply: The scheme is aimed at providing loan funding for Scottish businesses that fall within the European Commission definition of Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME), not-for-profit organisations and charities.

When to apply: Applications are processed on a rolling basis all year round, subject to the overall availability of loan funds.

How to apply: Apply online via the Business Energy Scotland website.

Exclusions: If a charity or not-for-profit organisation, your memorandum and articles must allow you to borrow money.

More information: www.businessenergyscotland.org/smelan/

The Pebble Trust | up to £10,000 | open now

Offer grant funding for projects which support the vision of a more sustainable and equal society, where constraints on fossil fuels lead to a more localised economy with stronger, more resilient, communities, and where human activities take account of climate change and the wider environment.

Applications can be accepted from charities, community groups, businesses or individuals, provided they can demonstrate that the expected outcomes contribute to the Pebble Trust's vision, meet the charitable objectives and will benefit the wider community.

How to apply: Online application form, complete and email in.

More information: <http://www.thepebbletrust.org/grant-applications/>

4) Healthy Towns

sportscotland - Sport Facilities Fund | £10,000 - £100,000 | 1 April (two calls per year)

The fund supports capital projects that create or improve places that people take part in sport and physical activity. Awards are available for sports facility projects within club & communities, school & education or performance sport environments. In clubs and communities they will support:

- new, upgraded or extended sports facilities; Inclusive changing facilities
- facilities that provide or improve access for outdoor sport and adventure activities

- floodlights that increase capacity at appropriate sports facilities
- major items of sports equipment

They will provide enhanced support to projects within or serving the most deprived communities, according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). They focus participation and progression and prioritise projects where there is a commitment to equalities & inclusion, people development, collaboration & impact.

Greater prioritisation will be given to projects and applications supporting Return to Sport objectives and outcomes following the Coronavirus Pandemic. As well as those that can clearly demonstrate an embedded inclusive approach such as Changing Lives Through Sport and Physical Activity and target participants in/from SIMD areas or Disability, BAME or other protected characteristic groups.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: You can apply for up to 50% of eligible costs or if you are in a deprived area up to 75%

Who can apply: Any non profit distributing, constituted organisations whose membership is open to all sections of society. This includes schools and public bodies such as local authorities.

When to apply: They operate only two investment rounds each year:

Small projects have a deadline of 1 April and 1 September for a decision within three months of the deadline.

Stage 1 large projects should be submitted by the 1st of any month and Stage 2 by 1 April and 1 September for a decision within three months of the deadline.

How to apply: Log on to the sportscotland website and follow the online wizard to guide you through creating your own 'MySport' account and completing the application form. There is a single stage process for projects costing up to £250,000 including VAT. There is a two stage process for applications with a total project value over £250,000 (including VAT).

More information: <https://sportscotland.org.uk/funding/sport-facilities-fund/>

Peter Harrison Foundation – Opportunities through Sport | av. £15.500 | closes 2 April

The Trustees wish to support sporting activities or projects which provide opportunities for people who are disabled or otherwise disadvantaged to fulfil their potential and to develop other personal and life skills.

Notes on award amounts: Grants will often be "one off" grants for capital projects. They will, however, consider revenue funding for a new project or if funding is key to the continuing success or survival of an established project. Annual total and average for Scotland from 2018 accounts.

Who can apply: The trust only accepts applications from registered charities or CASCs (Community Amateur Sports Clubs).

Exclusions: Requests for retrospective funding; activities that are primarily the responsibility of central

or local government; individuals; overseas projects; adventure challenges or expeditions in the uk or abroad; projects that are solely for the promotion of religion

When to apply: At any time. The Trustees customarily meet three times a year, in Spring, Summer and Autumn. The lead time between an online Initial Enquiry and the successful award of a grant is likely to be between three and six months.

More information: <http://www.peterharrisonfoundation.org/grant-programmes>

Cycling Tourism Facilities Fund (Highlands and Islands) | max£25,000 | 31 August or when funds exhausted

The Highlands and Islands have the potential to be a world-class cycling destination. With cycling tourism valued at an estimated £37bn to the European economy, there is a significant opportunity for the region to benefit from this growing market.

Investments in cycling infrastructure and new cycling initiatives are being made across the Highlands and Islands. By capitalising on this opportunity, businesses and communities can tap into the growing demand for cycling experiences from both domestic and international visitors. This not only benefits the economy, but also promotes active and sustainable tourism, contributing to the overall wellbeing of communities across the region.

What is it?

The Cycling Tourism Facilities Fund is a great opportunity for tourism businesses, communities, and social enterprises in the Highlands and Islands Enterprise region to apply for funding of up to £25,000 to develop and enhance the cycling tourism facilities in your area. Quality cycling facilities can attract cycling visitors who are looking to enjoy the scenic landscapes and unique offerings of the region by using sustainable active travel.

What can the funding be used for?

The funding can be used towards capital projects investing in fixtures, fittings, construction, adaptation or upgrades to improve cycling tourism facilities.

Examples of eligible projects include:

- new secure covered cycle storage
- new open cycle parking, sheltered cycle parking
- enhancement to existing cycle parking/storage to increase capacity and/or security
- lockers and storage
- drying facilities
- bike maintenance equipment e.g. repair stations.

This list is not exhaustive; all grant assistance from HIE is discretionary.

Funding will be prioritised for projects that demonstrate market growth potential and alignment with national and regional cycling strategies and plans and/or existing/planned cycle routes.

Please note: this fund covers capital investment projects only. Facilities being developed with support from this fund must be for, and to benefit, visitors.

What can the funding NOT be used for?

The funding cannot be used to:

- support projects that are already underway at the time of enquiry
- purchase bike maintenance consumables (e.g. spare parts, oil, tubes)
- cover ongoing maintenance and running costs of existing facilities
- create overnight accommodation facilities
- support cycle path development and associated infrastructure
- purchase bikes, including e-Bikes

How much can I apply for?

The minimum grant is £5,000 up to a maximum of £25,000 which will cover up to 50% of total eligible project costs. The amount awarded will be dependent on factors such as the size of your organisation, where you are based, and the project being proposed.

Who is eligible to apply?

- Enterprises (businesses, social enterprises and community organisations) that can demonstrate that they operate in the tourism market and are based in the Highlands and Islands are eligible for this fund.
- Enterprises will normally have been trading for six months or more.
- Applicants must comply with HIE's fair work conditionality for grant support. For more information, please visit our Fair Work web page. If you want to speak to someone about the fair work requirement or need more information, please email enquiries@hient.co.uk

Duration, time and commitment

The application process has 2 stages:

- Stage 1 is completing the online enquiry form (available on this page).
- If your application meets the basic criteria once reviewed, you'll be allocated a development manager who will advise you on what you need to provide to make a stage 2 application.

If your application is unsuccessful, we will explain why and will highlight other support options where possible.

How do I apply?

Please complete the enquiry form to enquire about the Cycling Tourism Facilities Fund.

The grant will be open until 31 August 2025 or until budget is fully committed, whichever is earlier.

The small print – this is important

- All HIE grant assistance is discretionary.
- Grant awards are subject to due diligence and budget availability. Due diligence includes: making an assessment on the need for public funding; the viability of the business going forward; the ability of the applicant to deliver the project; the impact of the development on the economy, and the strength of the business case presented to HIE.
- Making an application to the fund does not guarantee that your application will be successful. If you are not successful in your application or you are only partially successful e.g. you receive funding of a lesser amount than you applied for, we will arrange a call with you to let you know why you have been unsuccessful and point you in the direction of other possible sources of funding.
- There is no appeals process. We are unable to consider a complaint purely relating to dissatisfaction as to the outcome of a funding decision. However, if you have identified a specific process failure relating to your application, then you may wish to make a formal complaint. See our formal complaints process for more information.

Need to speak to us?

If you would like to talk to someone about your enquiry, please email enquiries@hient.co.uk and we will get back to you.

More information: <https://www.hie.co.uk/support/browse-all-support-services/cycling-tourism-facilities-fund/>

sportscotland - The Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund | max £1,250,000 | open now

The Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund will deliver a national strategy to create a network of regionally based indoor tennis centres in Scotland to ensure that the majority of the country has access to a high quality indoor tennis centre.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of funding:

Grant, Loan

Maximum:

£1,250,000

Notes on award amounts:

Priority will initially be given to projects which involve a minimum of 3 indoor courts and funding of up

to 66% project costs is available up to a maximum of £250,000 per court.

Who can apply

The funding is available to Community Tennis Networks consisting of organisations such as local Tennis Clubs and Schools.

When to apply

The fund will be delivered through a series of funding rounds each year. See website for details.

How to apply

Application form available on the sportscotland website.

More information: <https://sportscotland.org.uk/funding/othersources/the-transforming-scottish-indoor-tennis-fund/>

Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund | £15,000 million annually | open now

The fund aims to develop a culture of mental wellbeing and prevention within local communities and across Scotland with improved awareness of how we can all stay well and help ourselves and others.

Funds are being distributed in each local area by Third Sector Interfaces. For more details on criteria and application processes can be found by contacting your local TSI.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of cost:

Revenue

Annually awarded:

£15,000,000

When to apply

Application timings vary by area. Contact your local TSI to find out more. Please note, some areas may be closed.

How to apply

Applications can be made via your local Third Sector Interface. Please contact your local TSI to find out more. To find your TSI, visit <https://tsi.scot/tsi-directory/>

Paths for All – Community Paths Grants | max £1,800 | open now

Community groups and charitable organisations, in Scotland, can apply for up to £1800 to maintain, upgrade, create and promote community path networks.

Summary: Small grants to support communities to create, promote and maintain local community paths.

Grant size: Up to £1,800

Application: Ongoing with no deadline date.

Our funding can be used to:

- improve and maintain existing paths
- buy tools, materials and insurance
- hire a contractor, plant and machinery
- install signage and way markers
- produce new leaflets or promotional materials which use the [Path Grading System](#)
- enhance biodiversity beside paths

How to apply

If you'd like to make an application to our Community Path Grants please [read our Guidance Note](#) first.

Our Community Paths team is here to help and support you through all the stages of your community paths project, contact us on communitypaths@pathsforall.org.uk or 01786 641851.

Application are made through our online [Grants for All portal](#). If you are a new user, please [register here](#).

There is no deadline for receiving applications, this is a rolling program, and we will assess applications and allocate funding every 2 weeks. The scheme will close when all available funding has been allocated.

Please note, there is a limited amount of funding available and we anticipate there being a lot of interest. We, therefore, encourage organisations to start their applications as soon as they can.

Training

We offer a range of free training courses throughout the year to help you plan, manage and improve your Community Path networks. Further details can be found [here](#).

More information: <https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/community-paths/community-paths-grants>

Cycling Scotland – Cycling Friendly Community | max £20,000 | open now

The Cycling Friendly Community programme supports organisations across Scotland to take a leading role in increasing the number of people who cycle, creating sustainable communities.

Funds are focused on capital improvements that seek to support the development or improvement of facilities that will enable more people to cycle. Capital costs are generally assets, such as bikes,

equipment, tools etc. Proposals for complementary activities to support behaviour change may be considered where there is a direct link to capital elements, e.g. bike maintenance training in conjunction with procurement of maintenance equipment.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: Community groups in Scotland who are looking to increase opportunities for people to cycle can apply.

When to apply: Applications are open now.

How to apply: Apply online via the Cycling Scotland website.

Exclusions:

- Retrospective costs
- Improvements or works which are already scheduled under a separate commitment i.e. as condition of planning approval
- Maintenance and running costs of existing projects or services
- Staff costs / salaries
- Political campaigning or activities
- Activities promoting specific religious/other beliefs
- Loan repayments
- Projects that are designed to further the business interests of the organisation

More information: www.cycling.scot/what-we-do/cycling-friendly/community

Sports Charity Scotland | £30,000 annually | open now

Founded in 1983, Sports Charity Scotland (until 2022: The Sportsman's Charity) has a reputation for running first-class events and distributing funds to a wide range of primarily Scottish charities working in the fields of sport, children and young people, disability and the disadvantaged.

Each year, the Charity identifies two partner organisations which will receive a significant proportion of the funds raised at The Sportsman's Dinner. In recent years the charities have included Combat Stress, the Scottish Golf Trust, Capability Scotland, Crohn's & Colitis UK, Alzheimer Scotland and Scottish Disability Sport.

As well as supporting some of the larger established charities, Sports Charity Scotland takes a special interest in smaller organisations for which a modest donation can make all the difference.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: Annual total and average from 2020 accounts. The Charity's fundraising has been affected by Covid restrictions. Donations in 2020 were around half of those given in previous years. In 2021, they only awarded around £4,200.

Who can apply: Charities working in the area of sport, children, disability and the disadvantaged.

When to apply: Apply at any time.

How to apply: To apply for assistance email the Charity providing organisation and project details, and information on other funding applications made. The Charity will then be in touch to discuss the application.

Exclusions: The Charity has limited funds at its disposal and restricted areas within which it operates and therefore cannot support all causes for which appeals are made. The Charity does not support individuals or animal welfare charities. It supports specifics and does not fund running costs, staffing costs or overheads.

More information: <https://sportscharityscotland.com/>

The Scottish Football Partnership Trust Awards | N/A | open now

Provides funding and support for grassroots football clubs and other charitable organisations with football related projects.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

When to apply: Applications can be made at any time.

How to apply: Apply online via the Trust website.

Exclusions: Only one application can be approved between 1 April and 31 March in any one year.

More information: <https://thescottishfootballpartnership.com/apply-now/>

Barclays Community Football Fund | £500 | open now

Grants are available for groups wishing to start offering football, those keen to expand their existing provision to new audiences or those already delivering football to under-represented young people. Alongside the grants, the programme will offer training and support resources to groups to help reduce inequalities in the participation of football.

The programme's focus is on including girls and young people from lower socio-economic and under-represented groups: including racially diverse communities, people with disabilities, and people from the LGBTQ+ community.

Geographical areas funded: UK

Who can apply: Applications are welcome from all types of organisations including football clubs, community groups, youth groups and charities. You must have a governing document and a bank account in the name of your organisation.

When to apply: Applications are open now.

How to apply: Apply online via the Sported website.

More information: www.sported.org.uk/barclays-community-football-fund-open/

Greene King IPA - Proud to Pitch In | max £3,000 | open now

The aim of this fund is to support sports focussed projects that positively impact their club and/or the local community, and would tangibly benefit from funding. Examples of projects that have previously received funding include:

- Renovations of a club's facilities making them more inclusive and accessible
- Coaching qualifications and referee courses
- Coaching costs of running existing programmes or new sessions
- New equipment and kit

Geographical areas funded: Scotland UK

Who can apply: To be eligible for funding, projects must be located in the United Kingdom and project beneficiaries must be aged 18 or over.

When to apply: Nominations are now open.

How to apply: Nominate your sports club via the funder website.

More information: <https://www.greeneking-pubs.co.uk/proud-to-pitch-in/>

Transport Scotland – Network Support Grant | N/A | N/A

The Network Support Grant is a discretionary grant that subsidises commercial and community bus routes. It aims to keep fares at affordable levels and networks more extensive than would otherwise be the case. The NSG replaces the Bus Service Operators' Grant (BSOG), COVID-19 Support Grant (CSG) and COVID-19 Support Grant - Restart (CSG-R).

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: bus operators and community transport organisations. See the Transport Scotland website for full details on eligibility.

When to apply: Community transport organisations possessing a section 19 or section 22 permit can either claim once annually, or twice yearly in arrears for set 6-month periods (1 October - 31 March and 1 April - 30 September).

How to apply: Bus Operators must register before they can submit a claim for the grant. See the Transport Scotland website for more details.

More information: www.transport.gov.scot/public-transport/buses/network-support-grant/

Paths for All – Ian Findlay Path Fund | £10,000 - £100,000 | open now

The Ian Findlay Path Fund (IFPF) supports the improvement of local paths within and between communities, making it easier for people to choose active travel and public transport for everyday journeys.

This grant fund is supported by Transport Scotland to improve paths, to make active travel easier and more attractive. This will encourage people to leave their cars at home for short journeys which will in turn benefit air quality, reduce CO2 emissions and improve our physical health and mental wellbeing.

The fund supports projects that will improve usability and accessibility of paths for more people. This will reduce inequalities and improve access to greenspace and its benefits to mental health.

The fund is named in memory of our late Chief Officer, Ian Findlay CBE who died very suddenly in March 2021. Ian made a huge impact during his time at Paths for All and this fund recognises and continues his legacy.

What type of projects will be funded?

The fund supports path management projects that:

- Demonstrate that they will make it easier for people to choose active travel and public transport to reduce dependency on car usage
- Improve accessibility and resilience of existing paths between homes, community facilities, active travel routes and public transport facilities
- Remove barriers to make existing paths more accessible to more people
- Link paths to community destinations such as homes and public transport connections
- Improve and create routes to aid the development of 20-minute neighbourhoods

Who can apply?

The fund is open to a wide range of community and third sector organisations.

Grant value

Funding of a sum between £10,000 - £100,000 is available, with 30% match funding required (15% can be in kind).

If you are at an early stage of your project, we can offer up to 100% of design costs.

Technical Advice

Technical expertise is included within the IFPF team.

We can provide advice and guidance on:

- Planning and developing path projects

- Surveying and designing paths
- Preparing contract documentation for tenders
- Path construction best practice incl. surface selection, bridges, access barriers, signage, etc.

Application

If you want to make an application to the IFPF, please read our [Guidance Document](#) first. We recommend that you get in touch with our dedicated team at IFPF@pathsforall.org.uk to discuss initial proposals.

Once you have spoken to a member of our team and established that your project meets the terms of the fund, you should complete an [Expression of Interest](#) on our grants portal.

We aim to visit every prospective project, to offer in person guidance and advice before you submit your IFPF Application.

If you are already registered, [log in to our Grants portal](#). If you are not already registered you can find information about how to get yourself registered, in the Guidance Note.

More information: <https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/community-paths/cmp-grants/ian-findlay-path-fund>

Paths for All – Smarter Choices, Smarter Places Open Fund | £5,000 - £100,000 | open now

The Smarter Choices, Smarter Places (SCSP) Open Fund aims to encourage people to change their everyday travel behaviours. Grants are available to encourage people to use public transport or other sustainable options such as buses and community car clubs for longer journeys; walking and cycling for short journeys, and home-working to replace daily commutes.

The Open Fund is available to support public, third and community sector organisations. The fund aims to help cut Scotland's carbon emissions and improve our air quality. It will also help reverse the trend towards sedentary lifestyles and will tackle health inequalities.

Grants available are between £5,000 and £100,000 and need to be match funded.

Over the previous five years the Open Fund awarded £14.3 million in grants for hundreds of different projects across Scotland. Our Smarter Choices, Smarter Places [Annual Report 2021/22](#) is available to download which details the impact of our funding. A full list of projects funded in [2022/23 is available to download](#). There are some great examples of SCSP funded projects within our [Success Stories](#).

Applications

To make an application to the Open Fund, [please read our guidance first](#). If you believe you have a project that we could fund the first step is to complete an [Expression of Interest](#) on our grant's portal. If you are already registered, log in to our [grants portal](#).

If you'd like to keep up-to-date with news from the Open Fund, please [sign up to our newsletter](#).

More information: www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/smarter-choices-smarter-places-1/open-fund

Dumfries and Galloway Council – Stewartry Sports Grants | max £500 | open now

Grants are available to support individuals and clubs from Dumfries and Galloway who are taking part in sport. Grant funding is awarded towards sports equipment, training for coaches and volunteers, travel and competition expenses, clothing/kit expenses, sports events and improving and extending facilities.

Geographical areas funded: Dumfries & Galloway

Notes on award amounts: Funding is usually limited to a maximum of £500 towards no more than 50% of the costs. Awards of up to £1,000 may be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Who can apply: Groups must have a constitution and annual accounts.

When to apply: Applications to Stewartry Sports Council are now open.

How to apply: Application forms are available via the Council website and can be emailed. Individuals or groups are advised to contact the Sports Council to request an application form

More information: <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15763/Stewartry-Sports-Grants>

Bruce Wake Charitable Trust | N/A | open now

The Trustees will consider grant applications related to the provision of leisure activities for the disabled but favour particularly applications whereby the potential beneficiaries meet one or all of the following criteria:

- the potential beneficiaries are physically disabled wheelchair users
- improved access for wheelchair users is proposed
- sporting or leisure activity involving disabled wheelchair users is proposed.

Geographical areas funded: UK

How to apply: A preliminary application form is on the funder website.

More information: <https://brucewaketrust.co.uk/>

Cycling Scotland - Cycle Friendly Employer Development Fund | max £25,000 | open now

The Cycle Friendly Development Fund, financed by Transport Scotland, is awarded to organisations to develop projects that encourage staff and visitors to travel by bike. Funding can provide the installation of cycle parking, upgrading of minor workplace specific pedestrian / cyclist access routes, upgrading of facilities such as changing areas, showers, lockers and drying areas as well as bike pools, hire fleets or creating maintenance areas and tools.

Who can apply: The fund is open to businesses and organisations in Scotland who are working towards achieving or maintaining Cycling Friendly Employer status.

How to apply: To apply for funding, a workplace must be registered for the Cycling Friendly Employer Award. Download an application pack from their website.

Exclusions: The fund lists a large number of exclusions. See the website for details.

When to apply: The fund is open and accepts applications on a rolling basis.

More information: <https://www.cycling.scot/our-programmes/cycle-friendly/employer>

5) Culture and Arts

Film Festival & Screening Programme Fund | £15,000 - £45,000 | 24 April (multiple deadlines)

The Film Festival & Screening Programme Fund supports organisations based in Scotland who produce and deliver film festivals and public screening programmes. It prioritises activity that addresses underserved and underrepresented audiences, and projects that align with our Focus Areas.

We are also offering a one-time opportunity for applicants to request additional funding for activity taking place up to 31 August 2027 through Development Funding.

Learn more about what we mean by underrepresented audiences, what our Focus Areas are, and Development Funding in the fund guidance.

Please note, if you are a new festival or screening programme without a track record, or if your team lacks festival management experience, you are encouraged to explore other funding options to build experience before considering this fund.

What's new?

In March 2025, we relaunched the fund with the following changes:

- Extended timeline: Funding is available for activities until 31 August 2026. Established events may apply for Development Funding up until 31 August 2027.
- Funding: Grants now range from £15,000 to £45,000.
- Personal Access Costs: Applicants may apply for personal access costs for the project team in line with [Creative Scotland's guidelines](#).
- BFI Diversity Standards: After our pilot in 2022-2024 we are now implementing the [BFI Diversity Standards](#) – Screen Scotland. All applicants to this fund need to evidence they have made an application to the BFI Diversity Standards prior to applying to us.
- Priority Focus: Priority will be given to projects that support workforce and audience development priorities related to our focus areas.

Full details can be found in our guidance document which is available to download below.

Who can apply, and what can I apply for?

This fund is open to organisations based in Scotland that will produce film festivals and/or curated screening programmes for public audiences in Scotland and meet the aims and eligibility criteria of this fund.

This fund is project funding, not core organisational funding. However, we encourage using the fund to cover core costs that directly relate to the delivery of your project and development of your team and organisation during the project dates. We encourage you to secure additional funding from other sources, such as sponsors, partners, charities, private or other public funding, to help deliver and expand your programme.

Download the fund guidance to learn more about what project costs this fund can support.
How much can I apply for?

Applicants can apply for £15,000 to £45,000 (if applying for Development Funding, this amount is per year).

If you are looking for less than £15,000, please consider the funding opportunities offered by Film Hub Scotland.

When can I apply?

This fund will support activity happening between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026, and for up to 31 August for applications for Development Funding.

Application deadline	Decision by
24 April 2025	26 June 2025
19 September 2025	27 November 2025
12 January 2026	12 March 2026

Your first public activity must be at least 8 weeks after the 'Decision by' date.

Costs incurred before funding is confirmed are not eligible for support.

Late or early applications will be held until the next deadline.

The fund closes at midnight on Monday 12 January 2026 or when fully allocated (updates will be provided).

If you are unsure which deadline to apply to please contact us in advance at enquiries@creativescotland.com.

How to apply

Applications to this fund must be made through the Film Festival & Screening Programme Fund Application Form.

All applicants must ensure they have read the Fund Guidance and Application Form in full before applying. Both documents are available in the downloads section below.

You must apply for the BFI Diversity Standards first and provide proof of application. You don't need to pass the standards before applying to the fund but passing is required to receive funding.

New applicants are strongly advised to speak to Screen Scotland's Audience Development Team before applying. To request a meeting, contact the Enquiries Service by emailing enquiries@creativescotland.com.

Completed application forms should be submitted, along with all supporting materials to screen@creativescotland.com.

Source and contact for more information: <https://www.screen.scot/funding-and-support/funding/film-festival-and-screening-programme-fund>

Barrack Charitable Trust | £500 - £5,000 | 30 April (biannual deadlines)

The trust reviews its policy every two years - currently the major categories supported are:

- The advancement of the arts, heritage and culture.
- The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational facilities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities are primarily intended.
- The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health and disability.

Who can apply

The beneficial area is United Kingdom-wide, but preference is given to organisations in Scotland. Grants are normally made only to a recognised Scottish Charity or a recognised charity outside Scotland.

When to apply

The deadlines for applications are 30 April (for the meeting in May) and 31 October (for the meeting in November).

How to apply

The application form and guidance can be downloaded from the Trust's website. There is a separate simplified Grant Form (Small Grants) for grants under £500.

More information: <http://www.thebarrackcharitabletrust.co.uk/>

Film Hub Scotland - Film Exhibition Fund | £2,000 - £10,000 | 16 May

The Film Exhibition Fund aims to help audiences across Scotland access and enjoy a diverse range of films, regardless of geography or circumstance.

The fund will support exhibitors to deliver audience development activity that addresses one or more of the BFI and FAN priority outcomes, in line with BFI's Screen Culture 2033 strategy:

- Engaging with children and young people
- Accessing a wider choice of film
- Tackling social, economic and geographic barriers

- Engaging with heritage collections that reflect the diversity of the UK

All supported activity will need to address our cross-cutting principles of:

- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Environmental Sustainability

The fund will support activity taking place from May 2024 – March 2026.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£2,000

Maximum:

£10,000

Who can apply

Support is open to Film Hub Scotland members. This includes full-time cinema venues, mixed arts centres, community cinemas and film societies, film festivals and touring programmes.

Overall, priority will be given to those Hub members with a demonstrable track record of work that meets FAN's objectives.

When to apply

Applications now open, there are 2 deadlines for applications: 1st deadline: 28 March 2025 2nd deadline: Friday 16 May 2025

Next deadline: Friday 16 May 2025

How to apply

You will need to submit an equality monitoring form, a fund proposal form and a budget template. Full guidance and forms can be found on the Film Hub Scotland website.

More information: <https://www.filmhubscotland.com/film-exhibition-fund/>

Scops Arts Trust | max £30,000 | next round opens 20 May

Summary

The goal of Scops Arts Trust is to help people to understand, participate in and enjoy the arts, particularly the performing arts. They are keen to find projects which widen access and have a lasting cultural impact on the community. In 2024, the Trust will be concentrating solely on music projects.

Each round will focus on a different area within the performing arts:

- Round 1: Focus on music performances at regional arts festivals plus children's music education
- Round 2: Focus on adult music education projects plus children's music education
- Round 3: Focus on instrumental and choral music groups plus children's music education

In addition to the above themes, applications for children's music education projects will be considered at every round.

Geographical areas funded: UK

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£30,000

Notes on award amounts:

Most grants are for specific projects but they will consider core costs of smaller organisations where a grant could make an impact.

Annual total from 2022 accounts. Grants ranged from £1,000 to £15,000. Of the 53 grantees, 32 received a one-off grant and 21 received a multi-year award. The majority of grants were under £10,000.

Who can apply

Registered charities and other organisations with a clear charitable purpose are considered; small to medium size organisations preferred to large organisations

When to apply

The next grants round opens on 20 May, when we will be inviting applications for projects supporting performance opportunities for **early career musicians**.

We do **not** accept applications from individuals. Grant awards for the second grants round this year will be made in August 2025.

How to apply

Complete the online eligibility checker on the Trust website. There is a two stage application process.

More information: <https://www.scopsartstrust.org.uk/>

Scottish Book Trust - Live Literature Funding | Author Fees | 23 May (multiple deadlines)

Grants are available to help bring literature alive with an author, poet, playwright, graphic novelist or storyteller visit. They like to support interesting, imaginative sessions which show a commitment to the promotion and enjoyment of reading and writing.

Activities should take place before 31 March 2025.

As funding is limited, a maximum of five sessions can be requested in a single application. The panel will only award the maximum five sessions if they feel the request is justified by an application.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Notes on award amounts:

The set author fee is £200. They will pay the author directly, covering £115 of the author's fee, and all of their expenses. Organisations need to pay a set contribution of £85 plus VAT per author session.

Who can apply

You can apply for funding if:

- You are based in any part of Scotland
- You are applying on behalf of a school, library, community group, arts organisation, local festival, reading/writing group, hospital, prison or an organisation working with adults or children with disabilities
- You intend to work with an author listed on the Live Literature Author Directory
- You are planning a digital activity such as a remotely delivered workshop or reading, a podcast recording, a short written resource, etc.

When to apply

Panels will take place throughout 2025, each with their own deadline. Details of the deadlines for each panel are listed below. All applications should be received no later than midday on each deadline:

- 14 February deadline – 24 February panel
- 23 May deadline – 2 June panel
- 26 September deadline – 6 October panel

How to apply

Apply online via the Scottish Book Trust website.

<https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/writing-and-authors/live-literature/apply-now-live-literature>

Book Week Scotland 2025 Event Funding | max £700 | 11 June

Book Week Scotland is a week-long celebration of books and reading that takes place every year in November. Together with our amazing partners, we bring hundreds of events celebrating all things books to communities across Scotland.

This year, Book Week Scotland will take place from 17-23 November and we will be building a programme of events inspired by our theme of friendship.

So if your organisation understands the value of books and reading and would like to programme a unique, exciting event for Book Week Scotland 2025, we want to hear from you!

Organisations can apply for one £700 grant to plan and deliver an in-person or digital event.

The deadline for applications is **5pm on Wednesday 11 June**.

Organisations can submit applications for the following:

- In-person events
- Digital/hybrid events

What we're looking for:

- We want organisations to think of bold, unique events that get their audiences excited about books and reading.
- We believe books have the power to transform lives at every level, we would love to see that reflected in your application.

Our theme for Book Week Scotland 2025 is friendship. While partners are not required to engage with the theme as part of their events, we'd love it if you did! We have developed five sub-strands for friendship which may give you an idea of the types of events you'd like to programme.

If successful, organisations must work together with an author or storyteller on some element of their proposed event or activity. Authors must be paid the minimum Live Literature rate of £200 per session. We will inform partners promptly of any changes.

We will accept proposals from, but not limited to:

- Arts organisations
- Museums and Heritage organisations
- Community organisations and groups
- 3rd sector organisations
- Bookshops
- Public sector organisations and Local Authority service providers

Before you apply:

- Read our funding guidance to ensure your event is eligible.
- Have a good idea of the format of your event. We understand that some things will change, but the more information you can give us, the better.

How to apply:

Please complete your application via our form on SurveyMonkey – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B39LNL5> – by no later than 5pm on Wednesday 11 June.

If you have any questions about your application please contact bookweekscotland@scottishbooktrust.com.

Location: All Scotland

For further information, please contact bookweekscotland@scottishbooktrust.com or visit <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/book-week-scotland/book-week-scotland-fund>

The deadline is Wednesday 11 June 2025 at 17:00.

The Museums Association - Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund | £40,000 - £100,000 | 16 July

The Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund supports museums to improve their inclusive collections and participatory practice with community partners.

The fund will:

- Support work that furthers the established strategic aims of the applicants in relation to diversity, equity and inclusion, and/or is community-led.
- Offer core funding to museums, to offer greater flexibility and support embedded change in organisations. Grants will be of a similar size and duration to in previous years.
- Enhance learning from grantees and share this with the wider museum sector, for example foregrounding leading practice in funded museums and undertaking research with action learning sets.

It is an essential requirement of the Collections Fund that applicants use collections to further their aims for inclusion; and that community groups, partners and/or stakeholders have prominent roles in your work.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£40,000

Maximum:

£100,000

Who can apply

The Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund is open to all museums and galleries in the United Kingdom. Applicants from within the museum sector must be members of the Museums Association. They expect to fund smaller and medium sized organisations where funding of this size can make the most difference in the long term, for example as a higher proportion of turnover.

When to apply

The next deadline for submissions of interest is **16 July 2025**.

How to apply

There will be a two-stage application process. The first stage is to submit an expression of interest using the form available to download from the Fund website.

More information: <https://www.museumsassociation.org/funding/esmee-fairbairn-collections-fund/>

Idlewild Trust – Arts and Conservation Grants | max £7000 | 5 September

Idlewild Trust is an independent grant-making trust that runs two grants programmes supporting specific areas within conservation and the arts.

Arts: Nurturing Early-Stage Professionals supports organisations which offer high-level training to early career participants (18yrs+) in the performing, fine and applied arts – for example, musicians, dancers, actors, writers, artists, composers, curators, and theatre-makers.

Idlewild Trust offers three multi-year awards for the Arts stream -- only available to charitable organisations whose programmes Idlewild has supported previously. Application for these awards is by invitation only and the amount available for each award under this scheme will be £21,000 over 3 years.

Conservation of Cultural Heritage: Objects and Works of Art supports the conservation of cultural heritage of recognized national or international importance, such as objects and works of art in museums, libraries, galleries, historic buildings or landscapes accessible to the public.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Fund type

Grant

Maximum:

£7,000

Who can apply

UK Registered Charities, some UK Publicly Exempt Charities and Churches that are Excepted Charities.

Minimum annual income:

£5,000

When to apply

Round 1 2025:

Applications open	Monday 2 June 2025
Deadline for applications	Friday 5 September 2025 at midday
Decision outcome	By early December 2025

How to apply

Online application and full guidance available on the Trust's website.

More information: <https://www.idlewildtrust.org.uk/apply-grant>

The William Syson Foundation - Small Grants Fund | max £4,000 | 12 September

The organisation's objectives are:

- the advancement of the arts, heritage and culture, including (but not restricted to) promoting, developing and ensuring the practice and enjoyment of the arts, including music, the visual arts, theatre and literature as the directors in their absolute and uncontrolled discretion think fit;
- without prejudice to the forgoing generality, the charity will have a particular focus on Scottish organisations and individuals resident in Scotland.

Applications can be submitted for support for core costs and arts-related projects.

Previous categories of awards have included; Music, Combined Arts, Drama & Theatre, Arts, Film, Dance, Literature and Sculpture.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes**Maximum:**

£4,000

Annually awarded:

£350,000

Notes on award amounts:

The Small Grants Fund will award unrestricted grants up to £4,000.

Who can apply

Applications are accepted from constituted not-for-profit organisations. You must be registered in Scotland or your beneficiaries must be located in Scotland. Full details are on the Foundation's website.

Maximum annual income:

£500,000

When to apply

The open window periods for Small Grants Fund Rounds in 2025 are:

ROUND 6 – from noon on Monday 17 March - noon on Friday 28 March 2025

ROUND 7 - from noon on Monday 1 September - noon on Friday 12 September 2025

How to apply

Application forms are available via the Foundation's website. The guidance includes information on what supporting documentation to submit with your application.

More information: <https://www.williamsonfoundation.org.uk/small-grants-fund>

The Golsoncott Foundation | max £3,000 | quarterly applications reviews

The Foundation supports projects that demonstrate and deliver excellence in the arts, be it in performance, exhibition, artistic craft, or scholarly endeavour. Projects involving young people should offer a long-lasting connection between them and the art-form and a significant level of participation and achievement at a high standard.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Who can apply

Arts organisations whose main work is the art form itself, and its perfection or excellence in performance.

When to apply

All applications for grants should be sent to the administrator at the registered office a few weeks before the scheduled trustees' meeting, i.e., by early February, May, August and November in advance of the meeting later that month

The volume of applications is often very high, and the trustees may close the well before the end. Last round this was two weeks before the advertised deadline.

How to apply

Applications should be supplied in digital form and hard copy, which should not be stapled; accounts and other supporting information should be supplied in hard copy only.

More information: <https://www.golsoncott.org.uk/how-to-apply.html>

British Film Institute - BFI National Lottery Audience Projects Fund | max £200,000 | open now

The BFI National Lottery Audience Projects Fund supports ambitious, audience-facing independent UK and international film and broader screen activity of national scale.

Projects should be focused on increasing access and growing the participation of audiences that are representative of the UK population. Equal priority will be given to the cultural and social ambitions of projects, and they expect these two ambitions to work together to realise the fund's aims. The fund will support film exhibitors, film distributors, and other organisations delivering audience development activity with multi-year and short-term projects as well as research and development.

All funded activity must deliver against at least five of the following aims which are listed in the BFI

National Lottery strategy outcomes:

- people across the UK can access a wider choice of film and the moving image including stories that reflect their lives
- an increased profile for independent UK and international film and broader screen activity
- a larger audience for independent UK and international film and broader screen activity that is representative of the UK population, achieved through a genuine change in working practices
- funding helps to tackle social, economic and geographic barriers for screen audiences in new and effective ways ensuring an increased number of accessible screenings right across the UK to ensure independent UK and international film and broader screen activity is truly accessible to all children and young people are empowered to develop their own relationships with a wider range of screen culture
- screen organisations have significantly reduced their carbon footprint
- a broader range of organisations supported by the fund, breaking down historic barriers to funding

Minimum:

£10,000

Maximum:

£200,000

Notes on award amounts:

- pilot projects – you can apply for a minimum of £10,000 up to £20,000
- projects – you can apply for a minimum of £20,000 up to £200,000 per year

They can consider making single or multi-year project awards of up to £500,000 per year but applications for awards over £200,000 will only be accepted for projects which demonstrate exceptional cultural ambition, national profile and scale and are supported by a good range of partners.

Who can apply

Your organisation must be a legally constituted organisation centrally managed in the UK that is one of the following:

- a limited company registered at Companies House that is not: defined as a 'large' company under the Companies Act 2006; or more than 50% owned by (or a subsidiary of) non-UK resident individuals or a company or corporation owned by non UK-resident individuals or a company or corporation having shares listed on any stock exchange
- a community interest company registered at Companies House
- a limited liability partnership (LLP) registered at Companies House that is not more than 50% owned by non-UK residents partners or members
- a UK combined or local authority or statutory body
- a UK charity or trust registered with the Charity Commission

When to apply

Applications are accepted all year round but must be submitted 16 weeks before the start of any funded activity. They can support projects of any duration but all activity must be completed by 31 March 2026 unless you have approval from the Audiences team prior to making an application.

How to apply

Application form and guidance available on the website.

More information: <https://www.bfi.org.uk/get-funding-support/bring-film-wider-audience/bfi-national-lottery-audience-projects-fund>

EventScotland – International Events Programme | £3.4m annually | open now

Through this programme of investment, Visit Scotland's EventScotland team fund major, world-class events which are raising the profile of Scotland's Perfect Stage around the world.

They support events through this programme in a number of ways: working in partnership with local authorities and governing bodies on bids to secure major international properties for Scotland; communicating directly with event organisers for annual events where we have an established relationship, and; actively looking for new and existing events to bring to Scotland for the first time.

Events supported through the International Funding Programme must: Generate substantial economic benefits for Scotland through increased visitation including tourists, spectators and participants; Highlight Scotland as an events and tourism destination through high profile, international media coverage and Enhance Scotland's opportunities to host further major events.

More information: <http://www.eventscotland.org/funding/international-programmes/>

Culture & Business Fund Scotland | max £10,000 | open now

Culture organisations in arts and heritage can now apply to the The Culture & Business Fund Scotland (C&BS), designed to support innovative and mutually beneficial partnerships between culture and business organisations across Scotland, for up to £1 for every £2 invested by business organisations.

Through the C&BS Fund since the launch of the programme in 2017, a total of just over £3.1 million has been invested with 169 C&BS Fund investments made across all 32 local authority areas. C&BS Fund is an investment programme which receives direct investment from the Scottish Government.

Type of funding:

Grant, Corporate sponsorship

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Maximum:

£10,000

Notes on award amounts:

For 2024-25, culture organisations (arts and heritage) can apply for up to £1 for every £2 invested by the business organisations. Maximum £10k investment over two applications.

Who can apply

Non-profit culture organisations delivering cultural activity in Scotland which have attracted a business

to sponsor a project or aspect of their work, either in the form of cash or in-kind sponsorship. Culture organisations eligible to apply to the C&BS Fund are:

- Registered Charities: Charities registered with OSCR (the Scottish Charity Regulator) and undertaking activity related to culture (arts and heritage)
- Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations: SCIOs registered with OSCR and undertaking activity related to culture (arts and heritage)
- Community Interest Companies: CICs registered with the Regulator of Community Interest Companies, undertaking activity related to culture (arts and heritage), and with an asset lock in place
- Companies Limited by Guarantee: Companies Limited by Guarantee registered with Companies House, undertaking activity related to culture (arts and heritage), and with an asset lock in place

When to apply

Applications are open now.

How to apply

Online via the Culture & Business Fund Scotland website. They ask you to watch a short film which covers the new guidelines. Once you have done this, you can submit an Expression of Interest and will be invited to submit a full application if eligible.

More information: <https://www.cultureandbusiness.scot/cbs-fund/>

Film Hub Scotland - Pitch Pots | £200 - £1,000 | open now

Pitch Pots are a simple way for Film Hub Scotland members to access additional support to enhance new or existing one-off projects and screenings of independent British and specialised film. They prioritise projects that focus on promoting diversity and increase inclusion.

The ambition for the fund is that members will be able to create impactful, one-off events to enhance their programme, or to deliver special activities tied to local, Scotland and/or UK events and initiatives. Support is available for projects taking place from April 2023 – March 2026. Projects must be completed by 2 March 2026.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund award sizes

Minimum:£200

Maximum:£1,000

Who can apply

Organisations must be legally constituted and a member of Film Hub Scotland.

When to apply

Funding will be allocated on a rolling first-come, first-served basis.

How to apply

Application form and guidance on the Film Hub Scotland website.

More information: <https://www.filmhubscotland.com/pitch-pots/>

Creative Scotland - National Lottery Open Fund for Organisations £1,000 - £100,000 [|open now](#)

The National Lottery Open Fund for Organisations aims to support organisations who seek funding to undertake creative activity such as a specific project or production, a programme of creative work, or a period of research and development. The fund can also support business change and development projects, such as those that make the organisation more financially sustainable or focus on broader organisational development.

The fund will be assessed against six key criteria:

- Quality and Ambition
- Engagement
- Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion
- Environmental Sustainability
- Fair Work
- International

For full details, see the Fund guidelines available on the Creative Scotland website.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: Eligible organisations can apply for funding between £1k and £100k for projects or programmes lasting up to 18 months.

If you are seeking more than £100k and 18 months support refer to the National Lottery Extended Programme Fund.

Who can apply: Any type of constituted artistic, creative or cultural organisation based in Scotland can apply.

When to apply: There are no deadlines and applications can be submitted at any time. Applicants will receive a decision on their application:

within 8 working weeks of submission (if applying for under £20k)

within 12 working weeks of submission (if applying for between £20k – £100k)

How to apply: Apply online via the Creative Scotland portal.

Exclusions:

- Start-up business costs for new companies, and/or ongoing running costs at profit distributing companies
- Film, screen or TV industry projects or activity
- Activity which is related to academic studies in Further or Higher Education
- General arts or creative activities in schools
- Publishing activities that support academic, journalistic or reference work
- Large scale building work or feasibility studies for building projects
- Funding solely for equipment

See the fund guidelines for full details.

More information: www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/open-funding/national-

RSPBA – Novice Juvenile Pipe Band Fund | N/A | open now

Applications are open to Association-registered Juvenile and Novice Juvenile bands. The sort of assistance that will be considered will range from help with band bus fees, to tuition and instruments.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

When to apply: Apply at any time.

How to apply: Download the application form on the RSPBA website.

More information: www.rspba.org/admin/information-procedures-forms/

Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust – Funding and Bagpipe Loans | £250 - £10,000 | any time

The Trust awards cash grants, offers guidance, and loans bagpipes. Most of their support is for piping and drumming tuition that takes place in state schools during the school day, and for schools pipe bands. Support falls broadly into four categories:

- Start Up funding and guidance: this package of guidance, and one-off funding, enables programmes to get started in areas where most families can afford a modest fee towards tuition
- Match Funding: in areas where tuition needs to be offered free to all pupils, or at a subsidised rate of between £1 and £4 per lesson, an organisation or steering group must first raise funds and then apply to SSPDT for match funding, which may be awarded for a period of up to three years
- Open Grant Fund: you can apply for a one-off cash award, usually match funded. You can apply for the costs of instruments, workshops, and activities on and off school premises
- Bagpipe Loan: the Trust also loans bagpipes for a period of up to three years, only to organisations that provide tuition during school time. In some cases SSPDT will provide cash grants as well as instrument loan

Who can apply: They work with a variety of partners that manage programmes on a local level including Local Education Authorities, Feis, Parent Councils, Schools, Community Pipe Bands and constituted Steering Groups. They can help set up steering groups when required.

How to apply: Application form and guidance notes are available for each category of funding on the Trust's website.

Exclusions: Will not fund: Chanters and drum pads, overheads, room hire and uniform.

More information: www.sspdt.org.uk/funding/sspdt-funding-loans/

Glasgow City Council - City Centre Mural Fund | total fund £35,000 | open now

The scheme offers support towards the costs involved in creating and delivering new inspiring installations in prominent city centre locations. Aimed at improving the image of buildings, gable ends or sites across Glasgow city centre, the work will help to enhance the look of the area and add to the experience of visitors to Glasgow while also contributing to local regeneration.

This opportunity exists for artists to bring their ideas to life and provide a platform for their talent to be showcased. It will add to the growing reputation of Glasgow's arts community and contribute to the City's image as a cultural centre.

Geographical areas funded: Glasgow

Exclusions: This fund lists a large number of exclusions: check the website for details.

When to apply: This is a rolling programme and applications will be assessed on a first come basis and while budget is still available.

How to apply: The application form and guidance can be downloaded from the website.

More information: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/1885/City-Centre-Mural-Grant-Fund>

Figurative Arts and Culture Impact Fund | £150,000 - £1m | open now

The Arts & Culture Impact Fund (formally run by NESTA) is an impact investment fund for the UK's arts, culture and heritage social enterprises. The fund offers loans between £150,000 and £1 million repayable over a period of up to ten years.

Notes on award amounts: The fund offers repayable finance between £150,000 to £1,000,000 with a repayment term of one to ten years and interest rates ranging between 3% and 10%.

Who can apply: Organisations whose primary activity is in arts, culture and heritage.

How to apply: <https://figurative.org.uk/fund/arts-culture-impact-fund/>

More information: <https://figurative.org.uk/our-work/arts-and-culture-finance/>

National Museums of Scotland National Fund for Acquisitions | max £30,000 | open now

The fund helps museums, galleries, libraries and archives throughout Scotland to make acquisitions for their collections, provided they are open to the public and not run for profit. Grants may be made to assist the purchase of an object or group of objects that conforms to the applicant's collecting policy. Funding is provided annually by Scottish Government and administered by National Museums Scotland.

Who can apply: Museums, galleries, specialist libraries and archives in Scotland are eligible to apply provided they are open to the public and not run for profit. Museums and galleries must be accredited

under the Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation Scheme, managed in partnership with Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS).

Exclusions: Friends organisations and nationally funded museums, galleries and libraries are not eligible for NFA support. This fund lists a large number of other exclusions: check the guidance for details.

More information: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/our-impact/national-work/national-fund-for-acquisitions>

National Museums of Scotland – NFA Special Funding Scheme | N/A | open now

The National Fund for Acquisitions Special Funding Scheme helps museums which are struggling to raise match funding for acquisitions. It helps to raise match funding to make an application to the National Fund for Acquisitions.

The scheme operates alongside NFA's normal funding programme which will continue to consider applications for up to 50% of total purchase price for applicants who can raise match funding from their own or other funding sources.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: The National Fund for Acquisitions Special Funding Scheme considers applications for up to 100% funding.

Who can apply: Organisations struggling to raise match funding to make an application to the National Fund for Acquisitions.

When to apply: There are no deadlines. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

How to apply: Applications for funding under this special scheme must be discussed with NFA staff prior to submission, either by telephone or email. Full applications can then be made via an application form submitted via email.

More information: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/our-impact/national-work/national-fund-for-acquisitions/nfa-special-funding-scheme>

National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) | N/A

This scheme can help buy anything which is of outstanding importance to the national heritage and either at risk or of memorial character. For example: works of fine and decorative art; museum collections; archives; manuscripts; items of transport and industrial history, historic buildings and land. In exceptional circumstances, NHMF can fund emergency repairs when a heritage asset (excluding historic buildings and structures) is at imminent risk of irreparable damage. NHMF can help fund heritage projects of all sizes. Charities (voluntary and public), not-for-profit organisations and public bodies can apply through the online portal on the website with limit on the percentage of funding essential to the project.

More information: <http://www.nhmf.org.uk/funding>

The Art Fund – Acquisition Grant | £100 - £1,000,000 | open now

The programme give grants totalling between £4m and £5m every year to help museums and galleries purchase art for their collections. It can assist with the purchase of works of art and other objects of artistic interest dating from antiquity to the present day. Within this broad category our criteria include: objects of national and international importance, including high value items subject to temporary export licence deferral or being offered with tax remission; objects of significant regional interest judged to be of good museum quality; objects which will artistically enrich collections and support the expansion and development of new areas of collecting.

More information: <https://www.artfund.org/supporting-museums/programmes/acquisition-grants>

6) Employment and Training

New Park Educational Trust | £1,000 - £5,000 | 14 April(quarterly)

The Trust gives grants to individuals and organisations for the advancement of education for the public benefit. The Trustees have interpreted that as enabling them to support other charities working to help the education and development of young people, other organisations which carry out similar functions and individuals who need assistance with courses.

Grants are given for equipment and project costs, or for bursaries. Priority has been given to North East Fife and surrounding areas, but projects have been helped throughout Scotland.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland, Fife

Who can apply: The Trust operates by giving grants to organisations and, less frequently, to individuals. Priority has been given to North East Fife and surrounding areas, but projects have been helped throughout Scotland.

When to apply: Meetings of Trustees are held quarterly in February, May, August and November. Applications should be sent by the 14th of the month before the meeting at which they are to be considered.

How to apply: Download the application form on the Trust's website and return it to Henderson Black & Co, giving full details of the project and reason for the request. In appropriate cases, a copy of the last set of accounts should be sent.

More information: <http://www.newparkeducationaltrust.org/grant-applications/>

The Steel Charitable Trust - United Kingdom Under-26 Fund | £10,000 - £25,000 | 15 April 2025 (opens 10 March: multiple deadlines)

This fund aims to improve outcomes for children and young people in the UK (regardless of their nationality, culture or ethnic origin) who are wholly or mainly under 26 years of age. The overarching focus is on creating educational and/or access opportunities for young people in circumstances, groups or locations that face economic challenges or social marginalisation that may lead to significant disadvantages in later life.

They say 'mainly' under the age of 26 because they do not want to discourage what could be a strong application from, for example, an organisation supporting young people in the age range 21-26.

However, it would be disingenuous to apply if the target audience was 25-30-year-olds.

All sorts of work could be funded through this programme, as long as the beneficiaries are in the UK and are wholly, or mainly, under the age of 26.

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£10,000

Notes on award amounts:

Generally, £10k is the minimum annual grant size. Most one-off grants fall in the range £10k-£25k, usually made as a single payment.

All grants awarded will be for restricted funding. However, that does not preclude specifically stated running or capital costs, such as contributions to a salary for a stated role, detailed IT upgrades or a building renovation. New project costs or contributions towards on-going projects or programmes are also permitted.

Grants awarded could be one-off or multi-year.

Who can apply

To apply, you must:

- be a UK-registered charity or an Exempt Charity as defined in the Charities Act 2011 or its equivalents in Scotland and Northern Ireland
- be seeking funding towards work that will be delivered in any part of the United Kingdom, except Luton
- have a minimum income of £50k in the previous financial year
- be able to produce at least one full year of accounts, that confirms the required income threshold be seeking a grant of a minimum of £10k per year

Minimum annual income:

£50,000

When to apply

Application timescales are below:

- 10 March at noon - 15 April (for decisions end of June)
- 16 April - 15 July (for decisions end of September)
- 16 July - 15 October (for decisions end of December)

- Applicants are encouraged to submit applications early in the application period to allow more time for their review.

Next deadline: 15 Apr 2025

How to apply

The application form and guidance can be found on the Trust's website.

More information: <https://steelcharitabletrust.org.uk/grants/>

Thomas Wall Trust | max £5,000 | 5 May

The Thomas Wall Trust believes that communication skills are critical capabilities for people who want to improve their employment prospects, self-confidence, resilience, and life chances.

The Trust offer grants to specific projects or core activities that develop these critical life skills for people from disadvantaged groups.

They welcome proposals which target people experiencing multiple deprivation or other groups demonstrably facing major hurdles to employment, especially; women, people with physical, mental, or learning disabilities, refugees and asylum seekers.

They will fund projects for a charity that equips disadvantaged people (aged 18 and over) with the necessary communication skills ready for employment, and prioritise match funded projects and self-sustainable projects which aim to become less reliant on grants in the future.

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£5,000

Who can apply

Registered charities that have been registered for at least 3 years. They will fund a project for a charity that equips disadvantaged people (aged 18 and over) with the necessary communication skills ready for employment.

Minimum annual income:

£25,000

Maximum annual income:

£500,000

When to apply

Applications now open. The next deadline is Monday 5 May 2025.

Next deadline: 5 May 2025

How to apply

The application process is divided into two stages:

- Stage one is to complete the Expression of Interest form where you will be asked to complete some basic contact details and a description of what you require funding for.
- If successful, you will be invited to Stage two – Applicants will be asked to submit a Project Plan (including budget details) using the template (available to download from the website), latest set of audited financial accounts, and any relevant policies.

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email unless they receive an unusually high volume of applications.

More information: <https://www.thomaswalltrust.org.uk/grants-for-registered-charities-2/>

Highlands and Islands Enterprise – Technology Placement Programme | 70% salary subsidy | open now

Our technology placement programme offers enterprises of any size in the Highland Council area the opportunity to take on a graduate or student placement - and we'll fund up to 70% of their salary.

Is there an aspect of your business that'd be more efficient if you digitised, automated or introduced a new technology process? Maybe it's moving records online, developing digital services, or introducing new software or hardware to streamline your processes.

If you know just the project, but are struggling to find the skills or hours from within your current workforce, our Technology Placement Programme can help.

A student placement would typically last 12 weeks, although that's flexible, with a salary at least the Real Living Wage. A graduate placement is for 12 months with a salary of between £23,250 (minimum) to £30,250 (maximum).

HOW WILL MY BUSINESS BENEFIT?

The programme aims to help businesses keep up with the pace of technological change and accelerate growth through innovating how you do things.

By employing a graduate or student, you will have the opportunity to:

- Introduce digital transformation within your business
- Accelerate growth through the introduction of new products or services
- Increase efficiencies by adopting new or improved digitally enabled processes
- Enhance digital knowledge and increase skills within your business
- Utilise the latest available technology to stay at the forefront of digital innovation.

You'll also help create vital job opportunities and support our young workforce across the Highland Council area.

ELIGIBILITY

This programme is open to enterprises of any size based within the Highland Council area.

We can help you scope a project-based placement, work out a person spec, and help you find the fresh skills and thinking you need.

I'M AN EMPLOYER, HOW DO I APPLY?

If you would like more information or if you have a placement opportunity, please [apply here](#).

I'M A GRADUATE, WHAT'S ON OFFER?

Where we have placements available we'll advertise them below. Keep an eye on our social media platforms too.

Read more: <https://www.hie.co.uk/support/browse-all-support-services/nih/techplacements/>

RBS Social & Community Capital - Community Business Loan | £30,000 - £750,000 | open now

Loans are available for established third sector organisations that are delivering high social value - in a sustainable way. Organisations must be financially sustainable and deliver a positive impact to society and/or the environment.

The three main areas they look to support are:

- Employment, education & training for those furthest from the marketplace
- Delivery of services to the most disadvantaged people/communities
- Community regeneration

Who can apply

Established third sector organisation (charities, social enterprises, community interest companies or co-operatives) located and trading in the UK. You must not be eligible for mainstream funding from banks.

When to apply

There is no deadline and applications for loan funding are taken on a rolling basis.

How to apply

Fill out the contact form on the RBS website and you will be sent a full application.

More information: <https://www.business.rbs.co.uk/business/social-community-capital/community-business-loan.html>

IBB Trust | total fund £55,500 | open now

This trust supports a range of charitable organisations, generally with the emphasis on work being done in Dundee and Tayside, or possibly Scotland-wide. Organisations supported include health and welfare organisations and groups which provide assistance to individuals suffering from physical and mental illnesses.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland, Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross

Notes on award amounts: Annual total and average from 2021 accounts. The maximum grant was £3,000. They often fund the same organisations each year.

When to apply: Apply at any time. The Trustees meet from time to time in the course of the year to discuss the applications for assistance and to distribute funds as they determine.

How to apply: Organisations should apply in writing to the Trust, outlining the work they do, and enclosing a copy of their latest accounts.

More information: enquiries@blackadders.co.uk

7) Innovation and Growth

Firstport - Social Entrepreneurs - Build It | max £40,000 | 3 April (quarterly)

Build It aims to help early-stage social enterprises working towards becoming financially sustainable. It offers grant funding for salary costs so that the new jobs help the enterprise increase its income, become financially sustainable and continue to deliver social impact without relying on grant funding.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Maximum:

£40,000

Notes on award amounts:

Typical requests are:

- Up to £27,000 for a single salary (at Real Living Wage)
- Up to £40,000 split between two or more salaries at Real Living Wage

Who can apply

Your enterprise must be up and running and able to provide evidence of income generation and social impact to date and been trading for 2 years or less. Profits from the enterprise must be reinvested in the business and its social aims; no assets or uncapped dividends can be transferred out of the organisation to private individuals or bodies.

Your enterprise must be an independent organisation – it is neither a project nor a subsidiary of an existing body. It must aim to provide direct social benefit to individuals, communities and/or the environment.

When to apply

Applications open and the next deadline is 12pm, Thursday 3 April 2025 with pitching panels on 27 and 28 May 2025

Next deadline: 3 April 2025.

How to apply

The application form and guidance can be found on the Firstport website.

You must submit an application form, a business plan, a pitch document and cash flow projections. If you are shortlisted, you will be invited to pitch to an independent panel that makes the final funding decision.

More information: <https://www.firstport.org.uk/funding/social-entrepreneurs-fund-build-it/>

The Fore Trust | max £30,000 | next registration window 27th March – 3rd April 2025

The Fore offers development funding and strategic support to early-stage charities and social enterprises. It makes unrestricted grants which have the potential to have a transformational impact on an organisation. For example enabling your organisation to take a step forward in its development or giving you the chance to do something you couldn't before.

It will also match successful applicants with friendly professional support including ongoing mentoring, strategic advice, governance support or other assistance.

Who can apply

Provides funding to UK-registered charities, community interest companies, charitable incorporated organisations and community benefit societies with annual income of less than £500,000.

When to apply

See website for details of upcoming funding rounds.

How to apply

To apply for funding, organisations must register for a place during the funding round. If you are allocated a place, you will be provided with details on how to apply.

More information: <https://thefore.org/apply-for-funding/>

Triodos Bank – Crowdfunding | Finance Support | open now

Triodos Crowdfunding helps charities, social enterprises and community groups connect directly with investors to raise finance. Finance is raised from individual and institutional investors through the crowdfunding platform in the form of charity bonds, community share and bond offers, secured and unsecured debt in the form of bonds.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#) [UK](#)

Type of funding:

Loan, Other resources

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes

No min./max. amounts. Amounts raised range from £350,000 to £5m.

Who can apply

Any impact driven organisation – charity, community groups, social businesses

When to apply

Apply at any time.

How to apply

Contact capitalraising@triodos.co.uk to discuss.

More information: triodoscrowdfunding.co.uk

Scottish Communities Finance - Social Enterprise Bridging Loan | max £15,000 | open now

The Social Enterprise Loan Fund is a small fund that is capitalised by the investment of people and organisations within the Scottish Third Sector, via the purchase of Community Bonds. It is SCF's intention to ensure that the fund benefits as many organisations as possible, but also that investors get their money back along with a return for their investment.

Bridging loans are short-term loans that are used to bridge periods when expected income doesn't arrive as originally agreed or planned. An SEN bridging loan can only be available for a maximum period of 6 months. The interest rate on these loans is currently 3%.

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Loan

Type of cost:

Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes**Minimum:**

£1,000

Maximum:

£15,000

Who can apply

Third sector organisations looking for bridging finance. Before completing the application form, please read the 'Eligibility flowchart'

When to apply

Apply at any time.

How to apply

Please review the 'Application flowchart' to ensure that this is the correct loan fund for you. If so, complete and submit the application form along with supplementary documentation.

More information: <https://scotcomfinance.scot/apply-for-loan/sen-bridging/>

Social Investment Scotland - Bridging Loans | open now

A bridging loan is a short-term loan that provides quick access to funds for social enterprises and charities that need to cover a short-term cash shortfall.

Social Investment Scotland's bridging loans serve as short-term financing solutions that help social enterprises manage temporary cash flow issues or seize growth opportunities without waiting for long-term funding. They could be used to fund:

- Cash flow gaps
- Business expansion
- Property purchases
- many other reasons

Get in touch with Social Investment Scotland to discuss.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Loan

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes

Notes on award amounts:

No specified amounts

Who can apply

Social enterprises and third sector organisations.

When to apply

Apply at any time.

How to apply

There are no application forms to complete. Contact Social Investment Scotland for a conversation on how they can help.

More information: <https://www.socialinvestmentscotland.com/investment/sis-bridging-loans/>

Foundation Scotland - Social Investment Fund | max £250,000 | open now

The Social Investment Fund offers blended grant and loan investment to social enterprises, community organisations and charities working within Scotland. The fund is designed to allow you to meet the needs of your business, achieve your vision and secure your future.

The investment can be used for:

- Working capital
- Acquisition of assets
- Business growth
- Capital expenditure

Investments made by this fund must demonstrate that they meet our social investment charitable objectives, which are:

- To prevent and/or relieve poverty among those living in Scotland
- To advance community development, and urban and rural regeneration, in Scotland
- To advance education in Scotland

Loans are repayable over a 10 year period. Appropriate security must be available for the loan. They will discuss the requirements for security with you during the assessment process.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant, Loan

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£250,000

Notes on award amounts:

The fund can invest between £10,000 and £250,000 per organisation; up to 25% (£62,500) of this can be in the form of a non-repayable grant and the remainder a repayable loan.

Who can apply

You must be an incorporated organisation with charitable, social or environmental objectives stated in your organisation's governing documents with an asset lock or charitable dissolution clause. See the Foundation Scotland website for full eligibility criteria.

When to apply

Enquiries can be submitted at any time.

How to apply

If you can answer yes to all the eligibility criteria, then please complete the enquiry form on the Foundation Scotland website.

More information: <https://wwwFOUNDATIONSscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/social-investment-fund>

Growth Impact Fund | £50,000 - £1.5m | open now

Growth Impact Fund is a partnership between Big Issue Invest and UnLtd to provide social investment for early stage, growing organisations who are looking to help tackle inequality.

Investment is targeted at organisations with diverse representation at board and leadership level. The fund is for organisations that have more than 75% representation at board and at least 50% representation at Senior Leadership Team of individuals who fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic
- Disabled
- Women
- LGBTQIA+
- Lived experience of a social challenge
- Experience of socio-economic disadvantage

They will support those who:

- Are looking to significantly grow trading income and social impact
- Are interested in seeking funding as a repayable investment

Notes on award amounts: They offer between £50,000 and £1,500,000 of social investment. They can also provide up to £15,000 of grant funding to support your organisation before social investment, and up to £20,000 grant as additional funding to help grow your organisation.

Who can apply: All legally registered in the UK as a company or a charity.

When to apply: Enquiries can be submitted at any time. They aim to get back to you within 7 to 10 working days.

How to apply: Submit an enquiry form on the Fund website. Your enquiry will be reviewed by a Portfolio Manager and if eligible, you will be invited to submit a proposal.

More information: <https://growthimpactfund.org.uk/>

Youth Scotland - What's Your Big Idea? | max £50 | open now

What's Your Big Idea?! is a small grants fund for young people in Scotland supported by the Audrey Milan Fund. Young people can apply for a small amount of funding to help get an exciting idea off the ground. They can apply for help starting a new project with your youth group; use it for a cool idea they've been thinking about to make more money; develop a new skill, like making jewellery, starting a podcast or learning to cook; or something completely different.

Young people are welcome to apply with individual or group ideas and applications can be submitted through a Youth Scotland member group.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: Youth Scotland are offering initial grants of up to £50 per application. Tell them how the project went and they could top up the application with another £150.

Who can apply: Young people living in Scotland, aged 12-25 are eligible to apply through a Youth Scotland member group.

When to apply: Applications and reviews and awarded on an ongoing basis.

How to apply: Send your application via the Youth Scotland website. It can be in the form of a video, voice message, email or write up of your idea.

Exclusions: This is a fund specifically to support young people get their ideas into reality and as such are unable to fund staffing costs, running costs or capacity building.

More information: www.youthscotland.org.uk/programmes/whats-your-big-idea

Interface – Standard Innovation Voucher | £1,000 - £5,000 | open now

The purpose of a Standard Innovation Voucher is to encourage new first time partnerships between a company and a university or further education college. The vouchers cover the academic project costs and are paid directly to the university or college. The company contributes an equal value in cash or in kind (such as staff time, materials or equipment) or a combination of both.

All SMEs, social enterprises and third sector organisations with main company operations in Scotland can apply for a voucher if they are partnering with a Scottish University or Further Education College. Projects must be innovative (a novel/pioneering idea) and lead to new products, services or processes that will benefit the company, the academic institution and the Scottish economy.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: SMEs, social enterprises and third sector organisations with main company operations in Scotland who are partnering with a Scottish University or Further Education College.

When to apply: There are no deadlines and applications can be submitted at any time.

How to apply: The application form and guidance can be downloaded from the Interface website.

Exclusions: Only projects which cannot be delivered commercially and require the technical expertise of an academic partner are eligible. The voucher cannot be used to match other public funding schemes. Other exclusions apply.

More information: www.interface-online.org.uk/how-we-can-help/funding/standard-innovation-vouchers

Firstport – Social Entrepreneurs – Boost it | £30,000 - £50,000 | any time

Boost It is a brand new fund to help social entrepreneurs in Scotland to strengthen their businesses so they can successfully increase trading. It is delivered by Firstport as part of the Social Entrepreneurs Fund, which is funded by the Scottish Government.

Boost It is designed for early stage social enterprises (trading for 3 years or less) that require either a higher injection of capital to get the business off the ground, or further financial support to strengthen and sustain trading.

The fund is specifically targeting those social enterprises who need to increase their levels of trading, rather than those looking to scale up. Currently Boost It will focus on supporting ideas tackling the Climate Emergency- circular economy, carbon reduction, etc.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: Boost It is for legally constituted social enterprises that have been trading for up to three years but needs further support to increase trading activity and become sustainable.

When to apply: Expressions of interest can be submitted at any time.

How to apply: Complete an expression of interest form via the Firstport website.

More information: www.firstport.org.uk/funding/boost-it/

Firstport- Launch Me | N/A | any time

LaunchMe is Scotland's social enterprise accelerator. It prepares ambitious social enterprises and community organisations for growth so they can achieve social impact at scale.

As a LaunchMe participant, you can expect the following:

- A bespoke programme of support: Support tailored to the needs of your business and move at your pace
- Access to expert training: Workshops delivered by experts in different business areas – from social impact to market research and more
- A peer network: Connecting with other LaunchMe participants to share experiences, learn from each other, and foster collaboration
- Access and connections to investors: Help to find the right investors for your growth plans
- A hands-on, knowledgeable, and dedicated support team that will encourage, challenge and champion you so you get the most out of the programme

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: Social and community enterprises looking to scale. You must be incorporated and with an asset lock.

When to apply: Expressions of interest can be completed at any time.

How to apply: Apply online via the Firstport website

More information: www.firstport.org.uk/business-support/launchme

Recovery Loan Scheme | finance up to £2m | UK Government | open now

The Recovery Loan Scheme supports small and medium sized businesses to access the finance they need to grow and invest. Finance can be used for any legitimate business purpose, including working capital or investment.

The actual amount and terms offered are at the discretion of participating lenders.

The government guarantees 70% of the finance to the lender. As the borrower, you are always 100% liable for the debt.

Loans are available through a network of accredited lenders, listed on the British Business Bank's website.

Eligibility

You may be eligible for a loan through the Recovery Loan Scheme if your business:

- is trading in the UK
- has a turnover of £45 million or less
-

You need to show that your business:

- is viable
- is not in difficulty
-

Businesses that received support under the earlier COVID-19 loan guarantee schemes and earlier phases of the Recovery Loan Scheme are eligible to access finance under this scheme if they meet all other eligibility criteria.

Charities and further education colleges that generate not more than 50% of their turnover from trading activity must confirm they have been impacted by COVID-19 in order to be eligible for the scheme. There is no requirement for any other sectors to have been impacted by COVID-19.

Read more: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/recovery-loan-scheme>

Support Programme for UK's Co-operative Businesses | N/A | open now

Launched by Co-operatives UK, the Hive is a £1 billion business support programme designed to enable growth among the UK's £37 billion co-operative economy. The initiative will help people who intend to start or grow co-operative or community enterprises, using various online resources, training and advice.

Between 2016 and 2019 the Hive, the first co-operative development programme of its kind in the UK, aims to support the development of the existing 7,000 independent co-operative businesses across the UK as well as help new co-operatives starting up.

The Hive acts as a cross-sectoral programme of support. Regardless of sector, the Hive is able to support organisations with:

- online advice to guide them through starting up, growth and conversions; and
- direct support, via one-to-one advice, group advice, peer mentoring and skills training.

The Hive offers comprehensive online business advice and guidance, alongside one-to-one support, peer mentoring and group training sessions, covering issues such as registration, membership development, and co-operative finance.

The initiative's online co-operative community is expected to unite member-owned businesses across the country, creating networking and business development opportunities.

More information: <http://www.uk.coop/the-hive/>

DSL Business Finance & Scottish Microfinance Fund | £500 - £50,000 | open now

DSL is a Responsible Finance Provider and a member of the Responsible Finance Industry. DSL provides business start-up and growth loans for small businesses and social enterprises that cannot otherwise access funding from banks and other traditional sources.

Business Finance

The purpose of this scheme is to help businesses to grow and establish themselves, with DSL offering support throughout the duration of the loan period.

Applicants may apply for a loan of between £1,000 and £50,000. The maximum term for this loan will be five years with a fixed interest rate worth between 6% and 9%. There will be a 2% administration fee and no early settlement penalties. Private sector match funding will be required.

This loan could be used to cover expenditure such as cash flow, investment in equipment and stock as well as PR and marketing services, renovation or additional recruitment. Applicants must be able to provide the relevant documentation within their application.

Scottish Microfinance Fund (SMF)

Interested parties may apply for a minimum loan of £500 and a maximum loan value of £2,500 through the Scottish Microfinance Fund. The Fund is administered by DSL Business Finance; an organisation providing start-up and growth loans for small businesses and social enterprises.

The purpose of this scheme is to allow businesses that may have previously struggled to obtain funding the opportunity to access low cost microfinance options at a competitive interest rate. The maximum term for the loan is five years with a 6% fixed interest rate. Clients will be provided with a Loan Officer who will support them through each stage. Multiple funding options are available and there will be a team of funding experts on hand to offer guidance. It should also be noted that some sectoral restrictions may apply.

This scheme is intended for new and existing businesses and social enterprises based in Scotland that are employing fewer than ten people with a turnover and balance sheet less than, or else equal to, £2 million.

More information: <https://www.dsl-businessfinance.co.uk/>

Unity Trust Bank – Loans | £250,000 - £10,000,000 | open now

Provides loans that will help to create jobs or bring wider economic, social or environmental benefit.

Loans are tailored to your organisation and can cover a wide range of needs, including:

- Refinance
- Property purchase
- Property refurbishment
- Business acquisition

Applicants must have borrowing powers in their governing document. Unity does not lend to individuals or the private sector.

Full details on amounts available, repayment periods, interest rates and fees can be found on the Bank website.

More information: <https://www.unity.co.uk/business-loans/>

Social Investment Scotland (SIS) – Investment | £10,000 - £2,000,000 | open now

Social investment is money designed to help you take impactful actions and achieve meaningful outcomes. You could use it to achieve your growth ambitions, ease cash flow along the way or buy assets and vital equipment.

This scheme provides loan funding that can finance the purchase of assets or equipment, get you through timing or cash flow issues, help support a new enterprise or simply bridge some grant funding. They are flexible in their approach and try to fit a financial solution around your needs. There are no application forms to complete. Contact SIS for a conversation on how they can help on 0131 558 7706. The key exclusion is that SIS are unable to provide funding to companies limited by shares, partnerships or individuals.

More information: <https://www.socialinvestmentscotland.com/investment/>

8) Community Funding (Scotland-wide)

Benefact Group - Movement for Good Larger Grants | max £10,000 | open now

Larger grants are for exciting and innovative projects. They are looking for charities which can demonstrate a clearly identified need and want to take their work to a new level, boosting their ability to make a difference.

The project must support one of the below four themes:

- Education and skills
- Rural or community development
- Arts, heritage or culture
- Climate change or environment

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#) [UK](#)

Maximum:
£10,000

Notes on award amounts:

Funding can be used within three years and for a blend of project and core funding costs.

Who can apply

Charities registered in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

When to apply

Applications now open.

How to apply

Apply online via the Movement for Good website.

More information: <https://movementforgood.com/largergrants/>

People's Postcode Trust | £500 - £25,000 | 31 March

The aim of People's Postcode Trust is to support smaller charities and good causes in the Scotland to make a difference to their community for the benefit of people and planet.

They support projects under the following categories:

- Enabling participation in physical activity
- Enabling participation in the arts
- Preventing or reducing the impact of poverty
- Supporting marginalised groups and tackling inequality
- Improving biodiversity and responding to the climate emergency
- Improving green spaces and increasing access to the outdoors
- Providing support to improve mental health (Focus on organisations that actively support specific mental health issues)

The funding offered is unrestricted and therefore flexible. It can be used however it is most needed.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes**Minimum:**

£500

Maximum:

£25,000

Annually awarded:

£2,500,000

Notes on award amounts:

The amount requested should not exceed 1/3 (one third) of your total income on the annual accounts submitted with your application.

Constituted voluntary organisations with no charity number can apply for up to £2,500. Registered charities, CICs with an asset lock and community benefit societies can apply for up to £25,000.

Who can apply

Funding is available for organisations that have been operating for over a year and have a set of signed accounts at the time of application.

Priority will be given to charities and good causes that:

- Have an annual income under £250,000
- Support communities that rank within the top 15% on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation
- Are led by and provide services for people from the following minority/marginalised groups: communities experiencing racial inequality; people with disabilities; LGBT+ community.

Maximum annual income:

£1,000,000

When to apply

Funding round dates for 2025 are:

Round 1: 24th March 9am to 31st March 12 noon

Round 2: 24th June 9am to 1st July 12 noon

Round 3: To be confirmed later in 2025

An application form will be available on the fund webpage when the funding round is open.

How to apply

Application forms and guidance on the Trust website. Questions can be downloaded in advance so you are ready to apply as soon as applications open.

More information: <http://www.postcodetrust.org.uk/>

Scottish Community Pubs Small Grant Fund | £2,000 | 31 March or when exhausted

Plunkett UK is offering a limited number of small development grants of up to £2,000 to community groups in rural Scotland looking to bring their pub/hotel into community ownership.

These grants are intended to help with early stage costs such as Plunkett UK membership, model rules and registration, asset valuation or community engagement activity.

Contact Plunkett UK for a chat and application form.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes**Maximum:**

£2,000

Annually awarded:

£30,000

Who can apply

Early stage community groups intending to bring their local pub/hotel into democratic community ownership. Groups intending to become a wide-membership legal model and be composed of people from the community, for the benefit of the community.

When to apply

Next deadline: 31 Mar 2025

How to apply

Immediate availability. First come, first served. Programme closes 31/3/25 or when funds are spent down.

More information: <https://plunkett.co.uk/current-programmes/#Scot>

Scottish Building Society Foundation | max £5,000 | 7 April

The Scottish Building Society Foundation will aim to invest in the long-term future of communities in Scotland. They are looking to provide financial support to charities and community groups.

Applications that address any of the following issues are particularly welcomed:

- Community facilities, services, transport, open spaces, affordable housing, community development, reduction of poverty, and care of the elderly
- Community or local events
- Youth and education, providing training opportunities and support for vulnerable youngsters

- Promoting care and support of vulnerable people; improving community safety, minimising isolation, and maximising wellbeing

Grant requests to support a wide range of costs and activities will be considered, such as equipment, running costs for local groups, staff or sessional worker costs, consultations, maintenance or refurbishment of community facilities, and capital costs to purchase or develop community assets.

Geographical areas funded: [South Ayrshire](#) [Edinburgh](#) [Glasgow](#) [Aberdeen](#) [Highland](#) [Scottish Borders](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£5,000

Notes on award amounts:

Core costs must not exceed 25% of the overall project budget.

Who can apply

Registered charities, Constituted voluntary and community organisations, and Community companies. Community interest companies can apply if they meet the minimum governance standards.

Priority will be given to organisations operating in the following local authorities – Scottish Borders, City of Edinburgh, Glasgow City, Aberdeen City, South Ayrshire and Highland.

Maximum annual income:

£250,000

When to apply

Apply now. Deadline: 7 April 2025.

How to apply

Apply online via the Foundation Scotland website.

More information: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/scottish-building-society>

Warburtons Community Grants | max £400 | 5 May

Warburtons Community Grants provides small grants to support charitable organisations towards broader activities which improve Health, Place or Skills for families in their community.

Grants can be used for something specific that will benefit the cause e.g. buying equipment to support an employability project etc.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£400

Who can apply

Not-for-profit organisations with charitable purposes only.

When to apply

Applications now open. Quarterly deadlines in November, February, May and August.

Next deadline: 5 May

How to apply

Apply online via the Warburtons Community Fund website. You will be directed to the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) to complete your application.

More information: <http://www.warburtons.co.uk/corporate/responsibility/best-for-the-community/financial-giving>

Screwfix Foundation | up to £5,000 | 10 May

Supports projects that improve, fix and repair buildings, homes and facilities specifically used by people in need throughout the UK. The types of projects they can fund are:

- Improved energy efficient lighting & heating
- Installation of new kitchen, bathroom etc.
- Installation of a sensory room
- General painting & decorating
- Improving safety and security of a building

Fund type

Grant

Maximum:

£5,000

Who can apply

Registered charities based in the UK. Prioritises projects that will create a longer-term difference and where our donation will make an impact and fund the total cost (or the majority) of a project.

When to apply

Trustees meet to review applications in March, June, September and December. The cut off date for applications will be the 10th of the month prior to the Trustee meeting:

- 10 May 2025
- 10 August 2025
- 10 November 2025

Next deadline: 10 May 2025

How to apply

Apply online via the Foundation website.

More information: <https://www.screwfix.com/landingpage/screwfix-foundation>

The Weir Charitable Trust | £25,000 max | 16 May

The Weir Charitable Trust aims to support Scottish-based community groups and small charities to provide services across Scotland to help the Scottish community. These groups and charities are likely to have found it difficult to access funds elsewhere. It fund supports services/projects in the following qualifying categories:

- Sport: encouraging and increasing public participation in sport (activities which involve physical skill and exertion)
- Recreational facilities: the provision or organisation of recreational facilities (buildings, pitches or similar) with the aim of improving the conditions of life for the people for whom the facilities are primarily intended. This is only in relation to facilities which are primarily intended for people who need them due to age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.
- Animal welfare: for the advancement of animal welfare
- Health: the advancement of health, including prevention or relief of sickness, disease or human suffering
- Culture: supporting the heritage - tangible or otherwise - of Scotland, through projects that encourage participation in and preservation of Scotland's distinctive culture.

Eligibility and application

Next application deadline: 16 May 2025

(outcomes advised end June/July 2025)

Application form available on the Trust's website. They request that any enquiries are made via email or using the online contact form on the Trust's website.

More information: <http://www.weircharitabletrust.com/>

Matthew Good Foundation - Grants for Good Fund | max £5,000 | 15 June (quarterly)

Since 2011, the Matthew Good Foundation has nominated good causes for funding through the John Good Group. However, in 2021 they wanted to extend their impact and allow small charities, community projects and social entrepreneurs to apply directly.

Every three months, five shortlisted projects will be voted for by John Good Group employees. These five charities will all receive a share of £15,000 – the more votes a cause receives, the bigger the donation.

They will support small organisations that have a positive impact on communities, people or the environment.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#) [UK](#) [Worldwide](#)
Fund type

Type of funding:
Grant

Type of cost:
Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:
£2,000

Maximum:
£5,000

Annually awarded:
£60,000

Notes on award amounts:

Every three months, they share £15,000 between 5 shortlisted projects. Following the vote, the project that receives the most votes will receive a grant of £5,000, second place £3,500, third place £2,500 and fourth and fifth place will both receive £2,000.

Who can apply

Your application must be on behalf of a local community group, charity, voluntary group or social enterprise that has a positive impact on communities, people or the environment and has an average income of less than £50,000 in the last 12 months.

Organisations/groups do not need to be a registered charity, however, you will need to have a bank account in your organisation's/project's name such as a community bank account.

Maximum annual income:

£50,000

When to apply

Funding will be awarded every three months, in April, July, October and January, with an application deadline of the 15th of the month before.

How to apply

Apply using the online form on the Foundation's website.

More information: <https://www.matthewgoodfoundation.org/grantsforgood/>

UK Community Ownership Fund | max £2 million | open now

The Community Ownership Fund is a £150 million fund over 4 years to support community groups across England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets which are at risk of being lost to the community.

It forms part of a substantial package of UK wide levelling-up interventions building opportunity and empowering communities to improve their local places.

The Community Ownership Fund will help support local people to save local community assets at risk.

The Fund supports projects which fulfil one or a combination of the following aims. All of these are taken in context of saving an asset with the goal of community use:

- take ownership of a physical community asset at risk, such as land and buildings, which benefit local people
- renovate, repair, or refurbish an asset to make it sustainable for the long term
- set up or buy a community business
- buy associated stock, collections, or intellectual property
- move a community asset to a new, more appropriate location within the same community. This might be because a different location offers better value to continue the asset, or because the venue is in itself an asset of community value.

Key dates to note:

- Expression of Interest stage - always open
- We have now entered a pre-election period. There will be no further Community Ownership Fund announcements at this time. This includes the outcome of Round 4 Window 1 and the launch of Round 4 Window 2.
- Applications must be submitted by 2pm on the bidding window's closing date

For current bidding window dates please see the [prospectus](#).

For more information, eligibility and how to apply see: <https://www.find-government->

grants.service.gov.uk/grants/the-community-ownership-fund-1#eligibility

Or: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/new-levelling-up-and-community-investments#the-community-ownership-fund>

National Lottery Community Action Fund (Scotland) | £20,001 to £250,000 | open now

This funding is for communities in Scotland. By **communities** we mean people who share an identity, interest or experience. Or people living in the same place.

We're looking for projects that will help people connect more with each other. We'll support projects that are open, inclusive and led by their community.

In your application, you must show how you'll:

- help people come together. This could be through an activity or place, that's online or in person
- reach and support people who experience poverty, disadvantage or discrimination
- be led by your community. This means that people from your community lead on the project idea, planning and decisions
- build on the skills, experiences and strengths of your community
- understand the activities or services that are already available to your community. And show us how your work will fill a gap.

Your project must achieve at least 2 of these outcomes:

- build positive relationships
- support people's health or wellbeing
- help people improve their access and connection to nature
- make a positive difference to the environment.

You can achieve more than 2 outcomes. **But you will not improve your chances of getting funding by achieving more than 2 outcomes.**

We offer funding from £20,001 to £250,000 for up to 5 years.

We'll talk to you about the length and amount of funding you can apply for when you contact us. We're happy to fund organisations that have not had long-term funding before. By this we mean funding lasting 2 years or more. But we're unlikely to offer them more than £100,000 in total.

We'll fund new or existing projects.

Area

Scotland

Suitable for

Voluntary or community organisations that are led by a community.

Funding size

£20,001 to £250,000. For up to 5 years.

Application deadline

Ongoing

More information: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/community-action>

The National Lottery Community Fund (Scotland) – Young Start | £10,000 - £100,000 | open now

Young Start is a grants programme that distributes money from dormant bank accounts. They will support a wide range of projects for up to three years that will make children and young people aged 8 to 24 confident, healthy, connected or enterprising.

They will fund work that achieves at least one of the following three outcomes:

- children and young people have better physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- children and young people have better connections with the wider community
- children and young people get access to new skills and training opportunities which will help them to get a new job or start a business

Who can apply: Third sector organisations can apply to Young Start. This includes voluntary organisations, community groups, social enterprises, housing associations, sports organisations, co-operatives and charities.

When to apply: There are no deadlines. They will make awards on a rolling basis.

How to apply: Check the Lottery website for details on eligibility and contact the National Lottery Community Fund to discuss your idea.

Exclusions:

- anything you spend money on before your activity starts
- religious or political activities
- items that mainly benefit one person
- work with people living outside Scotland
- curricular activity in schools

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/young-start

National Lottery Community Fund (Scotland) Scottish Land Fund | £10,000-£100,000 | open now

The fund will help communities take ownership of the land and buildings that matter to them, as well as practical support to develop their aspirations into viable projects. It supports communities to become more resilient and sustainable through the ownership and management of land and land assets. The Scottish Land Fund is open to organisations in both urban and rural Scotland which are community-led, community-controlled, and defined by a geographic area. The National Lottery Community Fund was previously known as the Big Lottery.

Who can apply: Applicants can be from one of a wide range of representative community bodies, including voluntary organisations, social enterprises or community councils.

How to apply: If you want to apply for funding from the Scottish Land Fund please contact them to discuss your idea. If you are eligible to apply they will give you an application form. You will have a named adviser who will support you through the application process.

Exclusions: Ineligible costs include: costs or expenditure incurred before you accept their grant offer; any costs which someone else is paying for; items that only benefit an individual and are not needed to deliver the project outcomes; funds to build up a reserve or surplus; loan repayments; contributions to general appeals.

When to apply: The current funding round closed to stage 2 applications in August 2020. The fund is still open to stage 1 applications. Stage 1 applications typically take around 6 months.

More information: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/scottish-land-fund>

National Lottery Community Fund – National Lottery Awards for All Scotland | £300 - £10,000 | open now

National Lottery Awards for All offers funding to support what matters to people and communities. The programme is a partnership between the National Lottery Community Fund Scotland, sportscotland and Creative Scotland. It has three funding priorities:

- bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities
- improving the places and spaces that matter to communities
- enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.
- If you are applying for a project involving the arts, they will prioritise projects that: engage people from areas of high deprivation; remove financial barriers to access creative activities; address rural isolation and encourage activity in rural areas; engage older people, people in care homes and carers; engage care leavers; support integration of refugees and asylum seekers

If you are applying for a project focused on sport, they will prioritise projects that: engage young people from our most deprived areas; engage girls and young women; engage disabled young people.

Who can apply: Suitable for Voluntary or community organisations, Public sector organisations

When to apply: There are no deadlines and applications can be submitted at any time. It will take up to 12 weeks to get a decision.

How to apply: Apply online via the National Lottery Community Fund website.

Exclusions:

- alcohol
- contingency costs, loans, endowments or interest
- electricity generation and feed-in tariff payments
- political or religious activities
- profit-making/fundraising activities
- VAT you can reclaim
- statutory activities
- overseas travel

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-scotland

National Lottery Community Fund – Bringing People Together | max £300,000 | open now

Bringing People Together funding can support projects that will build stronger connections across communities, and improve the infrastructure and conditions that are needed to strengthen these connections.

They are interested in:

- bold and experimental responses to bringing people together using new, or new combinations of approaches
- new projects or projects that build on existing work
- a range of projects reflecting a mix of communities and places from across the UK

This is funding from our UK Portfolio. The UK Portfolio is where we explore new approaches, experiment with how to do things differently, and look to fund work that is more future focussed.

Notes on award amounts: You can apply for up to £300,000 in total for up to two years

Who can apply: Organisations that can deliver across at least two countries in the UK.

When to apply: Apply at any time, application deadlines are ongoing.

How to apply: Apply online via the Community Fund website. At application stage they are interested in hearing about your ideas and plans rather than a detailed project description.

Exclusions:

- one-off celebratory events and projects that are focussed on service delivery without any clear longer-term sustainability or evidence of impact
- projects that are exclusively transferring their activities to deliver online
- place-based activities which are exclusively focussed on a community space or hub in one area and does not deliver across a minimum of two UK countries
- projects that cannot show how the wider community has informed its design and development

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/

Scottish Education and Action for Development – SEAD FUND | max £250 | open now

SEAD provides small grants for individuals or groups for positive action, and campaigning. They fund proposals where the grant will have the most impact, for example, helping a new campaign to get started, or funding a specific concrete action for a local community.

They are particularly interested in applications that focus campaign activity on the following areas: women's rights, young people and their global rights, climate justice, inequality, poverty and health justice.

Notes on award amounts: Grants are typically £100 - £250. Annual total from 2021 accounts.

Who can apply: Individuals or groups

When to apply: Apply at any time.

How to apply: Application form available on the SEAD Fund website.

Exclusions: They do not normally fund travel, e.g. to visit a conference.

More information: www.sead.org.uk/

Scottish Community Alliance - Community Learning Exchange Fund | up to £750 | open now

The Community Learning Exchange offers communities the opportunity to learn through the exchange of ideas and the sharing of common solutions. When community groups make visits to other communities, the most valuable part is often meeting new people with similar interests and gaining new insights and perspectives on shared challenges.

The Exchange will also fund follow up support between organisations. This might be as a result of a learning visit when it is recognised that more specific and on-going help, support, or advice is required. As a result of the pandemic and the move to online, they now offer a blended form of the Community Learning Exchange which can include either virtual or face to face visits.

Notes on award amounts: The Exchange will fund up to 100% of the costs of a visit by members of one community to another community project up to a limit of £750, including a host fee.

Who can apply: The Learning Exchange is open to any constituted community group that is either a member of an SCA member network or has been approved by a network as a valid application.

How to apply: Application form on the Alliance website. Prior to applying you should identify your host and discuss your learning outcomes with them to ensure they are the best match for you. You should also check in with whoever is endorsing your application to ensure they are aware of the application being submitted.

More information: www.scottishcommunityalliance.org.uk/community-learning-exchange/

Scottish Government – Rural and Islands Housing Funds | max £10,000 | open now

The Rural and Islands Housing funds aim to increase the supply of affordable housing of all tenures in rural Scotland and will contribute to the 50,000 affordable homes target. The funds have two components. The main one offers capital support (grant and loan) to enable the direct provision of new affordable housing and refurbishment of existing empty properties. A second, smaller component provides a contribution to feasibility studies. Applications for feasibility funding will only be accepted from projects already invited to apply at the Expression of Interest stage.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Annually awarded: £5,000,000

Notes on award amounts: The funds can make up to a £10,000 contribution towards feasibility work.

Who can apply: Both funds are open to a wide range of applicants including community organisations, development trusts, private landowners, private developers, traditional housing providers.

When to apply: Applications can be submitted at any time. Those interested in applying should first complete the pre-application questionnaire which will help you decide if the Rural Housing Fund is right for your project.

How to apply: Complete pre-eligibility checker on the Government website and then submit an expression of interest form via email.

Exclusions: The funds list a large number of exclusions, see the Government website for details.

More information: www.gov.scot/policies/more-homes/rural-housing-fund/

Community Enterprise – Accelerate | N/A | open now

Accelerate is a programme of free business and organisational support targeted at third sector organisations and community groups who are not trading. They will work alongside you to look at a variety of strategies to help ensure the work you deliver in your communities is secure and sustainable.

Support could be used to:

- Develop marketing plans
- Look at other funding options
- Explore new trading ideas
- Plan financially and work on budgets
- Improve branding
- Work on a business plan
- Strengthen your Board
- Look at your legal structure
- Find digital solutions

Notes on award amounts: Accelerate provides 6 days of support.

Who can apply: Third Sector groups and community organisations who are:

- Based in Scotland and delivering benefits in Scotland
- Asset locked (non profit distributing)
- Constituted or pre-constituted
- Non trading (not taking a social enterprise or commercial approach)
- Willing to make change to their organisation to become more sustainable

When to apply: Apply at any time.

How to apply: Complete the Expression of Interest form on the Community Enterprise website.

More information: www.communityenterprise.co.uk/what-we-do/accelerate

McCarthy Stone Foundation – Grants Programme | max £7,500 | open now

Working with our supporters, partners, employees and homeowners, we offer vital funding and resources to grassroots charities and community groups to help them build happy and vibrant communities across the country that support older people.

We provide help in three key areas: community grants, project support, and volunteering and work across three key themes that drive our vision of a society where older people are valued, engaged and connected with their communities.

More information: <https://mccarthystonefoundation.org/our-grant-programmes/>

Tesco Stronger Start Grants | max £1500 | N/A

The scheme is open to all schools, registered charities and not-for-profit organisations, with priority given to projects that provide food and support to young people. Examples of eligible applications with a focus on food security, children and young people could be:

- A school providing pupils with food for breakfast clubs or snacks throughout the day.
- A school wanting to buy equipment for outdoor or indoor activities.
- A school wanting to develop a food growing area.
- A school supporting an after school club.
- A voluntary organisation working with families to run a food bank.
- An organisation addressing holiday hunger.
- A healthy eating project that supports families to cook healthy meals on a budget.
- A Brownie or Scout group needing funding for new play equipment or activities.

If you are a Tesco colleague or customer, you can also [nominate a cause that you'd like to see supported](#). Tesco colleagues in each store will help select those needing a little help in your local area and when our customers are given a blue token, in any of our Tesco stores at the checkout, they can vote for their favourite charity to receive a grant. Community charity [Groundwork](#) manages this website and administers the funding across the UK. Groundwork is working with [Greenspace Scotland](#) to support successful projects in Scotland.

More information: <https://tescocommunitygrants.org.uk/>

Scotmid - Community Grant | £500 max | open now

Small, one-off grants are available for the benefit of local communities around Scotmid stores. Activities should focus on one of the following categories:

- Children/Education (eg.schools groups)
- Health (eg. promotion of healthy eating)
- Fairtrade
- Homelessness/Poverty
- Arts & Culture (eg. community musical festivals)
- Environment (eg. promoting a clean/healthy environment)
- Elderly
- Active Lifestyles (eg. encouraging exercise/fitness/sport)

Who can apply

Applications are welcomed from groups including: local community, self help or voluntary groups and charities (including local branches of national charities) or individuals acting for the benefit of the local community.

The group or project must be based in or benefit a community served by one of our stores and within the geographic boundaries of one of Scotmid's Regional Committees.

When to apply

There are no deadlines, however you must apply at least eight weeks prior to when the grant is required.

How to apply

Apply online via the Scotmid website. If you have any questions or would like help to fully understand the terms & conditions, contact the Membership and Community Team.

More information: <https://www.scotmid.coop/community-and-charity/supporting-local-communities/community-grant/>

Cruden Foundation | max £20,000 | open now

Donations from the foundation are made to mainly small and medium sized registered charities throughout Scotland, targeting things like community welfare, medical support and research, the arts, education and heritage conservation.

Who can apply: Registered charities.

How to apply: In writing to the Secretary demonstrating need and purpose of support, accompanied by most recent financial accounts.

Exclusions: Applications from individuals not considered.

When to apply: Board meets three times a year (normally November, February and June). The secretary has authority to approve grants of up to £5,000 between meeting.

More information: <https://crudenfoundation.org/>

Variety - Youth Club Grants | N/A | open now

Variety supports youth clubs because they provide opportunities for improving social skills, team spirit and self esteem. They fund tangible resources including, but not limited to:

- Sports, gym and games equipment
- Computers, printers and IT equipment
- Photography and film equipment
- Consoles, accessories and games
- Arts and crafts materials
- Musical instruments and recording equipment

Who can apply: They consider applications from youth organisations which are affiliated to national youth organisation, such as Ambition or UK Youth or National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs.

How to apply: The guidelines and application form are available on the funder website.

More information: <https://www.variety.org.uk/what-we-do/youth-clubs-grants>

Robertson Trust – Community Spaces Grants | £5,000 - £20,000 p/a | open now

Funding to support local communities experiencing poverty and trauma in Scotland. Registered charities with an annual income of between £30,000 and £500,000 are eligible to apply.

Overview

- Funding to support local communities experiencing poverty and trauma in Scotland.
- Registered charities with an annual income of between £30,000 and £500,000 are eligible to apply.
- Can provide revenue funding of between £5,000 and £20,000 per year, for up to 3 years, to support the costs of community centres, hubs or anchor organisations who are delivering and/or hosting a range of services and activities to meet the needs of their community. Applicants should show how the various services they deliver and/or host relate to preventing or reducing poverty and trauma for local people.
- Apply at any time. There is no set closing date for applications.
- We'll aim to give you a decision within 8 to 10 weeks of receiving your application.
- You cannot be in receipt of, or apply for, a Community Spaces Grant at the same time as a Large or Small Grant.
- We cannot support capital costs such as building works or refurbishments through this fund.

To apply, you'll need:

- At least three unconnected Trustees on your charity's Board.
- Recent independently examined or audited annual accounts (unless you are a newly registered charity).
- A bank account in the name of your charity, with two unconnected people required to make every withdrawal or payment.
- A safeguarding policy if working with young or vulnerable people.
- A full job description if your request is for funding towards a specific salary cost.

What's next?

[Read the full guidance.](#)

Please read our full guidance on applying for a Community Grant before completing your application form.

You can have a look inside our application form in our sample form [here](#). **You will find the link to our online application form within the full guidance.**

For more details of the kind of work we fund, take a look at [Who and what we fund](#), and for information about the *other* grants we offer, see [Our Funds](#).

Source and more information: [Robertson Trust](#)

Robertson Trust – Wee Grants | £300 - £5,000 |open now

The purpose of Wee Grants is to support organisations who are focused on building strong communities in places which have higher rates of poverty and trauma, or who are working with certain groups of people who are at a higher risk of experiencing poverty and trauma.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£300

Maximum:

£5,000

Annually awarded:

£180,000

Notes on award amounts:

Grants are for one year only.

Who can apply

Constituted community groups and small charities with an annual income of less than £30,000.

Maximum annual income:

£30,000

When to apply

There is no set deadline. Robertson Trust try to let organisations know the outcome within 8 weeks of their application.

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/wee-grants/>

Robertson Trust – Small Grants | £2,500 - £15,000 | open now

Small Grants focuses on work that addresses the impacts of poverty and/or trauma under one or more of the following themes: Financial wellbeing, Emotional wellbeing and relationships, and Educational and work pathways.

Overview

- For registered charities with an annual income of between £30,000 and £200,000.
- Unrestricted or restricted revenue funding of between £5,000 and £20,000 per year, normally for 3 years but may be considered for up to five years in exceptional circumstances. This can include the costs of equipment to support your work.
- For work that is clearly and intentionally aligned to a **priority** described within one or more of our funding themes. Details of their themes and priorities are as follows:

[Financial Security](#)

[Education Pathways](#)

[Work Pathways](#)

- The trust will aim to give you a funding decision within 8 to 10 weeks of receiving your application. If there are any changes to this timescale, we'll notify applicants on an individual basis.

To apply, you'll need:

- At least three unconnected Trustees on your charity's Board.
- Recent independently examined or audited annual accounts (unless you are a newly registered charity).
- A safeguarding policy if working with young or vulnerable people.
- A full job description if your request is for funding towards a specific salary cost.

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/small-grants/>

Robertson Trust - Large Grants | £20,000 - £50,000 | open now

Large Grants focuses on work that addresses the impacts of poverty and trauma under one or more of the following themes:

- Financial security
- Education pathways
- Work pathways
- Relationships (this pathway will launch later in the year).

They seek to fund work that: meets people's immediate needs, provides earlier help, tests new approaches or does more of what work, and is universal or targeted. See website for details of target groups.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£20,000

Maximum:

£50,000

Notes on award amounts:

Unrestricted or restricted revenue funding of between £20,500 and £50,000 per year, for up to five years which can include the costs of equipment to support your work.

Who can apply

You must be a registered charity with an annual income of between £200,000 and £2 million

When to apply

Apply at any time.

How to apply

Apply online via the Robertson Trust website.

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/large-grants/>

Robertson Trust – Transport Grants | £5,000-£20,000 | open now

Transport Grants focuses on work that addresses the impacts of poverty and/or trauma under one or more of the following themes:

- Financial wellbeing
- Emotional wellbeing and relationships
- Educational and work pathways.

They can contribute to the costs of a vehicle used to support work that: meets people's immediate needs, provides earlier help, tests new approaches or does more of what work, and is universal or targeted. See website for details of target groups.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes**Minimum:**

£5,000

Maximum:

£20,000

Annually awarded:

£148,000

Notes on award amounts:

Capital funding of £5,000 to £20,000 for a vehicle to support your work. Grants are towards the purchase of a new or used vehicle, or the upgrade of an existing one. The amount of funding will depend on the cost of the vehicle, see guidance for details.

Who can apply

You must be a registered charity with an annual income of between £25,000 and £2 million

Minimum annual income:

£25,000

Maximum annual income:

£2,000,000

When to apply

Apply any time – no set closing date.

How to apply

The application form and guidance are available on the Robertson Trust website.

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/community-vehicle-grants/>

Charity Aid Foundation – Venturesome | £10,000 - £35,000 | open now

CAF provides social investment loans which are unsecured (which means they don't take a charge or

security against your assets). Investments are tailored to the needs of the organisations they finance and can be used for specific projects or to support day-to-day working capital. They can provide loans to support growth or cashflow needs, build affordable homes and get social enterprises started.

Fund award sizes: Minimum: £10,000 Maximum: £350,000

Who can apply: They support charities, social enterprises and community groups which are incorporated in the UK. You must have been trading for at least one year and have an annual turnover of at least £60,000.

How to apply: Fill in the short online form and a members of the team will get back to you to discuss your ideas.

More information: <https://www.cafonline.org/charities/borrowing/social-investment>

Morton Charitable Trust | open now

The Trustees have wide discretion as to which charities the trust supports. They fund activities falling within their charitable purposes of: poverty, education, health, saving of lives, sport, and recreational facilities and activities.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#) [UK](#)

Annually awarded:

£40,000

Annual total from 2022 accounts.

When to apply

Apply at any time. The Trustees meet once a year in December.

How to apply

Send applications to the Trust by post or email.

For more information contact:

law@michaelabrown.co.uk

9) Regional and Local Funds

Aberdeen City Heritage Trust | £500 min | open now

The trust makes available a limited number of discretionary grants for the repair of historic buildings in conservation areas. Additionally grants may be available for carrying out tree management works where a tree is recognised by designation to contribute to amenity. For the Building and Shop Front grant, the Trust is directing its funding to projects located in the areas illustrated on the map that is on their

website. Applications for repair projects relating to property outside these areas will not be considered except where the building appears on the Buildings at Risk Register, maintained by Historic Environment Scotland.

The Trust is looking to support external repair to buildings that are being brought back into use for housing or where businesses and jobs are sustained or shall be created as part of a wider project. Community Heritage grants are available for buildings at risk, repair of community heritage and interpretation of community heritage.

Geographical areas funded: Aberdeen

Who can apply: The Trust will consider applications from not-for-profit organisations such as charities or trusts, community or voluntary groups, student groups, “friends of” groups, community councils, community interest companies and social enterprises. It may also be possible to support individuals who are carrying out research. This list is not exhaustive.

When to apply: Check the Trust website for the status on each funding strand.

How to apply: For building works check the Eligible Repair work document. If your project is eligible, complete the pre-application enquiry form. Both documents are available to download from the Trust's website. For Community Grants complete the pre application enquiry form.

Exclusions: Fund criteria differs for Building Repair and Shopfront Grants, and Community Heritage Grants. Full details are available in the guidance notes for each programme on the Trust's website.

More information: www.aberdeenheritage.org.uk/grants/

Aberdeen, Mossmorran and St Fergus: Shell Community Grants | up to £1,000 | open now

Shell provide community grants to groups which operate near their sites in Aberdeen, Mossmorran and St Fergus. These are provided both for ongoing community projects and for sponsorship of community events.

Geographical areas funded: Fife Aberdeen Aberdeenshire

Who can apply: Community groups in the communities where Shell operate, namely their sites in Aberdeen city, Mossmorran in Fife, and St Fergus near Peterhead.

How to apply: Application form available via the funder website

More information: <https://www.shell.co.uk/sustainability/society/working-with-communities.html>

Aberdeenshire Council - Marr Area Committee Large Grant Scheme | max £5,000 | open now

The fund is available to community organisations in the Marr Area for projects which aim to help improve local communities. The Committee is looking to support projects which contribute to the priorities in the Marr Community Plan:

- Empowered and confident communities
- Economically vibrant communities
- Healthy, safe and thriving communities
- Connected communities
- Natural Heritage and Environment.

Geographical areas funded: [Aberdeenshire](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£5,000

How to apply

The application form is available on the Council website.

More information: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/communities-and-events/funding/marr/>

Argyll and Bute: Ventient Energy A'Chruach Wind Farm Community Fund | £500 - >£25,000 | 25 April (multiple deadlines in 2025)

The A'Chruach Wind Farm Community Fund supports community projects benefiting those living in one or more of the following community council areas: West Loch Fyne, Dunadd and Lochgilphead. The fund is provided by Ventient Energy, the developer and owner of the A'Chruach Wind Farm in Argyll & Bute.

Applications are expected to address one or more of the following outcomes (or changes for the community):

- Advance rural regeneration through increasing opportunities for enterprise and vocational training.
- Enhance infrastructure including affordable housing, transport, broadband, community-owned property and access routes.
- Establish new community services and seek to improve or expand existing services, particularly with regard to young people and the elderly.

- Develop and improve community facilities.
- Enhance leisure facilities and to develop and expand tourism and leisure opportunities.
- Capacity building for new and existing community organisations to help achieve the other priorities.

Under the Multi Year Flexible Funding schemes, applications are invited for strategic multi-year grants for up to three years. This funding is flexible and can be spent by organisations on broad areas of activity, including costs that are traditionally hard to raise funding for such as staff costs and organisation overheads.

Geographical areas funded: [Argyll and Bute](#)

Notes on award amounts:

There are three grant levels:

- Small grants: £500 - £5,000
- Medium grants: £5,001 - £25,000
- Large grants: over £25,000.

They also offer a multi-year flexible funding programme, for grants between £2000 - £10,000 per year, for up to three years.

Who can apply

Groups and organisations working to benefit people in any of their communities can apply; West Loch Fyne, Dunadd and Lochgilphead. You don't need to be a registered charity to apply, but your group/organisation must meet the Foundation Scotland standard eligibility criteria.

When to apply

Applications open now with deadlines throughout 2025.

- ~~31 January 2025 (for decision by 26/03/2025)~~
- 25 April 2025 (for decision by 25/06/2025)
- 5 September 2025 (for decision by 29/10/2025)

Next deadline: 31 Jan 2025

How to apply

Apply online via the Foundation Scotland website. There are separate forms for the main grants and multi-year funding schemes.

More information: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/achruach>

Argyll and Bute Innovation Fund | up to £10,000 | open now

WHAT IS IT?

Our Innovation Argyll and Bute fund offers businesses and social enterprises grants of up to £10,000 towards innovation and R&D projects.

The fund will prioritise projects that contribute towards productivity and lowering carbon emissions e.g. production of low carbon goods, developing environmental services and climate resilience.

WHAT CAN THE FUNDING BE USED FOR?

Funding can be allocated towards, for example:

- prototype development
- research and development costs e.g. with suppliers and/or customer base
- compliance testing
- equipment and material costs
- consultancy and specialists e.g. technical experts
- costs relating to intellectual property matters
- development of your business model
- collaboration costs
- legal or other fees associated with contracts to protect and exploit IP, Know-How etc.

Businesses and social enterprises can apply for 100% grants of up to £5,000 or 50% grants of up to £10,000. This is for activity such as productivity improvements, prototype research and development, compliance testing, equipment and material costs, consultants and specialists, and costs relating to intellectual property matters.

HOW MUCH CAN I APPLY FOR?

Applicants can apply for 100% funding towards projects up to £5,000.

Applicants can apply for 50% of costs for projects up to £10,000.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Small or medium sized enterprises (as defined in [Companies Act 2006 section 382](#) and [Companies Act 2006 section 465](#)) and social enterprises are eligible to apply.
- Applicants must be based in the Argyll and Bute area.
- Applicants must comply with HIE's fair work conditionality for grant support. For more information, please visit our [Fair Work web page](#). If you want to speak to someone about the fair work requirement or need more information, please email enquiries@hient.co.uk

WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE?

- Large enterprises according to the Companies Act 2006, as defined above, are not eligible to apply.
- Businesses or social enterprises located out with the Argyll and Bute area are not eligible to apply.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

Please complete our online enquiry form for further information.

All allocated funding must be fully spent by March 2025.

THE SMALL PRINT – THIS IS IMPORTANT

- All HIE grant assistance is discretionary.
- Grant awards are subject to due diligence and budget availability. Due diligence includes: making an assessment on the need for public funding; the viability of the business going forward; the ability of the applicant to deliver the project; the impact of the development on the economy, and the strength of the business case presented to HIE.
- Making an application to the fund does not guarantee that your application will be successful. If you are not successful in your application or you are only partially successful e.g. you receive funding of a lesser amount than you applied for, we will arrange a call with you to let you know why you have been unsuccessful and point you in the direction of other possible sources of funding.
- There is no appeals process. We are unable to consider a complaint purely relating to dissatisfaction as to the outcome of a funding decision. However, if you have identified a specific process failure relating to your application, then you may wish to make a formal complaint. See our formal [complaints process](#) for more information.

Angus Council - Common Good Funds | [open now](#)

Common Good funds are available in Arbroath, Brechin, Forfar, Kirriemuir and Montrose. Projects eligible for funding must do at least one of the following:

- promote opportunities for people to work, learn, and take parts in arts, sport or culture
- deal with problems such as poverty, ill-health or drug misuse
- deal with problems that prevent people from working, learning or taking part in their community
- encourage children and young people to play a role in their community and offer a good start in life to help them become responsible adults
- encourage local people to take responsibility for their community and care for the disadvantaged

Your project could combine a range of different activities but must show direct community-wide benefit.

Geographical areas funded: [Angus](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Notes on award amounts:

The amount of funds available varies from one burgh to another but funding in Kirriemuir is extremely limited. The money you request should be realistic and give value for money.

They expect you to contribute something towards your project. This could be cash or time, materials, transport or use of premises.

Who can apply

Any non-profit making, constituted group or a partnership of various groups. Common Good funds are available in Arbroath, Brechin, Forfar, Kirriemuir and Montrose.

When to apply

There is no deadline for applications or limit on funding. It depends on the available income in each burgh.

How to apply

Application form and guidance available via the Council website.

More information:

https://www.angus.gov.uk/community_empowerment/community_and_european_funding/apply_for_common_good_funding?item_id=254

Caithness and North Sutherland Fund | £1,000 - £30,000 | quarterly deadlines

Funding is available for projects that increase the attractiveness of Caithness & North Sutherland as a place to live, work and invest with particular emphasis on achieving environment, social, culture and infrastructure improvements.

Geographical areas funded: Highland

Who can apply: Voluntary or community organisations, School Parent Council (not for statutory function), Community council, Community groups, Community development groups

When to apply: Submit an enquiry form at least three months before your project start date.

How to apply: Enquiry form and guidance can be found on the Fund website.

Exclusions: This fund will not support individuals and sole traders, operations for personal benefit, non-departmental public bodies, government departments, statutory bodies or funding consultant fees.

Exclusions:

- Activities that happen or start before the grant is confirmed
- Any costs you incur when putting together your application (ie consultant's fees)
- Contingency costs
- Repeat or regular events we have funded previously
- Projects that do not demonstrate community support
- See guidance on the funder website for the full list

When to apply

The Caithness & North Sutherland Fund considers funding applications on a quarterly basis.

More information: www.cnsf.org.uk/

Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust | max £15,000 | 17 April

The Trust accepts applications from community or not-for-profit groups and is keen to support local groups to implement projects that improve the environment or provide a benefit to both the local community and general public.

Grants up to £15000 are available for a wide range of projects, including improvements to play areas, parks and footpaths, works to community halls, historic and religious buildings, and projects aimed at conserving or improving native biodiversity, such as local woodlands and community gardens. The deadline dates for 2024 are 2 February, 17 April 2024 and the 30 September 2024.

For more information, an application pack or advice on making an application, please email the Trust manager Audrey Morrison at morrisona@stirling.gov.uk

Source and more information: <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/community-life-and-leisure/community-funding-development-and-support/support-for-communities/community-grants-and-funding/>

Clashindarroch Wind Farm Covid-19 Emergency Fund | 5 May

Supporting projects in the community council areas of Huntly, Strathbogie and Tap O Noth, and Cabrach that are providing help to vulnerable people in difficulty due to the pandemic, or organisations that are facing losses.

Notes on award amounts:

The Community Panel have not set a maximum level of award. Each application will be considered on a case by case basis.

Who can apply

Applicants have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and are set up on a not-for-profit basis. However applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply.

Apply at any time via online application form.

More information: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/clashindarroch/>

RWE Camster Wind Farm Community (Foundation Scotland)| £250 - £25,000 |31 March

This Fund supports charitable activities or services of benefit to those living in the following Community Council areas in Caithness: Latheron, Lybster and Clyth; Watten; and Tannach and District.

The outcomes for this Fund are:

- There are more and better opportunities to take part in sports and recreational pursuits
- Access to and through settlements is safer
- People of all ages enjoy more, better and varied activities and services
- Community life is enhanced and maintained through a wide range of activities, events and improved amenity of settlements
- Economic activity is encouraged within the Fund area
- People have more vocational skills and experience
- The natural and cultural heritage is more valued, experienced and understood by both visitors and residents
- Energy use in homes and community buildings is more sustainable
- Tourism opportunities are promoted and created in the Fund area

Geographical areas funded: Highland

Who can apply: Constituted not-for-profit groups or organisations working to benefit people in these areas may apply.

When to apply: The fund operates two funding rounds per year: 31 March (with awards announced end of May) and 30 September (with awards announced in end of November).

How to apply: Apply online via the Foundation Scotland website.

Exclusions: Standard Foundation Scotland exclusions apply.

More information: www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/camster

Dumfries and Galloway Council – Stewartry Sports Grants | max £500 | open now

Grants are available to support individuals and clubs from Dumfries and Galloway who are taking part in sport. Grant funding is awarded towards sports equipment, training for coaches and volunteers, travel and competition expenses, clothing/kit expenses, sports events and improving and extending facilities.

Geographical areas funded: Dumfries & Galloway

Notes on award amounts: Funding is usually limited to a maximum of £500 towards no more than 50%

of the costs. Awards of up to £1,000 may be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Who can apply: Groups must have a constitution and annual accounts.

When to apply: Applications to Stewartry Sports Council are now open.

How to apply: Application forms are available via the Council website and can be emailed. Individuals or groups are advised to contact the Sports Council to request an application form

More information: <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15763/Stewartry-Sports-Grants>

Dumfries and Galloway Regionwide Community Fund | max £5,000 | 11 April

Dumfries and Galloway Council has established the Regionwide Community Fund, which is a source of funding open for applications from community groups and projects anywhere in the region.

The Fund was launched in 2019 to distribute funding contributed at the discretion of windfarms in the region. It is a source of funding to support applications aimed at:

-Fund priorities: -Skills Development -Community -Environment -Culture & Heritage -Community Led Tourism -Affordable Housing -Community Transport -Digital Connectivity -Poverty & Inequalities - Working Towards Net Zero (climate)

- Cost of living

The Fund encourages applicants to support fair work standards where applicable

Geographical areas funded: [Dumfries and Galloway](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Minimum:

£500

Maximum:

£5,000

Notes on award amounts:

Annual total and average from 2023 grants.

Who can apply

Constituted groups in Dumfries and Galloway, with their own bank account can apply.

Only one application will be accepted per organisation

Funding available for activities between 16th June 2025 and 15th June 2026

Organisations not based in D&G must already be working in the region

When to apply

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on 11 April 2025.

How to apply

Download the application form from the Council website and submit via email.

More information: <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/20249/Dumfries-and-Galloway-Regionwide-Community-Fund>

Dundee Historic Environment Trust | N/A | open now

Dundee Historic Environment Trust provides grant assistance for the repair of historic buildings located in Dundee's conservation areas. They also fund heritage outreach projects.

For Building Conservation grants, eligible works include: essential structural repairs; comprehensive roof repairs; repair of chimneys, stonework, historic boundary walls, garden structures; repair or replacement of rainwater gutters; repair or reinstatement of historic metalwork, including railings; reinstatement of lost architectural detail; agreed professional fees.

For Heritage Outreach grants, eligible projects include:

- opportunities for people to learn about and enjoy Dundee's historic built environment
- feasibility studies which relate to bringing buildings back into use
- conservation plans which further the understanding and management of historic assets
- streetscape features such as setts/paving/statues/railings where there is community value

Geographical areas funded: Dundee

Notes on award amounts: Annual amount and average from 2021 accounts.

When to apply: Apply anytime. Decisions are normally determined within 6 to 8 weeks of application, and a letter of grant offer provided thereafter if successful.

How to apply: Complete the project enquiry form on the funder's website. If you are invited to apply, you will be sent a link to the application form.

Exclusions: Buildings do not have to be listed to be eligible, but priority is given to the repair and reuse of redundant or underused listed buildings. Buildings that are not in a conservation area are not eligible, even if they are listed.

Most historic buildings are eligible, with the exception of places of worship (which have their own scheme), buildings owned by financial institutions and local authorities, and projects assisted directly by

Historic Scotland.

More information: www.dhet.org/grants/

Edinburgh –Regenerative Futures Fund | max £10,000 | 22 April

The Regenerative Futures Fund is a ten-year fund for Edinburgh. It puts decision-making power into the hands of the people who are most often excluded. It gives organisations the opportunity to think and plan for the long-term.

Funding will be for 10-15 collectives and organisations, who are addressing the root causes of poverty and racism in a just and environmentally sustainable way, open to working in a collective with others through a programme of shared learning and imagination activities throughout the grant and based in Edinburgh. Funding will be at a level of £50-£100K a year for 10 years. A minimum threshold of 50% of the full cohort of funded organisations will have diverse leadership with a focus on anti-racism in the context of ending poverty.

The Fund will:

- Support organisations and collectives to work on long-term solutions to the complex problem of tackling the root causes of poverty, racism and the environmental crisis.
- Engage with local authority leaders, funders and others to learn and collaborate with funded organisations on shared objectives and wider system change
- Support a more diverse and experience-informed group of voices to shape change and direct resources towards the programme goals
- Create new solutions to long-term entrenched challenges faced by Edinburgh and its diverse communities

The fund will be delivered in two phases – capacity building (funding for approx. 25 organisations) followed by the 10-year fund (funding for 10-15 organisations).

Geographical areas funded: [Edinburgh](#)

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£10,000

Notes on award amounts:

Phase One: a capacity-building programme with development grants of up to £10,000. This phase is designed to ensure that organisations can take their time (and be funded during this phase) to work out what they need to have in place to be ready for a 10-year programme.

Phase Two: 10-15 organisations will be offered funding at a level of up to £100,000 a year for 10 years (2025 – 2035).

Who can apply

Collectives, movements and grassroots organisations:

- located in the City of Edinburgh, with strong links to local community
- working locally to address the root causes of poverty, racism and/or climate change (and the intersection of these issues)
- committed to collaborating with others through a programme of shared learning and imagination activities throughout the 10-year programme.

A minimum threshold of 50% of the full cohort of funded organisations will be led by Black and People of Colour

When to apply

Use eligibility criteria checker until 22 April 2025. Expression of interest deadline is May 2025.

Next deadline: 22 Apr 2025

How to apply

Step 1: Check if your organisation is eligible via the self-recommendation form (Feb–22 April 2025).

Step 2: Organisations that meet all eligibility requirements will be invited to, with support as required, to submit written expressions of interest (May 2025).

Step 3: 20-25 organisations will be selected for and funded to participate in a capacity-building phase* (approx. June to September 2025)

Step 4: 10-15 organisations will be awarded 10-year funding by end of 2025

Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Fund | max £25,000 | open now

Grants are made to groups across a wide spectrum of social, welfare, heritage, educational and community development activities. The majority of funding is directed at locally based work involving, and often initiated by, members of that local community.

Geographical areas funded: [Highland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£25,000

Notes on award amounts:

The main grants programme is up to £25,000. If you wish to apply for a grant over £25,000 contact them first of all, as the process is slightly different.

Who can apply

Constituted organisations. An individual can apply for a grant up to £1000 if it is for community use. An individual can apply for a travel bursary or books and equipment to help with travel costs whilst at college, university or as an apprentice.

When to apply

You can apply for a grant at any time. It takes us around three weeks for the application to be prepared and assessed. It will then be taken to the next possible Board meeting for the Directors to make a decision.

How to apply

Application forms and guidance available on the Fund website. If you are applying for more than £25,000 you must contact them first.

More information: <https://communitycompany.co.uk/grants/>

Glasgow - Active Glasgow Community Fund | max £2,000 | open now

The Active Glasgow Community Fund supports voluntary sport organisations embedded in their community to increase participation in sport and physical activity, particularly in under-represented groups.

Funding is to establish new or enhance existing activities increasing the number of people being active in Glasgow. Grants can cover a range of costs including:

- Short Term Facility Hire Costs (recommended 6 weeks)
- Costs that provide access for underrepresented and marginalised groups/individuals
- Sports and Safety Equipment
- Training Costs
- Marketing and Promotion
- Administration costs
-

Geographical areas funded: [Glasgow](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Fund award sizes**Minimum:**

£500

Maximum:

£2,000

Who can apply

Organisations must have their own bank account and be appropriately constituted.

When to apply

They encourage you to apply 6 weeks - 2 months prior to your project start date.

How to apply

Prior to submitting your application they advise that you read the award guidelines and speak to your Sports Development Officer for advice.

More information: <https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/sport/funding/active-glasgow-community-fund>

Glasgow Communities Fund | £20,000 - £200,000 | 7 April

Glasgow Communities Fund aims to tackle poverty and inequality through:

- Building the skills, capacity and resilience of individuals and communities
- Supporting activities and services that will enable and empower communities to become involved in the social, economic and cultural life of the city.

There are two priority areas for the Fund:

- Improving Communities: will support services and activities that improve the health, well-being, social and/or economic position of communities and individuals enabling them to reach their full potential and play an active role in the city.
- Resilient Communities: will support services and activities that strengthen resilience, encourages learning and skill development, increases aspirations and confidence of communities and individuals enabling them to reach their full potential and play an active role in the city.

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£20,000

Maximum:

£200,000

Notes on award amounts:

You may apply for 1 year, 2 years or 3 years funding.

Who can apply

Community and Third Sector organisations that deliver locally within Glasgow and engage local people in the design and development of services to meet their needs.

When to apply

The Glasgow Communities Fund is now open for applications the next deadline is 12pm 7 April 2025.

Next deadline: 7 Apr 2025

How to apply

Apply online via the Council website. GCVS are offering online workshops and other support to potential applicants. For full details, please visit the GCVS website (www.gcvss.org.uk)

Glasgow City Council - City Centre Mural Fund | total fund £35,000 | open now

The scheme offers support towards the costs involved in creating and delivering new inspiring installations in prominent city centre locations. Aimed at improving the image of buildings, gable ends or sites across Glasgow city centre, the work will help to enhance the look of the area and add to the experience of visitors to Glasgow while also contributing to local regeneration.

This opportunity exists for artists to bring their ideas to life and provide a platform for their talent to be showcased. It will add to the growing reputation of Glasgow's arts community and contribute to the City's image as a cultural centre.

Geographical areas funded: Glasgow

Exclusions: This fund lists a large number of exclusions: check the website for details.

When to apply: This is a rolling programme and applications will be assessed on a first come basis and while budget is still available.

How to apply: The application form and guidance can be downloaded from the website.

More information: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/1885/City-Centre-Mural-Grant-Fund>

Glasgow City Centre Improvement Grant Fund | max £20,000 | open now

The Glasgow City Centre Improvement Grant Fund has been established to assist organisations and communities in Glasgow city centre to create meanwhile use spaces, deliver small projects and undertake minor improvement works. The grant will fund proposals able to demonstrate a positive impact on the city centre, enhancing its attractiveness and inclusivity.

The Improvement Grant Fund is designed to address two key issues: improving the look and feel of the city centre, and finding productive uses for vacant property.

Applications will need to demonstrate how they address the priorities of the City Centre Strategy:

- Magnetic Experience: The development of more compelling reasons to visit, shop and enjoy the city centre, with the power to surprise and inspire visitors.
- A Place to Live: Place-based approach to regeneration which responds to climate issues and respects planetary boundaries. It is inclusive, balanced and connected with amenities to support a growing population.
- Front Door to Innovation: Creating opportunities to welcome digital, life sciences, climate science and creative industries into a mix which converges with arts, engineering, and business.

Geographical areas funded: [Glasgow](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£20,000

Who can apply

Glasgow CC welcomes applications from for profit and not for profit organisations, including social enterprises, creative and cultural groups, community councils, and other constituted organisations. The grant has been developed for use within the city centre boundaries. Please check the Map to confirm your project is eligible.

When to apply

No stated deadlines, apply at any time.

How to apply

Apply via the Glasgow CC website. Please see the list of documents required in your application in the "How to Apply" section.

More information: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/5125/City-Centre-Funding>

Glasgow & surrounds - James T Howat Charitable Trust | max £4,000 | open now

The Trustees' current policy is to support primarily projects which are for the benefit of Glasgow and her citizens. Funds are also paid to other areas of the central belt and the Argyll & Isles area, other Scottish and UK wide projects will be considered for small grants if they can be applied locally.

When to apply

The Trustees meet to consider grants in March, June, September and December. Applications should be made by the middle of the month preceeding the meeting.

How to apply

Written applications should be submitted to Harper Macleod LLP. It is a condition of any grant given that a report will be made as to how the funds have been used. Applications should consist of a summary not more than a single A4 sheet, and accompanied by accounts and/or business plan, foundation documents, and any other relevant information.

jacqueline.kennedy@harpermacleod.co.uk

0141 304 3434

Harper Macleod LLP, The Ca'd'oro, 45 Gordon Street, Glasgow, G1 3PE

Highlands and Islands Enterprise – Community Asset Ownership | N/A | open now

HIE can offer financial assistance with capacity building relevant to eligible groups' ongoing development plans. Start-up assistance can help with early investigation of a proposed purchase including professional fees and study visits and initial community consultation. Technical assistance is available to groups in the pre-acquisition stage and to help with bid preparation.

Support is available to encourage community participation through networking visits, skills training and employment of part-time community agents. Community land grants are designed to assist communities to purchase areas of land or other fixed assets. Funding for post-acquisition capital costs or revenue funding for project-management costs is available.

Geographical areas funded: Argyll & Bute Highland Moray Na h-Eileanan Siar Orkney Shetland

Who can apply: Community-led organisations with broad membership from the whole community.

When to apply: Applications can be made at any time.

How to apply: To discuss funding for a project please contact your local HIE office.

Exclusions: Applicants must operate in the HIE area.

More information: www.hie.co.uk/support/support-for-community-organisations/community-assets/

Highlands & Islands Air Discount Scheme | 50% discount | any time

The Air Discount Scheme (ADS) aims to tackle the problem of high air fares for the remotest communities in the Highlands and Islands by providing a discount of 50% on the core air fare on eligible routes. Anyone whose residence is in Colonsay, Orkney, Shetland, the Western Isles, Islay, Jura, Caithness and North West Sutherland can apply for membership.

Geographical areas funded: Argyll & Bute Highland Na h-Eileanan Siar Orkney Shetland

Who can apply: Anyone whose permanent/main residence is in Colonsay, Orkney, Shetland, the Western Isles, Islay, Jura, Caithness and North West Sutherland. Registered Third Sector organisations who have employees/volunteers that have their permanent/main residence in an eligible area.

How to apply: Third sector organisations must register their interest in participating in the Scheme with the ADS Administrative Team. They will then be asked to provide a list of volunteers/employees who they anticipate will use the ADS for travel on behalf of the organisation.

Exclusions:

- People whose residence is not in the eligible geographic area, except students that are studying away from home and their main residence is in an eligible area.
- People travelling on any service where the cost of travel is being met in whole or in part by a third party
- People travelling on Public Service Obligation (PSO) flights
- People travelling for the purpose of business
- People travelling on NHS-funded trips
- Anyone in the eligible geographic area who does not have a live, valid card
- People travelling on any service where the cost of travel is being met in whole or in part by a third party

More information: www.airdiscountscheme.com/

Highlands and North East: Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation | £100 - £25,000 | 25 April (quarterly rounds)

The Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation supports a wide variety of capital projects in Scotland's North-east and Highlands, from shinty sticks and audio visual kits to cutting edge cancer research equipment. Applicants should demonstrate a sound management plan, evidence local support and fundraising and show a clear benefit to their community.

Projects should show innovation and fit within five themes:

Health and Wellbeing - to support healthy living as well as good nutrition, including Scots culinary

traditions;

Arts and Heritage - to promote and support arts and heritage to widen opportunity, access and participation for all;

Conservation and the Environment - promoting the conservation and preservation of our natural environment;

Education - supporting initiatives which broaden horizons, promote responsibility and increase access or opportunity for young people; and

Sport - to support amateur sporting activity, in particular those which encourage youth development.
Geographical areas funded: Aberdeen Aberdeenshire Highland Moray Na h-Eileanan Siar Orkney Shetland

Fund award sizes

Minimum: £100 Maximum: £25,000

Who can apply

Registered charities or constituted groups in Moray, Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen City, the Highlands, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and Orkney and Shetland.

When to apply

The trustees of the Gordon and Ena Baxter Foundation hold four funding rounds per year.

Submission deadlines for 2025 will fall on January 31, April 25, July 25 and October 31.

How to apply

You should take an eligibility quiz on the Foundation's website, after which you will be able to access an application form.

For more information: <https://www.baxterfamilycharity.org/applications>

Highland Areas: SSE - Fairburn Wind Farm Community Fund | £250 - £10,000 | 30 June (multiple rounds)

The community fund can support projects in the community council areas Contin, Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon and Muir of Ord which:

- encourage community activity and promoting community spirit
- provide adequate access to services for all community members
- improve the local transport infrastructure
- optimise opportunities to grow the local economy
- build community capacity and cohesion between established -community groups

- develop or maintaining community assets

Notes on award amounts:

Most applications are for between £250 and £10,000. The award amounts available are dependent of the area as follows:

- Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon: from £250 - £25,000 (Applications for over £25,000 will be considered for strategic projects)
- Contin: from £250 - £10,000
- Muir of Ord: from £250 - £5,000.

Who can apply

Projects in the following community council areas can apply:

- Contin
- Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon
- Muir of Ord - The fund is currently supporting ongoing development activity within the community. This reduced the level of funds available for projects, with the maximum level of award being £1,000.

You don't need to be a registered charity to apply, but your organisation must have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and be set up on a not-for-profit basis.

When to apply

Applications now open for 2025. The fund operates three rounds per year and the deadlines for applications are 28 February, 30 June and 23 October.

How to apply

Application forms can be requested from SSE or downloaded from the website.

More information: <https://www.sserenewables.com/communities/community-fund-locations/great-britain/fairburn/>

Highland Perthshire - Enchanted Forest Community Trust - Community Fund | max £10,000 | 28 March

The Enchanted Forest Community Trust, which is the organiser of the annual Enchanted Forest and light show in Pitlochry, supports a wide range of community projects in Highland Perthshire.

This year they are actively seeking applicants who can use the funds to:

1. Help the people in need with the cost of living crisis in the Highland Perthshire area.
2. Help with battling child poverty and focus on child welfare.
3. Increase inclusion, enablement, independence, mental health and wellbeing.
4. Increase access to employment, volunteering, learning, culture, sport, and leisure opportunities.
5. Improve infrastructure that benefits the community.
6. Promote sustainability through best practices.

Maximum:

£10,000

Who can apply

Applicants must be registered charities or community interest companies operating within Highland Perthshire and the project for which the grant will be used must be located within Highland Perthshire.

When to apply

By Friday 28th March 2025 at 6pm.

How to apply

Applications can be downloaded from the Trust website and should be submitted by email.

More information: <https://www.enchantedforest.org.uk/community/>

Orkney Islands Council - Community Development Fund | max £100,000 | open now

The Community Development Fund supports a wide range of local capital projects, such as sports facilities, gardens, slipways, village halls, heritage centres, play parks and exhibitions.

Geographical areas funded: Orkney

Who can apply: Formally-constituted community groups can apply these include community councils, development trusts, community associations, heritage societies and other local community groups.

How to apply: Application form and guidance on the Council website. Prospective applicants are encouraged to discuss their project proposals with a member of the CDF Project Team prior to submitting a completed application

More information: <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/our-services/grants-and-funds/community-development-fund/>

Perth & Kinross Council - Community Environment Challenge Fund | £2,500 - £10,000 | open now

The projects must be led and delivered by community groups, must make a significant difference to the local environment and be widely supported within the community. In addition, there is a requirement for a long-term maintenance commitment for any projects undertaken through the Fund.

Projects which can demonstrate any of the following are a priority for support:

- 'Spend to save' e.g. changing bedding plant areas to herbaceous plants, therefore saving on maintenance and materials
- Physical environmental improvement projects which reduce waste, increase reuse and recycling or use environmentally-friendly materials
- Enhance/contribute to the local economy such as tourism or craft, or use of local materials
- Benefits to the wider community encompassing a range of age groups and abilities
- Link to other existing or planned regeneration initiatives (e.g. conservation area appraisals)
- An ability to complete the project within 12 months.
- Demonstrate environmental sustainability e.g. carbon reduction

For works on Council-owned land, the Council would need to ensure that groups had the requisite skills and experience to let or carry out the works, that groups had adequate public liability insurance and that health and safety requirements were met. Costs relating to these requirements must be included in the overall project costs. In addition, responsibility for future maintenance would need to be agreed with the Council.

For projects which are not on Council-owned land, authorisation should be obtained from the

landowner and this must be made clear on the application. Arrangements must be put in place for future maintenance and be approved by the Council.

More information: <http://www.pkc.gov.uk/CECF>

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust – Perth City Heritage Fund | N/A | open now

Since the restoration of city status to Perth in 2012, Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust has been encouraging the conservation of Perth's historic buildings through the Perth City Heritage Fund (PCHF), a scheme funded by the Scottish Government through Historic Environment Scotland. As part of their regeneration strategy for cities. The PCHF's aim is to encourage sustainable economic and social recovery within the Perth Central and Kinnoull Conservation Areas by grant-assisting owners of historic buildings with the costs of high quality repairs to their homes using traditional materials and best conservation practice.

The 2022-2023 fund is currently open for applications and the Trust welcomes enquiries either through the form below or by telephone. Enquiries are particularly encouraged about comprehensive repairs to historic tenements in multiple ownership; repairs to historic buildings used or owned by local charities; and unused or under-used historic buildings to bring them back into use.

When to apply: Currently inviting enquiries for grant assistance for consideration for future phases of the Perth City Heritage Fund.

How to apply: Check if you are within the Perth or Kinnoull conservation zone, you can check this on the Trust website. Complete the Pre-Application Enquiry Form on the website.

More information: www.pkht.org.uk/grants/pchf/

Perth & Kinross – SSE Drumderg Wind Farm Community Fund | 100K total | 5 May

Provides around funding to community and charitable projects in the community council areas of Mount Blair (most of Strathardle and Glenshee) and Alyth. The fund generally supports projects which:

- promote community spirit and bring people together
- enhance quality of life and promote people's well-being
- foster vibrant, sustainable communities.

Geographical areas funded: [Perth & Kinross](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£300

Annually awarded:

£100,000

Who can apply

You can apply for a grant if you are a legally-constituted community group, a non-profit organisation or a registered charity. Projects should benefit the community council areas of Mount Blair (most of Strathardle and Glenshee) and Alyth.

When to apply

2025 deadlines are:

- Monday 5 May (for decision 19 June)
- Monday 4 August (for decision 25 September)
- Monday 13 October (for decision 27 November)

Next deadline: 10 Feb 2025

How to apply

Application forms can be requested from SSE or downloaded from the website.

More information: <https://www.sserenewables.com/communities/community-fund-locations/great-britain/drumderg/>

Scottish Borders Council – Neighbourhood Support Fund | total avail £450,000 | various

The Neighbourhood Support Fund will assist voluntary and community groups that are active within their communities and who are planning community based projects. Community groups are encouraged to think about how these funds can meet local need to strengthen communities and benefit the lives of people living in the Scottish Borders.

The Fund operates in five Area Partnerships; Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot and Liddesdale and Tweeddale.

Geographical areas funded: Scottish Borders

Who can apply: Constituted voluntary/community groups in the Borders area with a minimum of 3 members and a bank or building society account in the group's name. Unconstituted groups can also apply for a smaller amount.

When to apply: Application deadlines vary by area. Check the Council website for details for your area.

How to apply: Application forms for each area can be downloaded from the Council website.

More information:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20076/community_grants_and_funding/1190/neighbourhood_support_fund

Scottish Sea Farms – Heart of the Community Trust | max £10,000 | open now

The broad aim of the Heart of the Community Grant Trust is to provide financial grants for community projects that deliver lasting change within the regions in which the Company operates. Those regions are: Shetland, Orkney, Highland and Argyll.

The over-arching principle for grant allocation will be to deliver lasting change within communities using the following criteria:

- Health & Health Promotion
- Education
- Personal Development that leads to the enhancement of a community
- Community Projects that benefit the majority

Geographical areas funded: Argyll & Bute Highland Orkney Shetland

Notes on award amounts: Awards can range from a few hundred pounds to as much as £10,000, and can be one-off payments for a particular project or repeat support over several years. The average award is currently between £4,000 and £5,000.

Who can apply: Groups that apply must be established on a not-for-profit basis but do not need to be registered charities.

Maximum annual income: £250,000

How to apply: Each application then goes through a screening process with regional ambassadors. Successful applications will then be submitted to the Heart of the Community Trustees for final verification. Guidelines and application forms are available via the funder website.

Exclusions:

- Unconstituted groups
- Groups whose grant request is for the advancement of religion or politics
- The purchase of second hand vehicles or such equipment that may reflect detrimentally upon the funder should there be subsequent accident or mishap with the said equipment.
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts
- Retrospective funding
- Trips abroad
- Payments towards areas generally understood to be the responsibility of statutory authorities
- Groups who will then distribute the funds as grants or bursaries
- Applications that are for the sole benefit to flora and fauna
- Solely to pay the salary or salary equivalent of any individual connected to the project

More information: www.scottishseafarms.com/community/heart-of-the-community/

South Lanarkshire Council Climate Emergency and Resilience Fund | max £2,5000 | open now

Climate Emergency and Resilience Grants are available to community groups and organisations who need funding to pursue environmental, sustainability or climate change projects.

The fund can be used for community projects which embrace the council's climate change, sustainability, and climate adaptation objectives:

- Improved air quality
- Increased climate resilience
- Improved resource efficiency
- Increased active travel opportunities
- Increased/enhanced urban greenspace
- Improved outdoor access
- Reduction in the reliance of fossil fuels
- Improved energy efficiency
- The use of renewable technology
- Increased renewable energy generation
- Reduction in waste
- Supporting the circular economy
- Adapting to climate change e.g. flood protection

Geographical areas funded: South Lanarkshire

Who can apply: Applicants should either be a community group officially operating in South Lanarkshire Council or a partner organisation.

When to apply: One application can be made each year. A decision will be made within 30 days unless additional supporting information has been requested.

How to apply: Complete the online form on the Council website.

Exclusions:

- Proposals that do not benefit residents or pupils within South Lanarkshire
- The repayment of debt or loans
- To pay group volunteers or organisational employees
- Costs already incurred

More information:

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200168/getting_involved_in_your_community/2023/new_community_grants/3

Stirling Council – Community Grants and Funding | max £800 | open now: regular deadlines to 3 February 2026

Stirling Council has two funding streams that provide grants ranging from £100 - £800.

The Community Pride Fund can include physical infrastructure and environmental improvements as well as activity promoting community spirit. Examples include; improvements to existing facilities such as structures, benches and fencing; sustainable floral displays; recycling facilities; spring cleans; activity that promotes your community or fosters community spirit.

The Community Grants Scheme supports projects which benefit residents within Stirling Council area, whether within a single community or widely across Stirling Council area, or which benefit communities of interest (including hobby/sports groups). Projects must meet Stirling Council priorities, a list of which can be found in the fund guidance notes.

They accept applications from constituted community and voluntary groups for projects which benefit residents in the Stirling Council area and help to develop prosperous, healthy, achieving and resilient communities. Capital and revenue project costs will both be considered.

When to apply:

Apply throughout the year. Deadlines are 12 noon on:

- 3 April 2025 (for decisions 14 May)
- 27 May 2025 (for decisions 2 July)
- 8 July 2025 (for decisions 13 August)
- 19 August 2025 (for decisions 24 September)
- 30 September 2025 (for decisions 5 November)
- 11 November 2025 (for decisions 17 December)
- 6 January 2026 (for decisions 11 February)
- 3 February 2026 (for decisions 11 March)

How to apply

Apply through Stirling Council's website

For more information: <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/community-life-and-leisure/community-funding-development-and-support/support-for-communities/community-grants-and-funding/apply-for-a-community-grant/>

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Fund | min £500 | open now

The broad aim of the Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust is to assist charities and community groups (constituted & not for profit with charitable aims) working to improve the quality of life and life chances in the Stratherrick and Foyers areas, especially in circumstances where funding is particularly hard to find and where a grant can achieve significant impact in enabling groups to fulfill their own objectives. Grants are made to groups across a wide spectrum of social, welfare, heritage, educational and community development activity.

The majority of funding is directed at locally based work involving, and often initiated by, members of that local community. They also make small sporting grants and educational grants available to individuals.

Geographical areas funded: [Highland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£500

Notes on award amounts:

Award amounts vary depending on type of group and purpose of grant. See the Community Fund website for full details.

Who can apply

Groups or individuals in the local community area who undertake activities related to, preventing or relieving poverty, advancing education, training and/or retraining, heritage, environmental protection and improvement, citizenship and/or community development, the provision of recreational facilities.

When to apply

Grant applications are considered by the Trust Board every two months with deadlines in February, April, June, August, October and December.

Completed applications received by the closing date will be assessed during month 1 and considered by the Board on month 2.

How to apply

Application forms and guidance available on the Fund website.

There are different processes for grants under £10,000, those between £10,000 and £20,000 and those over £20,000.

More information: <https://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/grants-and-schemes/>

Tangy Community Fund (SSE) | avge £3559 | open now

Provides funding to community and charitable projects in the community council areas of Campbeltown, East Kintyre, The Laggan, Southend and West Kintyre. Grants are available to legally-constituted community groups, non-profit organisations and registered charities supporting projects which enhance quality of life for local residents; contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities; and promote community spirit and encourage community activity.

Fund award sizes: Average: £3,559 Annually awarded: £24,000

Who can apply: You can apply for a grant if you are a legally-constituted community group, a non-profit organisation, a registered charity.

How to apply: Funds are administered by Campbeltown, East Kintyre, The Laggan, Southend and West Kintyre Community Councils on behalf of SSE. To apply for a grant, contact the appropriate community council.

Exclusions: Will not support projects which have a political or religious purpose, subsidise the costs of energy consumption, are for purposes adverse to SSE's interest, replace statutory funding or support individuals for their personal gain.

More information: <https://www.sserenewables.com/communities/community-fund-locations/great-britain/tangy/>

West Lothian Development Trust | max £25,000 | open now

The West Lothian Development Trust fund distributes money received from windfarm developments in West Lothian. The fund supports the development of projects in communities within 10km of the Blacklaw Windfarm and Pateshill Windfarms.

Projects should meet one of the following priorities:

- relieve poverty, advance education or social purposes beneficial to an eligible community
- promote and encourage environmental improvement or enhancement
- secure investment, create employment, implement training, promote or secure sustainable development
- provide or assist in the provision of renewable energy

Geographical areas funded: West Lothian

Notes on award amounts: There are two strands of funding, a small grants fund of up to £2,000 and a main grants fund of up to £25,000. A maximum of 70% intervention rate applies to both grants.

Who can apply: Projects will only be funded if the organisation is a community or public sector body.

When to apply|: The West Lothian Development Trust meets bi monthly to assess applications. Applications must be received by 5pm, one week prior to the date of meetings. 2022 meeting dates are to be confirmed check fund website for most up to date details.

How to apply: Application forms and guidance on the funder website. There are separate forms for Small and Main grant applications

More information: www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44632/West-Lothian-Development-Trust

Western Isles Development Trust – Main Fund | £300 - £15,000 | open now

The purpose of the trust is to support the regeneration and development of the Outer Hebrides through disbursement of Community Benefit secured from the local deployment of Renewable Energy installations. The Board's current main focus is to assist projects which will support the alleviation of fuel poverty and promote renewable energy schemes.

Geographical areas funded: Na h-Eileanan Siar

Notes on award amounts: Annual total and average from 2021 accounts. Grants ranged from £300 to £15,000.

Who can apply: Groups in the Western Isles who have a constitution or formally recognised structure.

When to apply: In order for your application to be considered as soon as possible, submit your completed form by 4pm on the second last Thursday of the month. The Board meets on the last Thursday of any given month.

How to apply: Apply using the enquiry form on the Trust's website

Exclusions:

- Applications that are not from community groups
- Projects that do not benefit the WIDT area
- Organisations that do not have a constitution or formally recognised structure
- The advancement of politics or religion
- The repayment of loans or debts
- VAT that is recoverable by whatever means
- Retrospective funding
- Payments towards activities generally understood to be the exclusive responsibility of statutory authorities
- Activities that are contrary to the interests or objectives of WIDT

More information: www.widt.co.uk/apply-for-funding/

Western Isles Council / Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Micro Business Loans | up to £2,000 | open now

Interest free, unsecured micro business loans are available up to the value of £2,000 with a repayment period of up to two years. Loans are intended to contribute towards general start-up costs, marketing (which may include trade fair attendance), e-commerce enablement and encouraging tourist accommodation providers to "gain a star".

This micro business loan scheme intends to encourage the creation and growth of small businesses which will contribute towards job creation within the local economy. Furthermore, this scheme will assist income generating community enterprises in developing projects that will enhance opportunities to enhance opportunities for long-term sustainability and in stimulating the local economy.

Interested parties should contact Comhairle nan Eilean Siar directly in order to begin the application process. New businesses should provide a business plan alongside financial projections (three years). Existing businesses are expected to provide a proposal overview as well as any other necessary information.

Only one loan can be applied for at any one time, with a maximum of two CnES loans running at any one time. A second loan cannot be provided unless 12 months have lapsed since the last loan was provided with at least 20% of the first loan repaid.

More information: <https://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/business/business-gateway/micro-business-loan>

Western Isles Council / Comhairle nan EileanSiar Business Loans | up to £50,000 | open now

This business loan will encourage business start-up activities and will enable business and community development within the Outer Hebrides. New and growing businesses and income-generating community enterprises may receive assistance when developing projects which will enhance opportunities for long-term sustainability and activities that will help to increase economic activity and employment. Loans worth up to £20,000 are available with a maximum repayment period of seven years. The interest for this loan is 4% fixed (unsecured) for loans worth up to £10,000. The interest for loans above £10,000 is 4% fixed (secured) and 6% fixed (unsecured). The discretionary capital repayment holiday is up to six months in length.

Applications are welcome from sole-traders, partnerships, limited companies, co-operative groups, community enterprises and other legitimate trading entities. Applications should detail business and community development projects located within the Outer Hebrides which demonstrate commercial viability, the potential for employment creation and the ability to generate additional demand for products and services.

More information: <https://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/business/business-gateway/business-loan>