

**STP Funding Finder April 2025**

Welcome to Scotland’s Towns Partnership’s Funding Finder covering April 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](http://www.scotlandstowns.org/get-involved#contact-us).

**Disclaimer**: while we endeavour to maintain this guide both up to date and accurate, the information below is always superseded by that provided by funders themselves.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.

# Regeneration

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

The FCC Scottish Action Fund provides grants of between £2,000 and £40,000 to not-for-profit organisations for the following types of projects eligible under Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (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.

**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 2025Apply 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. 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. Detail on each category can be found on the Foundation's website.

Award amounts do not need to be specified in advance. 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

Application 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:**

£10,000 - £50,000

**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

**How to apply**

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

## SSE Sustainable Development Fund| check region for amounts | 16 June

The Sustainable Development Fund supports strategic projects in the regions where SSE Renewables is operating.

The Sustainable Development Fund can support projects which pursue the following objective(s):

* Creating opportunities – increase opportunities for education and employment
* Empowering communities – build resilience and protect vulnerable residents
* Building sustainable places – stimulate meaningful community regeneration

**Areas with open funding and approaching deadlines:**

Dumfries and Galloway

Perth and Kinross

Scottish Borders

**Who can apply**

Your project must benefit communities that lie within the area specified in each fund.

You don’t need to be a registered charity to apply, but your organisation must have a constitution, at least three board/committee members, and not be set up for individual profit.

**When to apply**

Deadline for applications: Monday 16 June 2025

Award decisions made: early October 2025

**How to apply**

Online via the funder’s website.

**Source and information**: <https://www.sserenewables.com/communities/sustainable-development-fund/>

## National Churches Trust – Medium and Cherish Grants | max £10,000 | 12 August

**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.

**Fund award sizes**

£500 – £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 12 August 2025.

**How to apply**

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

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

## Historic Environment Scotland - Partnership Fund | 15 August (for EoIs)

Historic Environment Scotland’s (HES) Partnership Fund is open to applications from third-sector organisations delivering strategic outcomes with national impact for Scotland’s historic environment or the Scottish historic environment sector. Applicants are likely to include charitable organisations playing an intermediary role or representing a specific area of activity within the sector.

Whilst it is an open fund, the Partnership Fund is designed to support a relatively small number of organisations, normally for established activities closely aligned with HES strategic priorities. If you are interested in applying for time-limited project-based funding or piloting an activity before applying to the Partnership Fund, you should apply to our [Historic Environment Grants Programme](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/) (HEG).

Note: please see the funder’s website for full guidance and information.

**When to apply**

The fund timeline for 2025 is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Expression of Interest | No later than 15 August 2025 |
| Application deadline | 12 September 2025 |
| Decision | Mid-December 2025 |
| Offer letters issued | January/February 2026 for funding to start in April 2026 |

**How to apply**

Submit an expression of interest via HES’ online portal.

**Source and more information**: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/partnership-fund/>

## The Ironmongers’ Company - Iron Projects Grants | max £5,000 | 16 August (bi-annual deadlines)

The Ironmongers’ Company wishes to support Iron projects for the restoration of historic ironwork or creation of new decorative work in iron and steel.

**Guidelines**

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.

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**Grants**

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.

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**Exclusions**

* The Company does not make grants for other restoration projects or for work to other materials
* Grants are made for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of private individuals
* Work that has started before the Committee meets (see below) will not be considered

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**Application Procedure**

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 10 March and 16 August respectively.

Applicants should email charities@ironmongers.org with **no more than four A4 pages**, not including photos, giving details of the project including:

* A description of the property, the ironwork, its relevance and the work required
* Conservation plan/craftsman's drawings/photographs as applicable
* A full breakdown of the costs involved, indicating specific elements of the project for which a grant could be made and itemising VAT separately (please state whether VAT will be reclaimed)
* The amount of money already raised for the project and any applications made or pending to other potential funders
* The proposed dates for starting and finishing the work
* Plans for ongoing preventative maintenance of the ironwork
* Public access arrangements and visitor numbers where appropriate
* The Company expects any conservation of historic ironwork to follow the [National Heritage Ironwork Group's Conservation Principles](http://www.nhig.org.uk/). Your application should confirm that your project will meet these standards.

**Source and more information**: <https://www.ironmongers.org/supporting-iron-projects>

## 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 current three-year partnership is Improving Environmental Sustainability as this is an urgent priority for the sector.

Theatre operators can apply for grants of up to £20,000 towards their building or equipment as part of the scheme.

It is hoped that these grants will support a range of projects that consider different ways theatre buildings can reduce their environmental impact. From sedum roofs to new windows, building management systems to more efficient water heaters, funding will be given to projects that demonstrate how a small intervention can have a big impact.

**With thanks**

The Wolfson Foundation supports our Theatre Improvement Scheme. Since Theatres Trust and the Wolfson Foundation started working together in 2017, grants totalling more than £750,000 have been awarded to help 46 theatres across the UK improve their buildings. The Wolfson Foundation renewed its support for the scheme in 2024, with a further £510,000 in total to be awarded over the next three years.

**Who can apply**

To be eligible to apply to the scheme, applicants must demonstrate that they:

* 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 of theatre, dance, comedy, musicals.
* 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. This can include local authorities or Town and Borough Councils that own and/or operate a venue.
* have the permission of the property owner and any relevant planning body to do the work required.
* operate theatres that achieve excellence through their producing and programming and / or community engagement and / or architectural significance.

Organisations previously in receipt of grants from the Theatres Trust (including through this scheme) may not apply until 12 months after the date of receipt of the Final Evaluation Report for that award.

Organisations that have previously received a direct grant from the Wolfson Foundation can apply to this scheme providing it is for a different project.

We welcome applications from theatre venues across the UK that meet these criteria, whether voluntarily or professionally run.

You will receive a response to your application within approximately 16 weeks after the closing date, so we are not able to fund work that requires urgent or immediate attention before this time.

How to apply

Please apply using the application form below. Please refer to the guidance notes when making your application.

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

Please note that after the deadline, it will be up to 16 weeks before decisions are made.

Applicants are advised to watch the webinar, read the guidance notes and terms and conditions before making an application. **Unfortunately due to the high volume of applications we receive, we can no longer give advice pre-application.**

Source and more information: <http://www.theatrestrust.org.uk/how-we-help/grants-funding/theatre-improvement-scheme>

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

The Grocers’ Charity awards about £1 million pounds each year to UK-registered charities. For our open grants, we typically provide one-off grants of up to £5,000. We receive over 1,000 applications a year and award 14% of the applications received, on average.

We only accept applications via our [online form](https://grocershall.co.uk/the-charity/the-charity-application). If you are unable to apply online because of an impairment, please contact us before sending information by post.

Please follow the links below to learn more about our funding priorities, information on our [Grant Process](https://grocershall.co.uk/the-charity/apply-for-a-grant/our-grant-process), [Resources](https://grocershall.co.uk/the-charity/apply-for-a-grant/resources) such as form questions, and learn [What We Have Funded](https://grocershall.co.uk/the-charity/apply-for-a-grant/what-we-have-funded) in the past.

Please note we do not accept applications from:

* Charities with a turnover of over £500,000 (except for Medical Charities, where the limit is £15m).
* Non-UK registered charities (e.g. Community Interest Companies).
* Charities whose beneficiaries are overseas.
* Individuals.
* Places of worship.
* Educational establishments (schools, colleges, universities).

The deadlines for an initial enquiry are:

* 5 September 2025
* TBC (9 January 2026)

*Please note, regrettably, due to our capacity, we are unable to provide feedback for unsuccessful applications.*

**When to apply**

Next initial inquiry deadline: 5 September 2025

**How to apply**

There is a two stage application process.

**Source and 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, especially complimentary and alternative therapies.
* Heritage, especially with reference to the built environment.
* Youth, involving all areas of development for young people, especially those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Fund award sizes**

max£100,000

**When to apply**

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

**How to apply**

Application forms should be submitted by email to admin@barcapelfoundation.org

**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 Association for Industrial Archaeology - Restoration Grants | max £20,000 | 31 March 2026 (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/](http://www.industrial-archaeology.org/aia-awards/restoration-grants/)

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

**Article information source**: [Funding Scotland News](https://funding.scot/news/2024/07/24/funding-for-heritage-led-economic-social-regeneration-projects)

[The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF)](https://ahfund.org.uk/) 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>

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

The Heritage Impact Fund is designed for charities and social enterprises that are looking to make a positive social impact by acquiring, reusing, or redeveloping buildings of historic or architectural importance.

**Fund award sizes**

£25,000 – £500,000

**Who can apply**

Your organisation must be one of the following:

• Charitable Incorporated Organisations

• Charitable Companies Limited by Guarantee

• Community Benefit Societies

• Not-for-private-profit Companies Limited by Guarantee

• Community Interest Companies Limited by Guarantee

• Co-operatives

**How to apply**

There are no deadlines for applying to their Loan funds. However, they encourage applicants to submit an Expression of Interest at least three months before a decision is required.

**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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#programme-resources_tab).

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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#programme-resources_tab).

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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#programme-criteria_tab) 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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#programme-criteria_tab).

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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#what-we-can-fund_tab).

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](https://historicenvironmentscotland.smartsimpleuk.com/s_Login.jsp).

[More information on the funding streams, our application process and timeframes](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#how-to-apply_tab).

[If you are awarded a grant](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#if-you-are-awarded-a-grant_tab) 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](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/historic-environment-grants-programme/#programme-resources_tab).

**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/](http://www.ebscotland.co.uk/)

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

War Memorials Trust has been giving grants since 1998. Initially called the Small Grants Scheme the charity now operates the **War Memorials Trust Grants Scheme.**

The War Memorials Trust Grants Scheme

* seeks to facilitate **repair and conservation** works through its grants and act as a **catalyst** for action. It will follow the repair and conservation principles supported by the national heritage bodies in each part of the UK
* 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
* is **open** to war memorials as outlined in its '[**Definition of a war memorial for funding purposes**](http://www.warmemorials.org/uploads/publications/53.pdf)'
* **prioritises** funding based on the need for works and their urgency

**How to apply**

Anyone interested in applying for funding should start by reviewing the [**Apply for a grant**](http://www.warmemorials.org/apply/) section and completing a [**Grants Pre-application form**](http://www.warmemorials.org/pre-app/)

**Source and more information**: [www.warmemorials.org/wmt/](http://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>

# Environment

## The Woodland Trust - Free Tree Packs | August

The Woodland Trust wants to make sure everybody in the UK has the chance to plant a tree: and so are giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities.

They make two deliveries a year, in March and November.

**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 open, and are expected to close in August 2025.

**How to apply**

Apply online via the funder’s website.

**Exclusions**

Projects within the following areas should not apply for tree packs via this online application:

* 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.

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

## 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:**

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

If you would like to apply, please read first the [conditions of award](https://www.faithincommunity.scot/s/FiCS-conditions-of-award-GSFP-2021.pdf) and then click below to use the online form.

**Who can apply?**

Local faith groups 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.  Please note that we prioritise our grant awards towards groups with minimal resources.

**How to apply**

Apply online via the Faith in Community Scotland website.

**Source and more information**: <https://www.faithincommunity.scot/gsfp>

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

The Community Support Fund is a dedicated small grant fund, operated by Fauna & Flora. It 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.

Grants can be sought by CCN members and other community-based organisations that Fauna & Flora already work with.

Have a look at the [**application form**](https://www.communitiesforseas.scot/download/csf-application-2024/?tmstv=1713862807) and the [**grant criteria**](https://www.communitiesforseas.scot/download/csf-grant-criteria-2024/?tmstv=1713862807) or, to find out more, get in touch with **Rebecca Plant**, Fauna & Flora Scotland Programme Manager.

**Fund award sizes**

max £5,000

**Who can apply**

The Community Support Fund is open to Scottish community-based organisations (CBOs) who are active in biodiversity conservation, either via the Coastal Communities Network, or through engagement with Fauna & Flora

**How to apply**

Access an application form from the funder’s website.

**Source and more information**: <https://www.communitiesforseas.scot/community-support-fund-2/>

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

Loans up to £100k are available to help you pay for energy and carbon-saving upgrades in your business. You could also receive a cashback grant of up to £30k.

**What can it be used for?**

An SME loan can be used to finance the installation of a range of [eligible measures](https://businessenergyscotland.org/sme-loan-scheme-faqs/) including:

* heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades.
* renewable heat technologies such as installing an air source heat pump.
* improving insulation, draught-proofing, double or secondary glazing,
* installing LED lighting.
* installing solar thermal systems, wind turbines and biomass boilers.

**Am I eligible?**

The loan is available to Scottish businesses, not-for-profit organisations and charities that have been trading for at least 12 months and fall within the EU definition of a small and medium-sized enterprise (SME).

You must be less than 25% owned by one or more other enterprises and have a holding of less than 25% in any other enterprise.

The SME Loan Scheme is designed to help eligible businesses install new energy efficient systems, equipment or building fabric improvements. You will not be eligible if you have already completed or started work on your project.

**Will I get a cashback grant?**

If you are an SME and installing eligible equipment, you could receive a cashback grant of up to £30,000 for your business.

* 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £20,000 can be claimed for energy efficiency measures.
* 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £10,000 can also be claimed for a range of renewable heat measures (heat pumps, biomass boilers and solar thermal).

Once you have submitted a completed application, you’ll normally get a decision within 10 working days.

The cashback grant will be paid to you (along with the loan) when your project is completed and evidence has been provided, typically by a qualified advisor undertaking a site inspection.

**Source and 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).

For more information about the Water Environment Fund please contact SEPA.

**Source and more information:** <https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/water-environment-fund/>

# Energy

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

Scotland’s Heat Network Fund aims to stimulate and accelerate the delivery of heat networks that supply affordable, reliable and clean heat across Scotland through capital co-funding.

It also aims to support:

* the delivery of emissions reductions and fuel poverty targets
* a secure supply chain across Scotland and help people to transition to new sustainable jobs as part of a just transition
* the delivery of heating systems that utilise Scotland’s renewable energy sources
* the delivery of heat networks that enable flexible and stable operation of our energy networks.

**Fund award sizes**

max £1,000,000

**Notes on award amounts:**

The percentage of funding awarded will be based on the financial model of each project but is capped at 50% of eligible capital costs as a maximum. Please note that historic/previous project spend cannot be considered as part of co-funding arrangements.

**Who can apply**

Organisations or various types across Scotland. Investment from any eligible organisation is allowed provided the project is entirely delivered in Scotland. All projects must have a UK-based bank account.

**When to apply**

You can submit an expression of interest for funding at any time. Successful projects must draw down funding in full 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

Loans up to £100k are available to help you pay for energy and carbon-saving upgrades in your business. You could also receive a cashback grant of up to £30k.

**What can it be used for?**

An SME loan can be used to finance the installation of a range of [eligible measures](https://businessenergyscotland.org/sme-loan-scheme-faqs/) including:

* heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades.
* renewable heat technologies such as installing an air source heat pump.
* improving insulation, draught-proofing, double or secondary glazing,
* installing LED lighting.
* installing solar thermal systems, wind turbines and biomass boilers.

**Am I eligible?**

The loan is available to Scottish businesses, not-for-profit organisations and charities that have been trading for at least 12 months and fall within the EU definition of a small and medium-sized enterprise (SME).

You must be less than 25% owned by one or more other enterprises and have a holding of less than 25% in any other enterprise.

The SME Loan Scheme is designed to help eligible businesses install new energy efficient systems, equipment or building fabric improvements. You will not be eligible if you have already completed or started work on your project.

**Will I get a cashback grant?**

If you are an SME and installing eligible equipment, you could receive a cashback grant of up to £30,000 for your business.

* 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £20,000 can be claimed for energy efficiency measures.
* 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £10,000 can also be claimed for a range of renewable heat measures (heat pumps, biomass boilers and solar thermal).

Once you have submitted a completed application, you’ll normally get a decision within 10 working days.

The cashback grant will be paid to you (along with the loan) when your project is completed and evidence has been provided, typically by a qualified advisor undertaking a site inspection.

**How do I apply?**

To apply for funding from the SME Loan Scheme, you need a report from Business Energy Scotland that recommends the energy efficient systems, equipment and/or building fabric improvements that you would like to use the funding to install.

Business Energy Scotland’s reports are free and impartial and once you [request support](https://businessenergyscotland.org/get-support/), it typically takes between 2-6 weeks to prepare your report, depending on the complexity of your requirements.

If you already have a suitable report from Business Energy Scotland. Please get in touch using our [online form](https://businessenergyscotland.org/contact-us/), or call us 0808 808 2268, and we will provide you with everything you need to make an application.

**Source and more information**: [www.businessenergyscotland.org/smeloan/](http://www.businessenergyscotland.org/smeloan/)

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

Offers 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/>

# Healthy Towns

## Aldi - Scottish Sport Fund - North-East, Highlands and Islands | max £2,500 | 18 May

Aldi’s Scottish Sport Fund supports sporting activities, access and participation via a broad range of purposes and organisations.

**Fund award amounts**

There are three funding packages available per region: 1 x £2500, 2 x £1000, and 5 x £500.

**Who can apply**

Organisations based in the eligible area that meet one or more of the following criteria (see full Terms on the funder’s website):

* a local, community focused club with Sport at the heart of what you do
* a registered community amateur sports club (CASC)
* a school or educational organisation
* a religious organisation
* a Scout or Guide group
* a charitable service fund of the Armed Forces
* a Community Interest Company registered with The Office of the Regulator of Community Interest Companies

**How to apply**

Fill out an application form (accessible on the funder website) and make sure to submit it before the deadline for your region.

Deadline: 18 May

**Source and more information**: <https://www.aldi.co.uk/scottishsportfund>

## 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 or 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](https://www.hie.co.uk/support/browse-all-support-services/fairwork/). 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](https://www.hie.co.uk/about-us/policies-and-publications/complaints-handling-procedure/) 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.

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

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

The Sport Facilities Fund (SFF) supports capital projects that help to create or improve places where people take part in sport and physical activity.

We want to support projects that provide more opportunities for people to get involved in and participate in sport & physical activity.

Our budget is circa £2 million per annum and there is likely to be greater demand and competition for funding than is available for us to allocate.

Therefore prioritisation will be given to projects  that deliver the greatest impact on our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion objectives: see  [Sport for Life and our approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](https://sportscotland.org.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-inclusion) - sportscotland the national agency for sport in Scotland

Projects that can clearly demonstrate an inclusive approach that targets participants in/from SIMD areas or areas of rural disadvantage, or those with additional needs, or those from ethnically diverse communities, or other protected characteristics, as identified in The Equalities Act 2010, will be prioritised.

**How to apply**

Please read fully the SFF Guidelines for further details of the type of projects we want to invest in and those that we will not be eligible**.**

Please contact us to discuss your project and eligibility before starting or submitting an application facilities@sportscotland.org.uk

**When to apply**

Deadlines for submission of Sport Facilities Fund applications are 5pm on the 1st April and 1st September each year.

**Source and more information**: <https://sportscotland.org.uk/funding/sport-facilities-fund/>

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

Tennis Scotland, sportscotland and the LTA are working together to deliver The Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund which will see a significant investment into Scottish tennis facilities over the course of the next 10 years, with £15m committed by this partnership, for the development of indoor tennis centres in Scotland.

We want to work with organisations that are as committed as we are to developing indoor tennis facilities, and to ensuring that more people have the opportunity to enjoy the sport, all year round – whether they are a social player or a future champion. We want to convert an interest in the game into active participation. For examples of indoor facilities, please see our [TSIT case studies](https://www3.lta.org.uk/InYourArea/Scotland/Resources/Funding%20Support/TSIT%20Case%20Studies.pdf) document.

**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 a local Tennis Clubs and Schools.

**When to apply**

The fund will be delivered through a series of funding rounds each year.

**How to apply**

If you would like to discuss an indoor project further please complete the [Expression of Interest Form](https://www.lta.org.uk/tennis-scotland/transforming-british-tennis-together-expression-of-interest-form/)and read the funding guidelines.

**Source and 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.

**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](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/resource/the-path-managers-guide-to-grading)
* 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](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/mediaLibrary/other/english/community-path-grant-guidance-notes-2023-.pdf) 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](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/login). If you are a new user, please [register](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/find-a-grant)[here](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/login)[.](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/find-a-grant)

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](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/community-paths/cmp-training).

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

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

This award provides funding and support for grassroots football clubs and other charitable organisations with football related projects which meet partnership’s charitable objectives.

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

The programme offers community groups the opportunity to access a £500 grant to be spent on whatever they need to support the delivery of football activities to young people from diverse backgrounds. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training is offered to help increase group leaders’ confidence in engaging new and under-represented audiences.

The training covers key topics in sport including Engaging teenage girls, Engaging with diverse communities, Disability awareness, LGBTQ+ awareness and Tackling Racism. Groups will also receive a set of branded football bibs for their participants, offers to access Premier League and Barclays Women’s Super League tickets, mascot opportunities and more.

**Who can apply**

Applications are welcome from all types of organisations including football clubs, community groups, youth groups and charities. See funder website for criteria and conditions.

**When to apply**: Applications are open now.

**How to apply**: Apply online via the funder’s website.

**Source and more information**: [www.sported.org.uk/barclays-community-football-fund-open/](http://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. 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

**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: The fund is open to applications all year and grants will be distributed regularly.

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 (NSG) is a discretionary grant which has been in place since 1 April 2022, and is available to eligible commercial and community bus operators to support the maintenance of Scotland’s bus network for the benefit of passengers by keeping fares more affordable and networks more extensive than would otherwise be the case.

**Who can apply**:

The Network Support Grant will be payable to operators who are:

* Operating a local bus service as defined in section 2 of the Transport Act 1985.
* Operating a community transport service under a section 19 or section 22 permit.
* Whose service(s) meet the further requirements detailed in the Bus Service Operators Grant (Scotland) Regulations 2002, as set out in the guidance document.
* Demonstrate they are meeting the Fair Work First principles.

**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/](http://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 easer 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](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/resource/resource/ian-findlay-path-fund-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](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/find-a-grant) 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](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/login). If you are not already registered you can find information about how to get yourself registered, in the Guidance Note.

**Source and 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](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/mediaLibrary/other/english/scsp-2021-22-annual-report-final.pdf) is available to download which details the impact of our funding. A full list of projects funded in[2022/23 is available to download](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/mediaLibrary/other/english/scsp-open-fund-22-23-projects.pdf)[.](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/mediaLibrary/other/english/scsp-open-fund-20-21-projects.pdf) There are some great examples of SCSP funded projects within our [Success Stories.](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/at-success-stories)

**Applications**

To make an application to the Open Fund, [please read our guidance first.](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/mediaLibrary/other/english/scsp-open-fund-guidance-1.pdf) If you believe you have a project that we could fund the first step is to complete an [Expression of Interest](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/find-a-grant) on our grant’s portal.  If you are already registered, log in to our [grants portal](https://www.grantsforall.org.uk/login).

If you'd like to keep up-to-date with news from the Open Fund, please [sign up to our newsletter](https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/smarter-choices-smarter-places-1/smarter-choices-smarter-places-newsletter).

**Source and more information**: [www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/smarter-choices-smarter-places-1/open-fund](http://www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/smarter-choices-smarter-places-1/open-fund)

# Culture and Arts

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

The purpose for which the Trust is established (”the Trust Purposes”) are as follows:

* 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.

Your application to the Film Exhibition Fund should outline how your project will address one or more of the **priority areas** outlined in **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

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

**Fund award sizes**

£2,000 - £10,000

**Who can apply**

Support is open to Film Hub Scotland members.

**When to apply**

Applications now open, there are 2 deadlines for applications:

~~1st deadline: 28 March 2025~~

2nd deadline: Friday 16 May 2025

**How to apply**

Please find guidance and applications forms on the Film Hub Scotland website.

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

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

Live Literature brings reading and writing to the heart of communities by funding author events for organisations across Scotland Live Literature makes author events affordable:

* The author is paid £200 plus expenses per session
* We cover £115 of the author's fee, and all of their expenses, [within set guidelines](https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/writing-and-authors/live-literature/expenses-information)
* After the event takes place, Scottish Book Trust pays the author everything that they are owed directly
* Scottish Book Trust then invoices you for a set contribution of £85 plus VAT per session
* Events can take place [in person or remotely](https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/writing-and-authors/live-literature/planning-a-live-literature-session), allowing you to be flexible when planning

Alongside financial support, the team at Scottish Book Trust can be on hand with help and advice for planning and promoting your session.

You will hear our decision within two weeks of the first panel meeting following your application – dates are listed below.

**Geographical areas funded:** [Scotland](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=scotland)

**Who can apply**

Not-for profit organisations in every part of Scotland can apply for support to host events or projects with authors.

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, or any other not-for-profit organisation working in Scotland
* You intend to work with an author listed on the [Live Literature Author Directory](https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/writing-and-authors/live-literature/using-the-live-literature-author-directory). Live Literature fees can only be paid to authors on the directory
* You have the budget to part fund your author events

We welcome applications from ASN settings and schools supporting vulnerable children. Organisations can apply more than once, regardless of previous outcomes, for any panel.

**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.

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

## The Theatres Trust - Small Grants Programme | max £7,500 | 6 June

Theatres Trust's Small Grants Programme, supported by The Linbury Trust, funds small projects that make a big impact to a theatre’s resilience, sustainability, accessibility or improving the diversity of audiences.

This scheme provides grants of up to £7,500 for essential works to enable not-for-profit theatres across the UK to be viable and thrive in the future.

Eligible projects include small capital works, the installation of key plant and machinery and works which make theatre buildings digital-ready.

**Fund award amounts**

Max £7,500

**Who can apply**

Applicants must demonstrate that they:

* own or manage theatres with titles or signed leases of more than five 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**

Deadline for this round is 5pm on Friday 6 June 2025.

The next round will have a deadline in January 2026 (date tbc)

**How to apply**

Please apply using the online form. Applicants are advised to read the guidance notes before making an application.

Source and more information: <https://www.theatrestrust.org.uk/smallgrants>

## 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.

**Fund award sizes**

£40,000 - £100,000

**Who can apply**

The Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund is open to all Museums Association institutional members in the United Kingdom.

**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

The Idlewild Trust offers two grants programmes supporting specific areas within conservation and the arts.

**Arts:** Nurturing Early-Stage Professionals - our grants support training opportunities for emerging professionals, working creatively and backstage, within the performing and visual arts, post-training, and at an early stage in their career.

**Conservation:**Objects and Works of Art - our grants support the conservation of cultural heritage of recognized national and international importance in museums, libraries, galleries, historic buildings, or landscapes accessible to the public. Priority will be given to applications that include a knowledge sharing element as an outcome of the project. We are committed to sharing the knowledge and experience of conservators to a wider audience, so depending on the size and resources available within the project we will be looking for knowledge sharing with professional colleagues, for example a webinar, lecture, or published article. A public engagement activity that helps to improve the public understanding of conservation practice is encouraged. Applications must include a treatment proposal from an accredited conservator.

**Who can apply**

UK Registered Charities or UK Publicly Exempt Charities. Full information on the types of charitable status is in the [**Funding Guidelines**](https://www.idlewildtrust.org.uk/apply-grant#funding-guidelines) along with other eligibility requirements.

**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

For its Small Grants Fund, the William Syson Foundation welcomes applications from arts charities working in any art form or cross-art form including but not limited to visual arts, performing arts, poetry, literature, film-making, music, photography, and digital arts.

**Fund award sizes**

max £4,000

**Who can apply**

They can only accept applications from **arts charities** which meet the following criteria:

* Core Purpose is to advance the arts
* **must be registered as a charity in Scotland**, with a bank account in the name of the charity
* based in Scotland and operating for the benefit of people in Scotland,
* annual income of less than £500,000
* have been operating for at least 12 months and be able to supply annual audited / examined accounts

**When to apply**

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.

**Source and more information**: <https://www.williamsysonfoundation.org.uk/small-grants-fund>

## Film Festival & Screening Programme Fund | £15,000 - £45,000 | 19 September (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](https://www.creativescotland.com/funding/help-with-your-application/access-support/access-costs-in-your-funding-application).
* BFI Diversity Standards: After our pilot in 2022-2024 we are no implementing the [BFI Diversity Standards](https://www.screen.scot/funding-and-support/support/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>

## 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.

**Who can apply**

Given the fierce competition for grants, the trustees favour applications from arts organisations whose *raison* *d’être* is the art form itself, and its perfection or excellence in performance.​

Additionally where applications concern young people, the trustees are interested in a long-lasting connection between them and the art, rather than a project offering little scope for further involvement.​

**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**

There is no set form, however guidance is provided on the funder’s website.

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 we 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.

We can provide assistance to applicants who have access requirements and need some support in order to make an application. See [**Access support for BFI funding applicants**](https://www.bfi.org.uk/get-funding-support/get-access-support-apply-bfi-funds).

**When you can apply**

Applications are accepted all year round but must be submitted 16 weeks before the start of any funded activity.

Successful applications will need to address all the aims and objectives so please [**read the fund guidelines**](https://www.bfi.org.uk/get-funding-support/bring-film-wider-audience/bfi-national-lottery-audience-projects-fund/applying-bfi-national-lottery-audience-projects-fund)carefully before applying.

If you have any questions about this fund or your application, email **audiencefund@bfi.org.uk**.

**How to apply**

Application form and guidance available on the website.

**Source and 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 though 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

Are you a not-for-profit Scottish organisation delivering cultural activity? Do you have a signed agreement with a for-profit business sponsor or are you in discussions with a potential sponsor? Will your relationship have a collaborative element?

The C&BS Fund is designed to encourage collaboration between business and culture by enabling not-for-profit organisations to give their business sponsors additional rights or benefits, helping to enhance the impact and reach of the sponsorship and cultural activity.

Not-for-profit organisations delivering cultural activity can apply to the C&BS Fund for up to **£1 for every £2 of business sponsorship**. The minimum C&BS Fund investment is £1,000, so the minimum business sponsorship must be £2,000. Organisations can apply up to two times, provided the total C&BS Fund investment does not exceed **£10,000**.

**Maximum:**

£10,000

**Who can apply**

Not-for-profit organisations eligible to apply to the C&BS Fund are as follows:

* Registered Charities | Charities registered with OSCR (the Scottish Charity Regulator) delivering activity related to culture (arts and heritage)
* Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations | SCIOs registered with OSCR delivering activity related to culture (arts and heritage)
* Community Interest Companies | CICs registered with the Regulator of Community Interest Companies, delivering 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, delivering activity related to culture (arts and heritage), and with an asset lock in place

**When to apply**

Applications are open now.

**How to apply**

You can now submit an Expression an Interest to receive an ‘In Principle’ invitation to apply if you are in discussions with a potential sponsor and have not yet signed a sponsorship agreement.

See funder website for further guidance and information.

**Source and 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 you to access additional support to enhance new or existing one-off projects and screenings.

As part of the **BFI Film Audience Network** (FAN), we award funding on behalf of Screen Scotland and the BFI National Lottery to support audience-facing screening activity that helps audiences across Scotland access and enjoy a broad range of films, regardless of geography or circumstance.

Film Hub Scotland Members can apply for **up to £1,000** to support impactful, one-off events that enhance your programme, or special initiatives that help you widen your audience.

**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

This fund 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.

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

**Who can apply**:

Any type of constituted artistic, creative or cultural organisation based in Scotland can apply. For full eligibility information, read the Guidance for Applicants.

**When to apply:**

The fund is open all year round – with no deadlines.

**How to apply:**

Apply online via the Creative Scotland portal.

**Source and more information**: [www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/open-funding/national-lottery-open-fund-for-organisations](http://www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/open-funding/national-lottery-open-fund-for-organisations)

## 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/](http://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/](http://www.sspdt.org.uk/funding/sspdt-funding-loans/)

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

This 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.

**When to apply**: the fund is open now.

**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 National Fund for Acquisitions (NFA) helps museums, galleries, libraries and archives throughout Scotland to make acquisitions for their collections. National Museums Scotland manages the Fund on behalf of the Scottish Government.

**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. Friends’ organisations and nationally funded museums, galleries and libraries are not eligible for NFA support.

Museums and galleries must be accredited or provisionally accredited under the Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation Scheme, managed in partnership with Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS).

**How to apply**

The NFA application form can be found on the funder’s webpage. Completed applications should be emailed to the address provided.

**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.

Do you have an important acquisition in mind? Are you struggling to raise match funding to make an application to the National Fund for Acquisitions (NFA)? 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. 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.

**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.

**Who can apply**

They accept applications from:

* Charities (voluntary and public)
* Not-for-profit organisations
* Public bodies

**How to apply**

Applications open. You can apply for a grant whenever you are ready.

The funder’s application pack explains our criteria for funding, helps you to apply for a grant and gives guidance on filling out the application form.

**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.

**Who can apply**

They will consider applications from UK public museums, galleries, historic houses, libraries and archives that are:

* open for at least half the week for at least six months of the year
* at least provisionally accredited under the Arts Council Accreditation Scheme

For full eligibility details please see the Guidance for applicants.

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

# Employment and Training

## The Goldsmiths’ Foundation – Inaugural Grants Programme | £30,000 - £50,000 | 5 May

The Goldsmiths’ Foundation supports organisations that focus on vocational skills and training, working at the intersection of creativity and social change.

Their ambition is to support a portfolio of organisations who represent change through development of technical and vocational skills, who wish to learn from each other and (further) realise the potential of the creative industries for personal, cultural and social transformation.

This Goldsmiths’ Foundation aims to:

* Build capacity and resources for technical and vocational skills development in creative industries, especially within historically underfunded communities
* Realise the role that skills development, and creative people, makers and designers can play in addressing issues of social justice.
* Create the infrastructure for a more equitable creative industry sector.

**Who can apply**

Organisations that are one of the following:

* UK registered charities
* Charitable Incorporated Organisations
* exempt and excepted under Charity Commission guidance

**How to apply**

Online application form via the funder’s website. Please read application guidance and criteria.

Source and more information: <https://www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk/inaugural-grants-programme>

## 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.

**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/>

## New Park Educational Trust | £1,000 - £5,000 | 14 July (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 July (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**

2025 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.

**How to apply**

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

More information: <https://steelcharitabletrust.org.uk/uk-under-26-fund/>

## 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](https://www.hie.co.uk/support/browse-all-support-services/nih/techplacements/business-enquiry-form/).

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 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

# Innovation and Growth

## Firstport - Social Entrepreneurs - Build It | max £40,000 | 26 June (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](https://funding.scot/search?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 26 June 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 22 – 29 July

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](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=scotland) [UK](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=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](https://funding.scot/search?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](https://funding.scot/search?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://www.foundationscotland.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](http://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](http://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/](http://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](http://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/>

## Social Investment Business – Community Builders Fund | Loans of £100k - £1.5m | open now

The Community Builders Fund provides loans of between £100k and £1.5m to UK charities and social enterprises based in England, Wales and Scotland.  The fund is supported by the Government guarantee scheme – Growth Guarantee Scheme.

The Community Builders Fund is for UK charities and social enterprises based in England, Wales and Scotland who are improving people’s lives, or the environment they live in.

See funder’s website for more information on criteria and eligibility, including loan interest rates and repayment terms.

**Who can apply**

Organisations meeting the following criteria (see funder’s website for exclusions):

* Based in England, Wales, or Scotland
* Legally constituted and a registered charity or social enterprise.
* Primarily constituted for social benefit improving people’s lives or the environments they live in.
* Operating for at least two years.
* Minimum turnover of £400k in its last financial year (or £200k if the organisation is based in Scotland or Wales)
* Not subject to any insolvency proceedings e.g. winding-up, administration, insolvency, bankruptcy

**How to apply**

Submit an online application.

Source and more information: <https://www.sibgroup.org.uk/funds/community-builders-fund/>

# Community Funding (Scotland-wide)

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?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/>

## SafeDeposits Scotland Community Fund | max £5,000 | 30 May (multiple deadlines)

This year the SafeDeposits Scotland Community Fund will award grants up to a maximum value of £5,000 to organisations who commit to deliver a project that meets at least one of five criteria, namely:

* Sustainability and the environment
* Employability and career skills
* Social inclusion
* Technology and digital inclusion
* Improving the local community

**Who can apply**

Organisations committed to the fund criteria and which are able to provide a summary from its most recent accounts and, where applicable, its latest annual report and financial statement.

**When to apply**

Upcoming deadlines:

* Friday 30th May 2025
* Friday 29th August 2025
* Friday 28th November 2025
* Friday 27th February 2026

**How to apply**

Access and submit an online application form via the funder’s website.

**Source and more information**: <https://communityfund.safedepositsscotland.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](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=scotland) [UK](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=uk) [Worldwide](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=overseas)

**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/>

## People's Postcode Trust | £500 - £25,000 | 1 July

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](https://funding.scot/search?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/>

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=scotland) [UK](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=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/>

## 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](http://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](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.sead.org.uk/)

## 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](http://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](https://tescostrongerstarts.org.uk/nominate/)[a cause that you’d like to see supported.](https://tescostrongerstarts.org.uk/nominate/)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](https://www.groundwork.org.uk/) manages this website and administers the funding across the UK. Groundwork is working with [Greenspace Scotland](https://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/) 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/>

## SPAR Community Cashback | max £10,000 | open now

People in the UK can apply for a grant for an organisation or charity they feel deserves funding.

All applicants need to do is share the exceptional contribution that a local organisation has made to their community and what the grant would be put towards.

**How to apply**

Online application form via the funder’s website.

**When to apply**

Applications open now.

**Source and information**: <https://www.spar.co.uk/community/community-cashback/>

## 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.](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/community-spaces-grants-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](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/media/tw3kbutl/community-spaces-application-form.pdf). **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](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/who-and-what-we-fund/), and for information about the *other*grants we offer, see [Our Funds](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/funding/).

Source and more information: [Robertson Trust](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/community-spaces-grants/)

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?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 then £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/](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/wee-grants/%20%20)

## 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](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/our-themes/financial-security/)

[Education Pathways](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/our-themes/education-pathways/)

[Work Pathways](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/our-themes/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/](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/small-grants/%20%20)

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?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](https://funding.scot/search?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/](https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/community-vehicle-grants/%20%20)

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=scotland) [UK](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=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

# 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/](http://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](https://funding.scot/search?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 & Bute Council - Supporting Communities Fund | max £1,500 | 26 May

The Supporting Communities Fund (SCF) provides grants up to **£1,500** for charities, and constituted groups, including community councils and parent councils  Projects must take place within Argyll and Bute.  There is only one round of funding per year.

Applications are encouraged from community groups who meet the fund’s criteria: fairer communities, resilient communities, cleaner, greener communities and creative communities.

**Who can apply**

Constituted groups meeting the following criteria (see funder website for exclusions)

* Applicants must have an annual income of less than £150,000
* Projects must have a defined social or community purpose and be non-profit making.
* Applicants can apply for up to 100% of the total funding costs for any project / activity.
* Application must be for activities taking place from September 2025 and complete by end March 2027 and be compliant with the Equalities Act 2010.
* Applicants must be able to provide the necessary documentation (see Application for details)

**How to apply**

An application form, downloaded via the funder’s website.

**When to apply**

Deadline: midnight 26 May

**Source and more information**: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-community/communities-and-partnerships/supporting-communities-fund>

## Argyll and Bute: Ventient Energy A'Chruach Wind Farm Community Fund | £500 - >£25,000 | 5 September

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 though 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](https://funding.scot/search?geographical_areas_funded=argyll-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)

**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>

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?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>

## Cairngorms Trust - Cairngorms Community Led Vision Fund | open now

The Cairngorms Community Led Vision (CLV) Fund was established by the Cairngorms Trust and the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA).  Scottish Government community led local development (CLLD) funding supports programmes throughout Rural Scotland.  The fund aims are to deliver inclusive community-based activity in the Cairngorms National Park to meet one or more of the Scottish Government **priorities** of:

* **Tackling the climate emergency**
* **Eradicating child poverty**
* **Growing the economy**
* **Ensuring high quality and sustainable public services**

This year our funding is focussed on Capital projects, with limited revenue support available. Considering the priorities listed above, the Cairngorms CLV Fund is inviting projects to complete an Expression of Interest form with details of Capital projects that you wish to deliver in the next financial year (April 2025 to March 2026).

The fund will seek to support projects and actions that are not supported from other existing national programme funds or financial allocations. Where a project is supported by such funds, we will consider a grant that supports additionality that is not covered by the other funding on offer.

 All projects will need to be completed **by 22nd March 2026**.

**Who can apply**

Cairngorms CLV encourages applications from **businesses (micro & small enterprises) and groups** for projects that will deliver for the communities of the Cairngorms National Park.  Where possible projects will be encouraged to work in partnership with others to deliver their projects.

**How to apply**

Complete an expression of interest form and contact the funders with any queries.

Source and more information: <https://cairngormstrust.org.uk/apply-for-funding/community-led-vision-fund-2025-2026/>

## 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/](http://www.cnsf.org.uk/)

## Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust | max £15,000 | open now

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.

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 notfor-private-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 | 30 September

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](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/camster)

## 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/](http://www.dhet.org/grants/)

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?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](https://funding.scot/search?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 City Heritage Trust - Historic Environment Grants | £5K - £100K | 16 July (multiple deadlines)

We fund projects which are clearly focused on Glasgow’s built heritage – our historic buildings and places. Our grants programme focusses on the cultural heritage of places, and is a combination of physical things (tangible) and those aspects we cannot see – stories, traditions and concepts (intangible).

As a guide, this could include:

* historic buildings, places and environments
* people’s memories and experiences
* cultural traditions (for example, stories, festivals, skills)
* histories of people and communities or places and events

Funded projects have included building repairs, exhibitions, traditional skills training, events, publications, research projects, and community workshops.

**Fund award amounts**

Micro Grants (up to £5,000)
Standard Grants (£5,001 to £24,999)
Large Grants (over £25,000, usually to a maximum of £100k)

**Who can apply**

Any person or organisation with the exception of local authorities, public bodies and active places of worship. See funder guidance notes for more information.

Grants are only available for projects that are being carried out within Glasgow City Council’s boundaries.

**When to Apply**

Upcoming deadlines:

Wednesday 16 July 2025

Wednesday 15 October 2025

Wednesday 21 January 2026

**How to apply**

You submit an enquiry to the funder’s website. They will respond within 21 days and may ask for more information, before inviting you to make a full application if your project is eligible.

**Source and more information**: <https://www.glasgowheritage.org.uk/grants/>

## 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](https://funding.scot/search?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/](http://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/](http://www.airdiscountscheme.com/)

## Highlands and North East: Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation | £100 - £25,000 | 25 July (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/>

## 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/](http://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](https://funding.scot/search?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](http://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/](http://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](http://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](https://funding.scot/search?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](http://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/](http://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 Eilean Siar 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>