

STP Funding Finder March 2024

Welcome to Scotland's Towns Partnership's Funding Finder for March 2024. 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](#).

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

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

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

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

1) Regeneration

SUEZ Communities Trust – Scottish Landfill Communities Fund | £3,000 - £50,000 | 3 April 2024, 7 August 2024

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 3 April 2024, decision by end of June 2024

The following closing date is 7 August 2024, decision by end of October 2024

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

The Steel Charitable Trust | max £25,000 | 11 April (quarterly rounds)

The Trustees prefer applications to fall into one of the five core categories below, although applications that fall outside these will be considered in exceptional circumstances:

- Arts and Heritage
- Economic or social disadvantage
- Education
- Environment
- Health

There are no focus areas within the categories of Arts and Heritage, Education or Environment.

Applications for the Health category, must have a focus on one of the following:

- programmes and activities that aim to support, maintain and improve mental health in any demographic
- health care for older people

Applications for the Social or Economic Disadvantage category, must have a focus on one of the following:

- disadvantaged children
- housing and homeless people

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Minimum:

£2,500

Maximum:

£25,000

Annually awarded:

£49,963

Notes on award amounts:

Annual total for Scotland from 2022 accounts. They made 3 grants in Scotland. Total grant giving across the UK was £1,196,959.

Who can apply

Charities registered in any part of the United Kingdom.

Minimum annual income:

£50,000

When to apply

Applications can be made at any time. Applications are normally considered according to the timescales shown:

- 21 October - 15 January (12 noon on 11 January in 2024) (reviewed mid-March for decisions early April)
- 16 January - 15 April (reviewed mid-June for decisions early July)
- 16 April - 15 July (reviewed mid-September for decisions early October)
- 16 July - 15 October (12 noon on 11 October in 2023) (reviewed mid-December for decisions early January)

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: <http://www.steelcharitabletrust.org.uk/>

FCC Scottish Action Fund | £2,000 - £40,000 | 5 June 2024

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

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

historic or architectural or archaeological interest and is open to the public.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£2,000

Maximum:

£40,000

Notes on award amounts:

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

Who can apply

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

When to apply

Future rounds:

- Opens 20 March 2024 and closes at 5m on 5 June 2024. Decisions will be made by the Board in September 2024.
- Opens 18 September 2024 and closes at 5pm on 4 December 2024. Decisions will be made by the Board in March 2025.

How to apply

Apply online via the FCC Communities Foundation website.

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: UK

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

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

When to apply

There are two funding rounds each year:

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

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

How to apply:

Online via the Foundation's website.

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

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

Dalrymple Donaldson Fund | max £5,000 | 31 October 2024 (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 2024

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 2025 (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/

HIE - Cycling Tourism Facilities Fund | max £25,000 | currently paused

WHAT IS IT?

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

WHAT CAN THE FUNDING BE USED FOR?

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

Examples of eligible projects include:

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

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

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

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

WHAT CAN THE FUNDING NOT BE USED FOR?

The funding cannot be used to:

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

HOW MUCH CAN I APPLY FOR?

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

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

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

HOW DO I APPLY?

Please complete the [enquiry form](#) to enquire about the Cycling Tourism Facilities Fund.

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

Valencia Communities Fund | max £25,000 | open now

Valencia Communities Fund supports community, heritage and biodiversity projects located within 10 miles of any active landfill site or transfer station accepting 2,500 tonnes of waste.

Applications to Valencia Communities Fund must be for distinct, whole projects and may be part of a phase of works of a larger project of no more than £100,000. Who can apply

Any organisation or group which is properly constituted and is not-for-profit can apply.

When to apply

There is no specific date for submission of a Stage 1 enquiry.

How to apply

Download and carefully read our Scottish Landfill Communities Fund guidance notes.

Access our online application system and complete the Stage One Application Form. You will receive a response within five working days confirming whether your project meets Valencia Communities Fund's eligibility criteria.

Once you have received confirmation of eligibility from Valencia Communities Fund, please read the Guidance Notes for Applicants prior to completing Stage Two of the online application form. The Stage Two application must be received by the closing date to be considered for the next meeting.

More information: <https://www.valenciacommunitiesfund.co.uk/scottish-landfill-communities-fund>

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/

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/

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/

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/

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/

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

War Memorials Trust (WMT) raises funds to support grants to war memorials. The fund seeks to facilitate repair and conservation works through its grants and act as a catalyst for action. It promotes current best conservation practice. This is a key principle at the heart of the scheme to ensure no works are damaging to a memorial and ensure it is maintained for future generations. Some works may be

considered to be outside the scope of funding if funds become limited but this does not mean they necessarily contravene conservation principles.

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland UK

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

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

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

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

Exclusions:

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

More information: www.warmemorials.org/wmt/

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

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

Projects should focus on:

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

Regeneration Capital Grant Fund Investment Panel.

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

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>

2) Environment

NatureScot - Nature Restoration Fund | max £250,000 | 25 April

Funded by The Scottish Government, The Nature Restoration Fund encourages applicants with projects that restore wildlife and habitats on land and sea and address the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change.

The Fund will support a mix of urban and rural-focused projects, such as improving greenspace for outdoor learning, green active travel routes, planting of wildlife corridors and natural flood management.

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£25,000

Maximum:

£250,000

Notes on award amounts:

They invite projects requesting a grant of £25,000 to £250,000 to be delivered over a maximum of 2 years, although projects delivering over a single financial year are welcome.

When to apply

You can submit an expression of interest at any time. They recommend submitting your EOI well in advance on the deadline dates.

Application deadlines are 12 noon on:

- 29 January 2024 for a decision in late April/early May
- 25 April 2024 for a decision in July
- 12 August 2024 for a decision in November

Next deadline: 29 Jan 2024

How to apply

An expression of interest form can be found on the NatureScot website. Stage two is a full application if invited.

More information: <https://www.nature.scot/scottish-government-nature-restoration-fund>

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

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

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type**Type of funding:**

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Fund award sizes**Maximum:**

£5,000

Annually awarded:

£25,000

Who can apply

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

How to apply

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

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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>

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

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

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

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

Scottish Communities Climate Action Network (SCCAN): Pockets and Prospects Grants | £250 - £1,000 | open now

'Pockets and Prospects' grants to Scottish Communities Climate Action Network (SCCAN) member organisations are intended to help you to reach out and engage more widely across your community, to initiate collaboration and joining up of climate activity with wider issues of inequality and disadvantage such as food/fuel poverty, climate justice etc.

The funding comes from the Scottish Government via the Scottish Community Alliance.

In your application, please ensure you provide the name of SCCAN Member Organisation, Contact Name and full contact details along with summary budget – between £250 and £1,000 – for the activities, and a short (one page) description of what the grant will enable you to do.

Please include a description of your current activities/approach and how the grant will change this and how you will monitor and evaluate the quantitative and qualitative impact of the proposed activity.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of funding:

Grant, Staff time, Equipment

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£250

Maximum:

£1,000

Who can apply

Members of Scottish Communities Climate Action Network (SCCAN) can apply.

Membership of Scottish Communities Climate Action Network is free and open to all Scottish community groups, other organisations and networks that support community-led climate action and to individuals.

For more info on how to become a member of SCCAN please see their website.

When to apply

Applications can be submitted at any time. Funds will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

How to apply

Applications should be submitted in writing on less than two sides of A4 and sent via email to johanna@sccan.scot

More information: <https://sccan.scot/blog/pockets-and-prospects-funding/>

3) Energy

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

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

- heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades: from single improvements to controls to complete system replacement
- lighting systems: fitting and controls
- building fabric: including insulation, draft-proofing, double and secondary glazing
- water saving: be it installing a grey water system, harvesting rain water or sampling installing water efficient taps
- waste reduction: installation of equipment to improve handling and reduce waste at source

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

More information: www.businessenergyscotland.org/smelan/

Local Energy Scotland - Community Heat Development Programme | guidance | open now

The Community Heat Development Programme works with eligible community organisations and groups of householders to help develop their ideas for locally-generated, low and zero carbon heat project ideas. Successful applicants will receive technical support to appraise the feasibility of their project.

The programme can support a range of ideas from local communities, which may include communal heating systems where homes share a source of heat, as well as initiatives that utilise community action to make it easier to install individual heating systems. For examples of the types of projects that can be supported, see the Local Energy Scotland website.

The programme won't pay to install renewable technologies or energy efficiency measures in homes. Instead, expert advisors will work with successful applicants to consider the feasibility of your community heat project idea and will give advice on next steps, including any potential routes for further funding.

When to apply

Initial enquiry forms can be submitted at any time.

How to apply

Complete the online enquiry form on the Local Energy Scotland website:

<https://localenergy.scot/funding/community-heat-development-programme/>

If you are invited to apply you will be sent an application form to complete. Successful applicants will be supported to carry out a feasibility study and guided on the next steps.

Local Energy Scotland - Let's Do Net Zero Community Buildings | max £80,000 | open now

The Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) is here to support communities to engage with, participate in and benefit from the energy transition to net zero emissions. The Fund will help community organisations reduce their building energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

Funding is available for many types of community buildings, including:

- community cafes
- community hubs
- faith buildings

- public halls
- community halls and centres

CARES supports communities to engage, participate and benefit in the energy transition to net zero.

They will support projects that:

- accelerate the uptake of community and locally owned renewable energy, to meet Scotland's 2030 2GW ambition
- support community involvement in local energy systems that lead to new installations of locally owned renewable energy generation
- support shared ownership projects (where a community group invests in a commercial renewable energy project)
- assist communities to maximise the impact from community benefit funds through community consultation, action planning and good governance

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Notes on award amounts: Grant funding is available for up to 80% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £80,000.

Who can apply: Applicants must be constituted non-profit distributing community organisations, including organisations with charitable status, that are established and operating across a geographically defined community ('local community organisations') or faith groups.

When to apply: The fund is planned to run until the end of March 2025, subject to funding availability.

How to apply: Apply online via the Local Energy Scotland website. You should get an energy audit from Business Energy Scotland, an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) or a feasibility study to justify your choice of technology. Full details are available in the fund guidelines.

Exclusions: The building must be owned or leased by the applicant and must be used by the local community or a charitable organisation.

More information: www.localenergy.scot/funding/lets-do-net-zero-community-buildings-fund/

Local Energy Scotland - CARES Enablement Grant | up to £25,000 | open now

CARES provides grant funding to help towards start-up costs of feasibility studies, community consultation and other preparatory costs of community renewable energy projects.

It could be used to look at what is feasible in your area, learn what other groups have undertaken, or develop a plan for a community benefit income stream from a local renewable energy project. These should be early stage activities without which the installations would not be able to go ahead.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Eligible community organisations include: community groups including community councils, community development trusts and community associations; national or regional non-profit organisations with charitable aims and objectives; Societies for the Benefit of the Community (BenComm); bona-fide co-operatives; Housing Associations; Local Authorities.

Non-constituted groups can apply to the fund for the start-up costs to become constituted.

How to apply: Application form and guidance on the funder website.

More information: <https://www.localenergy.scot/funding/cares-enablement-grant/>

Local Energy Scotland - CARES Development Support and Funding

The Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) supports communities to engage with, participate in and benefit from the energy transition to net zero emissions.

CARES can support a wide range of projects including installing renewable technologies in community buildings, community benefits and shared ownership. They also provide a package of support and to make it as easy as possible for you to deliver your project. For example, if you want to complete a technical feasibility study they can assign a consultant who will complete this task for you.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of funding:

Grant, Other resources

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Who can apply

Applicants must be constituted non-profit distributing community organisations, including organisations with charitable status, that are established and operating across a geographically defined community or faith groups.

When to apply

Contact Local Energy Scotland to discuss your project at any time.

How to apply

Complete an application form on the CARES website, or contact your local development office for more help. Details of local officers are available on the CARES website.

More information: <https://localenergy.scot/funding/>

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

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

Applications can be accepted from charities, community groups, businesses or individuals, provided they can demonstrate that the expected outcomes contribute to the Pebble Trust's vision, meet the

charitable objectives and will benefit the wider community.

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

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

4) Healthy Towns

sportscotland - Sport Facilities Fund | £10,000 - £100,000 | 1 April 2024 (two calls per year)

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

- new, upgraded or extended sports facilities; Inclusive changing facilities
- facilities that provide or improve access for outdoor sport and adventure activities
- floodlights that increase capacity at appropriate sports facilities
- major items of sports equipment

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

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

with a total project value over £250,000 (including VAT).

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

Note 01/04/2024: website appears not to be loading. If interested in this fund, check back or contact the fund administrators to see if the issue has been resolved.

sportscotland - The Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund | max £1,250,000 | 1 June 2024 (quarterly 2024)

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

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of funding:

Grant, Loan

Maximum:

£1,250,000

Notes on award amounts:

Priority will initially be given to projects which involve a minimum of 3 indoor courts and funding of up to 66% project costs is available up to a maximum of £250,000 per court.

Who can apply

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

When to apply

The fund will be delivered through a series of funding rounds each year. Annual funding application submission dates are 1 March, 1 June, 1 September and 1 December.

Next deadline: 1 Mar 2024

How to apply

Application form available on the sportscotland website.

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

Note 01/04/2024: website appears not to be loading. If interested in this fund, check back or contact the fund administrators to see if the issue has been resolved.

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Type of cost:

Revenue

Annually awarded:

£15,000,000

When to apply

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

How to apply

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

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

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

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

Grant size: Up to £1,800

Application: Ongoing with no deadline date.

Our funding can be used to:

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

How to apply

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

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

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

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

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

Training

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

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

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

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

Funds are focused on capital improvements that seek to support the development or improvement of facilities that will enable more people to cycle. Capital costs are generally assets, such as bikes, equipment, tools etc. Proposals for complementary activities to support behaviour change may be considered where there is a direct link to capital elements, e.g. bike maintenance training in conjunction with procurement of maintenance equipment.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

When to apply: Applications are open now.

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

Exclusions:

- Retrospective costs
- Improvements or works which are already scheduled under a separate commitment i.e. as condition of planning approval

- Maintenance and running costs of existing projects or services
- Staff costs / salaries
- Political campaigning or activities
- Activities promoting specific religious/other beliefs
- Loan repayments
- Projects that are designed to further the business interests of the organisation

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

Sustrans – Places for Everyone | 100% Design and 70% Construction Costs | annual

Places for Everyone is Sustrans' permanent infrastructure fund for Scotland. Supported by Transport Scotland, they provide funding and expertise to help deliver walking, wheeling and cycling improvements across the country.

They currently have more than 200 projects at various stages of development, ranging from multi-million pound transformations in Scotland's cities to new walking routes between some of Scotland's smallest communities.

Check the criteria on the fund webpage needed to see if you're eligible:

- Ability to manage long-term financial obligations
- Possession of Public Liability Insurance
- Support from relevant local authority
- Understanding of CDM regulations

More information

For more information and to submit an Expression of Interest, visit: <https://www.showcase-sustrans.org.uk/places-for-everyone/>

The Sportsman's Charity | £30,000 annually | open now

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

When to apply: Apply at any time.

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

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

More information: www.sportsmanscharity.com/page.php?page=113

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

How to apply: Apply online via the Trust website.

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

More information: www.thescottishfootballpartnership.com/how-to-apply/

Barclays Community Football Fund | £500 | open now

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

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

Geographical areas funded: UK

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

account in the name of your organisation.

When to apply: Applications are open now.

How to apply: Apply online via the Sported website.

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

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland UK

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

When to apply: Nominations are now open.

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

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What type of projects will be funded?

The fund supports path management projects that:

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

Who can apply?

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

Grant value

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

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

Technical Advice

Technical expertise is included within the IFPF team.

We can provide advice and guidance on:

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

Application

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Applications

The 2023/2024 round of the Open Fund is open for applications from 6 June 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Dumfries & Galloway

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

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

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

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

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

NESTRANS – Sustainable Travel Grants £500 - £10,000 | open now

The North East Scotland Transport Partnership (Nestrans) operates a Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme (STGS) to support and encourage Travel Planning and increasing sustainable travel throughout the North East of Scotland.

The scheme provides financial assistance to organisations investing in measures aimed at encouraging sustainable travel, such as increasing travel to work by public transport, cycling and walking, low emission vehicles and reducing the need to travel.

Geographical areas funded: Aberdeen Aberdeenshire

Notes on award amounts: The applicant will be responsible for securing the remaining 50% match funding, which should include a contribution directly from the applicant and may not come wholly from another grant scheme.

Who can apply: Any organisation based in Aberdeen or Aberdeenshire can apply. Applications can be made on behalf of:

- any business or other organisation, including charities, not for profit and public sector agencies
- a specific workplace or section within such a business or other organisation
- commercial or public service premises (not a private residence) currently attracting visitors or customers by car
- Exclusions: Grants are not available to enable organisations to comply with conditions of planning permission or legal agreements which require them to implement such measures

When to apply: apply at any time.

How to apply: Apply online via the funder website.

More information: www.nestrans.org.uk/funding/

Bruce Wake Charitable Trust | N/A | open now

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

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

Geographical areas funded: UK

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

More information: <http://brucewaketrust.co.uk/index.php/grants/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Peter Harrison Foundation – Opportunities through Sport | av. £15.500 | open now

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

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

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

Exclusions: Requests for retrospective funding; activities that are primarily the responsibility of central or local government; individuals; overseas projects; adventure challenges or expeditions in the uk or abroad; projects that are solely for the promotion of religion

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

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

5) Culture and Arts

The William Syson Foundation - Small Grants Fund | max £4,000 | 26 April, 23 September

The organisation's objectives are:

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

Applications can be submitted for support for core costs and arts-related projects. Previous categories of awards have included; Music, Combined Arts, Drama & Theatre, Arts, Film, Dance, Literature and Sculpture.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£4,000

Annually awarded:

£350,000

Notes on award amounts:

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

Who can apply

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

Maximum annual income:

£500,000

When to apply

The open window periods for Small Grants Fund Rounds in 2024 are:

- 15 - 26 April 2024
- 23 September - 4 October 2024

Applications received outwith these dates will not be considered.

Next deadline: 26 Apr 2024

How to apply

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

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

Barrack Charitable Trust | £500 - £5,000 | 30 April

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

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

Who can apply

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

When to apply

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

How to apply

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

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

The Golsoncott Foundation | max £3,000 | 4 May (quarterly rounds)

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

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£3,000

Annually awarded:

£82,000

Notes on award amounts:

Annual total and average from 2023 accounts.

Who can apply

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

When to apply

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

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

Next deadline: 4 May 2024

How to apply

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

Scops Arts Trust | max £30,000 | 14 May, 27 August

Summary

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: UK

Fund award sizes

Maximum:

£30,000

Notes on award amounts:

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

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

Who can apply

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

When to apply

2024 rounds and priorities are:

- 9 January for decisions by 30 April: Focus on music performances at regional arts festivals plus children's music education
- 14 May for decisions by 7 August: Focus on adult music education projects plus children's music education
- 27 August for decisions by 30 November: Focus on instrumental and choral music groups plus children's music education

Applications for children's music education projects will be considered at every round.

How to apply

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

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

Lady Eda Jardine Charitable Trust | 20 September

The trustees invite applications for grants supporting a specific category each year. The categories are as follows:

- 2024: The Arts
- 2025: Health and Disabled
- 2026: Children and Youth
- 2027: Conservation and the Environment.

Please note that the trustees are unlikely to consider applications made out with that year's category.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue

Fund award sizes

Annually awarded:

£60,000

Who can apply

Only charitable bodies registered in Scotland.

When to apply

The deadline is 20 September each year for consideration at the trustees' annual meeting in November.

Successful applicants should hear from the secretaries before the end of that year.

No responses are made to unsuccessful applicants.

Next deadline: 20 Sep 2024

How to apply

Applications should be submitted via email to Anderson Strathern. There is no specific format but details of why an award is being sought, what the funds are to be used for and the impact this may have should be given along with supporting documents such as the most recent accounts.

More information: caroline.pringle@andersonstrathern.co.uk

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

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

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

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

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

Culture & Business Fund Scotland | max £14,000 | currently closed (check website)

The Culture & Business Fund Scotland promotes collaboration between Scottish businesses and arts and heritage organisations to deliver new arts and heritage projects. The fund can provide match-funding of the value of the business sponsorship.

The aims of the fund are to:

- support culture and business organisations to come together to build new cross-sector partnerships or cement existing ones with continued support;
- encourage and support businesses that are not yet involved in sponsoring or investing in cultural activities in Scotland to do so;
- encourage and enable businesses who are already involved in sponsorship or investment to continue this involvement with existing and/or new culture sector partners; and
- attract non-Scottish based organisations in the business sector to sponsor arts and heritage activities in Scotland

Who can apply

Any arts or heritage organisation based in Scotland can apply as the lead applicant. However, profit making arts and heritage organisations must evidence the project to be of community benefit to be eligible. The applying organisation must be properly constituted and hold a company bank account.

When to apply

Applications for match funding of between £3,000 and £14,000 must be submitted at least two months before but no more than six months before the sponsored activity and proposed match-funded activity begin.

Fast-track applications for match funding of between £1,000 and £3,000 may be submitted and considered one month (but again no more than six months) before the start date of sponsored and match-funded activities.

How to apply

Online via the Culture & Business Fund Scotland website. There are two application forms, a fast-track form for under £3,000 and another for over £3,000.

More information: <https://www.cultureandbusiness.scot/cbs-fund-2/>

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund award sizes

Minimum:£200

Maximum:£1,000

Who can apply

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

When to apply

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

How to apply

Application form and guidance on the Film Hub Scotland website.

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

Creative Scotland - National Lottery Open Fund for Organisations £1,000 - £100,000 |open now

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

The fund will be assessed against six key criteria:

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Exclusions:

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

See the fund guidelines for full details.

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

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/

Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) – Small Gaelic Projects | N/A | open now

The fund is to support small, local projects in all the communities of the Western Isles, which support and promote the use of Gaelic in those communities. This support is a crucial aspect of the Gaelic Language Plan for the Western Isles 2007-2012, in which there are contained three Strategic Objectives:

- To strengthen Gaelic as a language in the family in the Western Isles
- To strengthen Gaelic as a community language in the Western Isles
- To increase the number of Gaelic speakers in the Western Isles

Geographical areas funded: Nan-Eilean Siar

Who can apply: Applicants may be constituted community groups, unincorporated associations, limited companies, co-operatives or partnerships and must be based in the Western Isles.

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 Council Website

More information: <https://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/leisure-sport-and-culture/gaelic-language-and-culture/sgioba-na-gaidhlig/financial-support-for-small-gaelic-projects/>

Note 27/11/23: access to Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar's main website is currently blocked due to a cyber-crime incident. More information and interim website here: <https://cne-siar.gov.uk/>

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Glasgow

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

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

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

More information: www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18294

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

The Arts & Culture Impact Fund is a new £20 million 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: Contact Seva Phillips seva.phillips@nesta.org.uk

More information: <https://www.artsculturefinance.org/our-funds/arts-culture-impact-fund/>

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

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

Who can apply: Museums, galleries, specialist libraries and archives in Scotland are eligible to apply provided they are open to the public and not run for profit. Museums and galleries must be accredited under the Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation Scheme, managed in partnership with Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS).

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

More information: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/about-us/services-and-expertise/national-fund-for-acquisitions/>

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

More information: www.nms.ac.uk/about-us/our-services/national-fund-for-acquisitions/nfa-special-funding-scheme-202122/

National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) | N/A

This scheme can help buy anything which is of outstanding importance to the national heritage and either at risk or of memorial character. For example: works of fine and decorative art; museum

collections; archives; manuscripts; items of transport and industrial history, historic buildings and land. In exceptional circumstances, NHMF can fund emergency repairs when a heritage asset (excluding historic buildings and structures) is at imminent risk of irreparable damage. NHMF can help fund heritage projects of all sizes. Charities (voluntary and public), not-for-profit organisations and public bodies can apply through the online portal on the website with limit on the percentage of funding essential to the project.

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

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

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

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

6) Employment and Training

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

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

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

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

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

HOW WILL MY BUSINESS BENEFIT?

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

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

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

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

ELIGIBILITY

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

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

I'M AN EMPLOYER, HOW DO I APPLY?

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

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

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

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

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

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/>

Employability Fund (VASLan) | £2,000 - £20,000 | (applications currently paused)

The Employability Fund is being distributed by VASLan on behalf of UK Government and is funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The overall aim of the fund is to strengthen capacity of community-based employability support for individuals.

For full guidance, visit the VASLan website.

Your project should fit with one or more essential priorities:

- People taking part in work experience programs. An example could be organisations supporting people in job-searching activities i.e. identifying volunteering options, any other work experience programs.
- People engaged in job-searching following support, for example organizations supporting people in job-searching activities i.e. job clubs, identifying skills, writing CVs, identifying volunteering or training options.
- People in employment, including self-employment, following support, i.e. when organisation is offering advice- how to find job and matching with current skills, advice or working in partnership on self-employment.
- People in education/training in order to gain skills needed to employment in the future i.e. volunteers identifying education destination as a result of support during volunteering experience, staff in particular roles looking to enhance their skills in order to support individuals better.
- People experiencing reduced structural barriers into employment and into skills provision, i.e. when organisation is helping with project like mentorship for people with low self- confidence and mental health barrier which previously stopped them from employment, supported employment options etc.

Geographical areas funded: [South Lanarkshire](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Fund award sizes

Notes on award amounts:

- Micro Grants: Up to £2,000 aimed at un-constituted organisations.
- Small Grants: Up to £10,000
- Main Grant: £10,001 – £20,000
-

Who can apply

Your organisation must have achieved Volunteer Friendly / Investing in Volunteers accreditation or already signed up for the Quality Standard process. You should be a VASLAN member and be contributing to employability provision.

They would prefer that the annual income of your organisation does not exceed £ 1 million. If you don't have a written governing document, you can apply for grant funding up to a maximum of £2,000 but only where you are working in partnership with either a community council or an established, incorporated or constituted organisation that is willing to hold the funding on your behalf.

Maximum annual income:

£1,000,000

When to apply

Apply as soon as possible.

Applications close at 12 noon on 6 October 2024, however the fund may close early if funds are exhausted.

How to apply

The first stage is to complete an Expression of Interest form which can be found on the VASLAN website. If your project meets the criteria you will receive a link to complete the full application.

More information: <https://www.vaslan.org.uk/employability>

RBS Social & Community Capital - Community Business Loan | £30,000 - £750,000 | [open now](#)

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

and/or the environment.

The three main areas they look to support are:

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

Who can apply

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

When to apply

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

How to apply

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

More information: enquiries@blackadders.co.uk

BairdWatson Charitable Trust | £2,000 - £20,000 | open – contact to discuss

The Trust provides grants to registered charities in Scotland for work relating to training for employment, employment support and vocational skills. It is particularly interested in employment and skills training for young people who are unemployed, and in re-training and support for unemployed people to get them back into work.

The Trustees have particular regard to the needs of the communities in Ayr or Airdrie in Scotland and West Bengal, particularly Darjeeling, in India.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland, Worldwide, South Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire

Minimum: £2,000 Maximum: £20,000

Who can apply

The Trustees will consider applications from charities registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. The Trust may also consider applications from social enterprises and similar organisations for work which is charitable in nature. The Trust will, in some instances, fund individuals and overseas work particularly in the Darjeeling area of West Bengal, India.

How to apply

The application form is on the Trust's website but you should discuss a project with the assessor before making an application.

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

7) Innovation and Growth

Argyll and Bute Innovation Fund | up to £10,000 | open now

WHAT IS IT?

Our Innovation Argyll and Bute fund offers businesses and social enterprises grants of up to £10,000 towards innovation and R&D projects.

The fund will prioritise projects that contribute towards productivity and lowering carbon emissions e.g. production of low carbon goods, developing environmental services and climate resilience.

WHAT CAN THE FUNDING BE USED FOR?

Funding can be allocated towards, for example:

- prototype development
- research and development costs e.g. with suppliers and/or customer base
- compliance testing
- equipment and material costs
- consultancy and specialists e.g. technical experts
- costs relating to intellectual property matters
- development of your business model
- collaboration costs

- legal or other fees associated with contracts to protect and exploit IP, Know-How etc.

Businesses and social enterprises can apply for 100% grants of up to £5,000 or 50% grants of up to £10,000. This is for activity such as productivity improvements, prototype research and development, compliance testing, equipment and material costs, consultants and specialists, and costs relating to intellectual property matters.

HOW MUCH CAN I APPLY FOR?

Applicants can apply for 100% funding towards projects up to £5,000.

Applicants can apply for 50% of costs for projects up to £10,000.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Small or medium sized enterprises (as defined in [Companies Act 2006 section 382](#) and [Companies Act 2006 section 465](#)) and social enterprises are eligible to apply.
- Applicants must be based in the Argyll and Bute area.
- Applicants must comply with HIE's fair work conditionality for grant support. For more information, please visit our [Fair Work web page](#). If you want to speak to someone about the fair work requirement or need more information, please email enquiries@hient.co.uk

WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE?

- Large enterprises according to the Companies Act 2006, as defined above, are not eligible to apply.
- Businesses or social enterprises located out with the Argyll and Bute area are not eligible to apply.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

Please complete our online enquiry form for further information.

All allocated funding must be fully spent by March 2025.

THE SMALL PRINT – THIS IS IMPORTANT

- All HIE grant assistance is discretionary.
- Grant awards are subject to due diligence and budget availability. Due diligence includes: making an assessment on the need for public funding; the viability of the business going forward; the ability of the applicant to deliver the project; the impact of the development on the economy, and the strength of the business case presented to HIE.
- Making an application to the fund does not guarantee that your application will be successful. If you are not successful in your application or you are only partially successful e.g. you receive funding of a lesser amount than you applied for, we will arrange a call with you to let you know why you have been unsuccessful and point you in the direction of other possible sources of funding.

- There is no appeals process. We are unable to consider a complaint purely relating to dissatisfaction as to the outcome of a funding decision. However, if you have identified a specific process failure relating to your application, then you may wish to make a formal complaint. See our formal [complaints process](#) for more information.

The Fore Trust | max £30,000 | current window 25 March – 4 April 2024

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

The Autumn 2023 round will open at 12 noon on 12 July and close at 12 noon on 19 July.

On 20 July, applicants will receive confirmation if they have been allocated a place on the funding round. Details of how to apply will be included. If there are more applicants registered than places available, places will be allocated at random.

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/>

Growth Impact Fund | £50,000 - £1.5m | any time

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: www.growthimpactfund.org.uk/

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

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

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

Firstport- Launch Me | N/A | any time

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

As a LaunchMe participant, you can expect the following:

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

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

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

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

How to apply: Apply online via the Firstport website

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

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

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

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

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

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

Eligibility

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

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

You need to show that your business:

- is viable
- is not in difficulty
-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Business Finance

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

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

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

Scottish Microfinance Fund (SMF)

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

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

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

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

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

Provides loans that will help to create jobs or bring wider economic, social or environmental benefit. Loans are tailored to your organisation and can cover a wide range of needs, including:

- Refinance
- Property purchase
- Property refurbishment
- Business acquisition

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

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

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

Business Loans Scotland (Scottish Growth Scheme) | £25,000 - £100,000 | open now

Business Loans Scotland (BLS) is the Fund Manager for an £15 million loan fund, which seeks to invest in new and growing Scottish SMEs. Business Loans Scotland is also the trading name of the Scottish Growth Scheme - Business Loans Scotland Debt Finance LP (SL033447) and is fully financed by the

Scottish Government through the Scottish Growth Scheme.

BLS aims to ensure that good, commercially viable proposals do not fail from a lack of access to finance. Additionally, they want to support and encourage the creation, development and growth of Scottish businesses, helping them to trade regionally, nationally and internationally.

Who can apply

Applications of up to £100k are welcomed from limited companies, social enterprises and partnerships (including LLPs) of 4 or more partners. They can also support sole traders and partnerships of 3 or fewer partners with loans greater than £25k.

When to apply

Loan applications can be made at any time.

How to apply

Enquiry form on the Business Loans Scotland website.

More information: <https://www.bls.scot/>

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/>

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/economic-development-and-business-support/business-gateway/assistance-available/micro-business-loan/>

Note 27/11/23: access to Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar's main website is currently blocked due to a cyber-crime incident. More information and interim website here: <https://cne-siar.gov.uk/>

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/economic-development-and-business-support/business-gateway/assistance-available/business-loan/>

Note 27/11/23: access to Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar's main website is currently blocked due to a cyber-crime incident. More information and interim website here: <https://cne-siar.gov.uk/>

8) Community Funding – All Scotland Funds

Note upcoming changes to National Lottery Community Fund programmes

In preparation for their new strategy and programmes that are due to open later in the year, the National Lottery Community Fund is closing three of their existing funds. **Community Led, Improving Lives** and **Cost-of-Living Support Scotland** will close to applications at **noon on 21 August 2024**.

If you are planning to apply to one of these funds but yet spoken to the team at the Lottery, you should contact them at advicescotland@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk or **0300 123 7110** as soon as possible.

Young Start, National Lottery Awards for All and the **Scottish Land Fund** will all remain open to applications with no closing date.

[For more information about the changes, visit the National Lottery Community Fund Scotland blog.](#)

UK Community Ownership Fund – Round 4 | max £2 million | open now: next round 10th April

The Community Ownership Fund is a £150 million fund over 4 years to support community groups across England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets which are at risk of being lost to the community.

It forms part of a substantial package of UK wide levelling-up interventions building opportunity and empowering communities to improve their local places.

The Community Ownership Fund will help support local people to save local community assets at risk.

The Fund supports projects which fulfil one or a combination of the following aims. All of these are taken in context of saving an asset with the goal of community use:

- take ownership of a physical community asset at risk, such as land and buildings, which benefit local people
- renovate, repair, or refurbish an asset to make it sustainable for the long term
- set up or buy a community business
- buy associated stock, collections, or intellectual property
- move a community asset to a new, more appropriate location within the same community. This might be because a different location offers better value to continue the asset, or because the venue is in itself an asset of community value.

Key dates to note:

Round 4 is the final round of the fund. There will be two bidding windows in which applicants will be able to submit an application:

Round 4 Window 1: Opens 25 March 2024 and closes 10 April 2024.

Round 4 Window 2: Opens late May.

Next deadline: 10 Apr 2024

For current bidding window dates please see the [prospectus](#).

For more information, eligibility and how to apply see: <https://www.find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/grants/the-community-ownership-fund-1#eligibility>

Or: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/new-levelling-up-and-community-investments#the-community-ownership-fund>

Ethnic Minority Development Fund | max £15,000 | 15 April

The Ethnic Minority Development Fund (EMDF) is available to any ethnic minority-led voluntary or community organisation in Scotland. The EMDF has been developed in partnership between CEMVO Scotland and The National Lottery Community Fund.

Organisations interested in applying to the EMDF will be required to submit an application that must do at least one of the following:

- Bring ethnic minority people together and build strong relationships across communities.
- Help more ethnic minority people to be the best they can be, by supporting them as soon as possible.
- Improve places and spaces that matter to ethnic minority communities.

Organisations can apply for a minimum of £500 up to a maximum of £15,000 for their project idea.

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£500

Maximum:

£15,000

Annually awarded:

£400,000

Who can apply

You can apply if your organisation is a:

- Unregistered voluntary or community organisation
- Not for profit company
- Registered charity (unincorporated)
- Charitable incorporated organisation (SCIO)
- Community interest company (CIC)
- Faith based group (like a mosque, gurdwara, temple, church, synagogue etc.)

When to apply

The fund closes at 12 midnight on 15 April 2024. It takes around 18 weeks for a decision.

Next deadline: 15 Apr 2024

How to apply

Standard and easy read applications forms can be downloaded from the Cemvo Scotland website. All completed forms should be e-mailed to: emdf@cemvoscotland.org.uk or sent by post.

More information: <https://cemvoscotland.org.uk/emdf/>

The Road Safety Trust - Small Grants | £10,000 - £50,000 | 24 April

The Road Safety Trust is an independent grant-giving trust which supports projects and research that make UK roads safer for all road users - pedestrians, cyclists, mobility scooter users, car drivers, lorry and van drivers, and motorcyclists.

The main aim of the Small Grants Programme is to improve road safety at a local level. The Large Grants Programme will reopen with a specific theme.

Eligible projects are pilots/trials, expanding successful trials across a new area, and/or the evaluation of interventions. Projects should have the potential for being brought to scale - with the ultimate goal of reducing deaths and injuries both locally and across the UK.

Geographical areas funded: [UK](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Minimum:

£10,000

Maximum:

£500,000

Notes on award amounts:

- Large grants: £25,000 - £500,000
- Small grants: £10,000 - £50,000

All projects should have other sources of funding, either cash or in-kind.

Who can apply

Local Authorities, Police Forces, Fire and Rescue Services or UK-based registered charities, legally constituted not-for-profit social enterprises or community interest companies can apply.

When to apply

- Small grants: Applications close on 24 April 2024.
- Large grants: Currently closed, due to reopen Autumn 2024.

Next deadline: 24 Apr 2024

How to apply

You can apply using the online portal on the Trust's website.

More information: <https://www.roadsafetytrust.org.uk/our-grants>

Matthew Good Foundation - Grants for Good Fund | max £5,000 | 15 June (quarterly)

Since 2011, the Matthew Good Foundation has nominated good causes for funding through the John Good Group. However, in 2021 they wanted to extend their impact and allow small charities, community projects and social entrepreneurs to apply directly.

Every three months, five shortlisted projects will be voted for by John Good Group employees. These five charities will all receive a share of £15,000 – the more votes a cause receives, the bigger the donation.

They will support small organisations that have a positive impact on communities, people or the environment.

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

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Revenue

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£2,000

Maximum:

£5,000

Annually awarded:

£60,000

Notes on award amounts:

Every three months, they share £15,000 between 5 shortlisted projects. Following the vote, the project that receives the most votes will receive a grant of £5,000, second place £3,500, third place £2,500 and fourth and fifth place will both receive £2,000.

Who can apply

Your application must be on behalf of a local community group, charity, voluntary group or social enterprise that has a positive impact on communities, people or the environment and has an average income of less than £50,000 in the last 12 months.

Organisations/groups do not need to be a registered charity, however, you will need to have a bank account in your organisation's/project's name such as a community bank account.

Maximum annual income:

£50,000

When to apply

Funding will be awarded every three months, in April, July, October and January, with an application deadline of the 15th of the month before.

Next deadline: 15 Mar 2024

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, 1 October 2024

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

They support projects under the following categories:

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

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

Geographical areas funded: [Scotland](#)

Fund type

Type of funding:

Grant

Type of cost:

Capital, Revenue, Core costs

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£500

Maximum:

£25,000

Annually awarded:

£2,500,000

Notes on award amounts:

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

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

Who can apply

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

Priority will be given to charities and good causes that:

- Have an annual income under £250,000
- Support communities that rank within the top 15% on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

- Are led by and provide services for people from the following minority/marginalised groups: communities experiencing racial inequality; people with disabilities; LGBT+ community.

Maximum annual income:

£1,000,000

When to apply

Upcoming funding rounds are:

- Round 1: 25 March 9am to 1 April 12 noon.
- Round 2: 24 June 9am to 1 July 12 noon.
- Round 3: 24 September 9am to 1 October 12 noon.

Next deadline: 1 Apr 2024

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/>

The Weir Charitable Trust | £25,000 max | 30 August 2024

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

The applicant must be a community group or small charity, applying from a Scottish address, with an income of less than £125,000 a year.

The closing date for applications is twice a year at the end of February and end of August. Upcoming deadlines are 5pm on:

29 February 2024 (Outcomes advised end May 2024)

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/>

Sustrans - Love Your Network Grant Fund | closed – opens April 2024

Grants of equipment and training bundles for community groups delivering projects which will benefit people or wildlife on the traffic-free paths of the National Cycle Network in Scotland.

With a Love Your Network grant, groups can access:

- Equipment for litter picking – to transform the safety and attractiveness of your local path
- Tools for maintenance and wildlife management tasks – from shovels and brushes to clear debris, to scythes and seeds for creating and maintaining a wildflower meadow
- Workshops in wildlife identification and recording – so you can find out more about the birds, bees, butterflies, and other wildlife in your area.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

When can apply

Constituted community groups, charities and social enterprises can apply, as well as informal groups. See fund website for exclusions.

When to apply

Currently closed.

How to apply

Apply online via the Sustrans website.

More information: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/projects/2019/scotland/the-love-your-network-grant-fund-for-community-groups-in-scotland/>

National Lottery Fund (Scotland) - Cost-of-Living Support Scotland | £10,000 - £75,000 | ongoing

Grants are available for projects to help support individuals, families and communities currently experiencing hardship as a result of the cost-of-living increases. They are looking to fund activity that means people:

- have more resilience and are more able to identify ways to deal with the impact of increased cost of living in their lives
- are able to shape activity in their community to address the increased cost-of-living
- have more access to support and services that will help them to deal with the increased cost of living

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: Most organisations are eligible to apply but they are particularly keen to see applications from smaller voluntary and community organisations who are working with those most vulnerable and disproportionately affected by the increased cost of living.

How to apply: Contact the Scotland team at TNLCF to discuss your idea. A sample application form is available to download from their website.

Exclusions:

- individuals
- mainstream employability support such as job search/access
- anything you spend money on before you get a decision
- activities outside the UK
- activities that actively promote religion

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/cost-of-living-support-fund

The National Lottery Community Fund (Scotland) – Young Start | £10,000 - £100,000 | open now

Young Start is a grants programme that distributes money from dormant bank accounts. They will support a wide range of projects for up to three years that will make children and young people aged 8 to 24 confident, healthy, connected or enterprising.

They will fund work that achieves at least one of the following three outcomes:

- children and young people have better physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- children and young people have better connections with the wider community
- children and young people get access to new skills and training opportunities which will help them to get a new job or start a business

Who can apply: Third sector organisations can apply to Young Start. This includes voluntary organisations, community groups, social enterprises, housing associations, sports organisations, co-operatives and charities.

When to apply: There are no deadlines. They will make awards on a rolling basis.

How to apply: Check the Lottery website for details on eligibility and contact the National Lottery Community Fund to discuss your idea.

Exclusions:

- anything you spend money on before your activity starts
- religious or political activities
- items that mainly benefit one person
- work with people living outside Scotland
- curricular activity in schools

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/young-start

National Lottery Community Fund (Scotland) Scottish Land Fund | £10,000-£100,000 | open now

The fund will help communities take ownership of the land and buildings that matter to them, as well as practical support to develop their aspirations into viable projects. It supports communities to become more resilient and sustainable through the ownership and management of land and land assets. The Scottish Land Fund is open to organisations in both urban and rural Scotland which are community-led, community-controlled, and defined by a geographic area. The National Lottery Community Fund was previously known as the Big Lottery.

Who can apply: Applicants can be from one of a wide range of representative community bodies, including voluntary organisations, social enterprises or community councils.

How to apply: If you want to apply for funding from the Scottish Land Fund please contact them to discuss your idea. If you are eligible to apply they will give you an application form. You will have a named adviser who will support you through the application process.

Exclusions: Ineligible costs include: costs or expenditure incurred before you accept their grant offer; any costs which someone else is paying for; items that only benefit an individual and are not needed to deliver the project outcomes; funds to build up a reserve or surplus; loan repayments; contributions to general appeals.

When to apply: The current funding round closed to stage 2 applications in August 2020. The fund is still open to stage 1 applications. Stage 1 applications typically take around 6 months.

More information: <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/scottish-land-fund>

The National Lottery Community Fund (Scotland) - Community Led Activity | £10,000 - £150,000 | open now

Funding to support communities to bring real improvements to the places they live and the wellbeing of those in need. They will fund organisations to deliver work that achieves the following outcomes:

- Everyone in the community has the opportunity to influence and get involved in community led activity
- People in the community are better connected and work together to improve their wellbeing
- They also want to fund work that is people-led, connected, and strengths-based

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Who can apply: This funding is for organisations in Scotland that are based in the local area they serve and are run by local people.

Your organisation should have a governing body, such as a committee or board which includes at least three unrelated people and a written governing document, such as a constitution. This governing document should make it clear that your organisation has a social purpose, open membership and community control.

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

How to apply: Read the guidance on the funder website and then contact the Scotland Advice Team to discuss what you're planning and get an application form.

Exclusions: Retrospective costs, promoting religion, items that only benefit one person.

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/grants-for-community-led-activity

National Lottery Community Fund – National Lottery Awards for All Scotland | £300 - £10,000 | open now

National Lottery Awards for All offers funding to support what matters to people and communities. The programme is a partnership between the National Lottery Community Fund Scotland, sportscotland and Creative Scotland. It has three funding priorities:

- bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities
- improving the places and spaces that matter to communities
- enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.
- If you are applying for a project involving the arts, they will prioritise projects that: engage people from areas of high deprivation; remove financial barriers to access creative activities; address rural isolation and encourage activity in rural areas; engage older people, people in care homes and carers; engage care leavers; support integration of refugees and asylum seekers

If you are applying for a project focused on sport, they will prioritise projects that: engage young people from our most deprived areas; engage girls and young women; engage disabled young people.

Who can apply: Suitable for Voluntary or community organisations, Public sector organisations

When to apply: There are no deadlines and applications can be submitted at any time. It will take up to 12 weeks to get a decision.

How to apply: Apply online via the National Lottery Community Fund website.

Exclusions:

- alcohol
- contingency costs, loans, endowments or interest
- electricity generation and feed-in tariff payments
- political or religious activities
- profit-making/fundraising activities
- VAT you can reclaim
- statutory activities
- overseas travel

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-scotland

National Lottery Community Fund – Bringing People Together | max £300,000 | open now

Bringing People Together funding can support projects that will build stronger connections across communities, and improve the infrastructure and conditions that are needed to strengthen these connections.

They are interested in:

- bold and experimental responses to bringing people together using new, or new combinations of approaches
- new projects or projects that build on existing work
- a range of projects reflecting a mix of communities and places from across the UK

This is funding from our UK Portfolio. The UK Portfolio is where we explore new approaches, experiment with how to do things differently, and look to fund work that is more future focussed.

Notes on award amounts: You can apply for up to £300,000 in total for up to two years

Who can apply: Organisations that can deliver across at least two countries in the UK.

When to apply: Apply at any time, application deadlines are ongoing.

How to apply: Apply online via the Community Fund website. At application stage they are interested in hearing about your ideas and plans rather than a detailed project description.

Exclusions:

- one-off celebratory events and projects that are focussed on service delivery without any clear longer-term sustainability or evidence of impact
- projects that are exclusively transferring their activities to deliver online
- place-based activities which are exclusively focussed on a community space or hub in one area and does not deliver across a minimum of two UK countries
- projects that cannot show how the wider community has informed its design and development

More information: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/

Scottish Education and Action for Development – SEAD FUND | max £250 | open now

SEAD provides small grants for individuals or groups for positive action, and campaigning. They fund proposals where the grant will have the most impact, for example, helping a new campaign to get started, or funding a specific concrete action for a local community.

They are particularly interested in applications that focus campaign activity on the following areas: women's rights, young people and their global rights, climate justice, inequality, poverty and health justice.

Notes on award amounts: Grants are typically £100 - £250. Annual total from 2021 accounts.

Who can apply: Individuals or groups

When to apply: Apply at any time.

How to apply: Application form available on the SEAD Fund website.

Exclusions: They do not normally fund travel, e.g. to visit a conference.

More information: www.sead.org.uk/

Scottish Community Alliance - Community Learning Exchange Fund | up to £750 | open now

The Community Learning Exchange offers communities the opportunity to learn through the exchange of ideas and the sharing of common solutions. When community groups make visits to other communities, the most valuable part is often meeting new people with similar interests and gaining new insights and perspectives on shared challenges.

The Exchange will also fund follow up support between organisations. This might be as a result of a learning visit when it is recognised that more specific and on-going help, support, or advice is required. As a result of the pandemic and the move to online, they now offer a blended form of the Community Learning Exchange which can include either virtual or face to face visits.

Notes on award amounts: The Exchange will fund up to 100% of the costs of a visit by members of one community to another community project up to a limit of £750, including a host fee.

Who can apply: The Learning Exchange is open to any constituted community group that is either a member of an SCA member network or has been approved by a network as a valid application.

How to apply: Application form on the Alliance website. Prior to applying you should identify your host and discuss your learning outcomes with them to ensure they are the best match for you. You should also check in with whoever is endorsing your application to ensure they are aware of the application being submitted.

More information: www.scottishcommunityalliance.org.uk/community-learning-exchange/

Scottish Government – Rural and Islands Housing Funds | max £10,000 | open now

The Rural and Islands Housing funds aim to increase the supply of affordable housing of all tenures in rural Scotland and will contribute to the 50,000 affordable homes target. The funds have two components. The main one offers capital support (grant and loan) to enable the direct provision of new affordable housing and refurbishment of existing empty properties. A second, smaller component provides a contribution to feasibility studies. Applications for feasibility funding will only be accepted from projects already invited to apply at the Expression of Interest stage.

Geographical areas funded: Scotland

Annually awarded: £5,000,000

Notes on award amounts: The funds can make up to a £10,000 contribution towards feasibility work.

Who can apply: Both funds are open to a wide range of applicants including community organisations, development trusts, private landowners, private developers, traditional housing providers.

When to apply: Applications can be submitted at any time. Those interested in applying should first complete the pre-application questionnaire which will help you decide if the Rural Housing Fund is right for your project.

How to apply: Complete pre-eligibility checker on the Government website and then submit an expression of interest form via email.

Exclusions: The funds list a large number of exclusions, see the Government website for details.

More information: www.gov.scot/policies/more-homes/rural-housing-fund/

Community Enterprise – Accelerate | N/A | open now

Accelerate is a programme of free business and organisational support targeted at third sector organisations and community groups who are not trading. They will work alongside you to look at a variety of strategies to help ensure the work you deliver in your communities is secure and sustainable.

Support could be used to:

- Develop marketing plans
- Look at other funding options
- Explore new trading ideas
- Plan financially and work on budgets
- Improve branding
- Work on a business plan
- Strengthen your Board
- Look at your legal structure
- Find digital solutions

Notes on award amounts: Accelerate provides 6 days of support.

Who can apply: Third Sector groups and community organisations who are:

- Based in Scotland and delivering benefits in Scotland
- Asset locked (non profit distributing)
- Constituted or pre-constituted
- Non trading (not taking a social enterprise or commercial approach)
- Willing to make change to their organisation to become more sustainable

When to apply: Apply at any time.

How to apply: Complete the Expression of Interest form on the Community Enterprise website.

More information: www.communityenterprise.co.uk/what-we-do/accelerate

McCarthy Stone Foundation – Grants Programme | max £7,500 | open now

Working with our supporters, partners, employees and homeowners, we offer vital funding and resources to grassroots charities and community groups to help them build happy and vibrant communities across the country that support older people.

We provide help in three key areas: community grants, project support, and volunteering and work across three key themes that drive our vision of a society where older people are valued, engaged and connected with their communities.

More information: <https://mccarthystonefoundation.org/our-grant-programmes/>

Greenspace Scotland - Tesco Community Grants | £500 - £1500 | N/A

Tesco Community Grants fund thousands of local community projects across the UK, helping to fight holiday hunger, tackle mental health, support young people, host community events and much more. The grant scheme is open for applications and will provide grants of up to £1500 to support projects focused on children and families. The scheme is open to registered charities and not-for-profit organisations, via an on-line application form.

Local projects that focus on helping children and families. Tesco Community Grants will fund local good causes that focus on supporting children and families.

Examples include:

- a local school needing food for a children's breakfast club
- a voluntary organisation working with families to run holiday clubs
- a charity supporting young people with specialist advice to manage mental health
- a brownie or scout group needing new tents
- a youth sports club needing new equipment
- a family advice centre wanting to recruit more volunteers
- or a local friends of a park group wanting to develop a new toddler area

Funding pots of £500, up to £1000 and up to £1500 will be available for projects and Tesco customers will be able to choose which project receives the most funding by voting in store every time they shop. The scheme is open to registered charities and not-for-profit organisations, via an on-line application form.

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

Scotmid - Community Grant | £500 max | open now

Small, one-off grants are available for the benefit of local communities around Scotmid stores. Activities should focus on one of the following categories:

- Children/Education (eg. schools groups)
- Health (eg. promotion of healthy eating)
- Fairtrade
- Homelessness/Poverty
- Arts & Culture (eg. community musical festivals)
- Environment (eg. promoting a clean/healthy environment)
- Elderly
- Active Lifestyles (eg. encouraging exercise/fitness/sport)

Who can apply

Applications are welcomed from groups including: local community, self help or voluntary groups and charities (including local branches of national charities) or individuals acting for the benefit of the local community.

The group or project must be based in or benefit a community served by one of our stores and within the geographic boundaries of one of Scotmid's Regional Committees.

When to apply

There are no deadlines, however you must apply at least eight weeks prior to when the grant is required.

How to apply

Apply online via the Scotmid website. If you have any questions or would like help to fully understand the terms & conditions, contact the Membership and Community Team.

More information: <https://www.scotmid.coop/community-and-charity/supporting-local-communities/community-grant/>

Cruden Foundation | max £20,000 | open now

Donations from the foundation are made to mainly small and medium sized registered charities throughout Scotland, targeting things like community welfare, medical support and research, the arts, education and heritage conservation.

Who can apply: Registered charities.

How to apply: In writing to the Secretary demonstrating need and purpose of support, accompanied by most recent financial accounts.

Exclusions: Applications from individuals not considered.

When to apply: Board meets three times a year (normally November, February and June). The secretary has authority to approve grants of up to £5,000 between meeting.

More information: <https://crudenfoundation.org/>

Variety - Youth Club Grants | N/A | open now

Variety supports youth clubs because they provide opportunities for improving social skills, team spirit and self esteem. They fund tangible resources including, but not limited to:

- Sports, gym and games equipment
- Computers, printers and IT equipment
- Photography and film equipment
- Consoles, accessories and games
- Arts and crafts materials
- Musical instruments and recording equipment

Who can apply: They consider applications from youth organisations which are affiliated to national youth organisation, such as Ambition or UK Youth or National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs.

How to apply: The guidelines and application form are available on the funder website.

More information: <https://www.variety.org.uk/what-we-do/youth-clubs-grants>

Robertson Trust – Wee Grants | £300 - £2,000 | Open now

The purpose of Wee Grants is to fund initiatives at a local level. Wee 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. See website for details of target groups.

Notes on award amounts: Grants are for one year only.

Who can apply: Constituted community groups and small charities with an annual income of less than £25,000. Maximum annual income: £25,000

Exclusions: Organisations who are already in receipt of funding from the Trust, Organisations who distribute funding to third parties, and Umbrella organisations

When to apply: Apply at any time, decisions are made within 8 weeks.

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/wee-grants/>

Robertson Trust – Small Grants | £2,500 - £15,000 | open now

Small Grants focuses on work that addresses the impacts of poverty and/or trauma under one or more of the following themes: Financial wellbeing, Emotional wellbeing and relationships, and Educational and work pathways. 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.

Notes on award amounts: Unrestricted or restricted revenue funding is available which can include the costs of equipment to support your work.

Who can apply: Registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £100,000. Minimum annual income: £25,000 Maximum annual income: £100,000

Exclusions: Charities who are already in receipt of revenue funding from the Trust, Charities who unsuccessfully applied to the previous Open Grants programme within the last 12 months, and Housing Associations and Arm's Length External Organisations.

When to apply: Apply at any time, decisions within 8 to 10 weeks.

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/small-grants/>

Robertson Trust – Community Vehicles Grants | £1,000-£10,000 | any time

Community Vehicle 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. 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.

Fund award sizes: Minimum: £1,000 Maximum: £10,000

Notes on award amounts: Capital funding of £1,000 to £10,000 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

Exclusions: Charities who are already in receipt of revenue funding from the Trust, Charities who unsuccessfully applied to the previous Open Grants programme within the last 12 months, and Housing Associations and Arm's Length External Organisations.

When to apply: Apply at any time, decision within 8 to 10 weeks

More information: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/community-vehicle-grants/>

Charity Aid Foundation – Venturesome | £10,000 - £35,000 | open now

CAF provides social investment loans which are unsecured (which means they don't take a charge or security against your assets). Investments are tailored to the needs of the organisations they finance and can be used for specific projects or to support day-to-day working capital. They can provide loans to support growth or cashflow needs, build affordable homes and get social enterprises started.

Fund award sizes: Minimum: £10,000 Maximum: £350,000

Who can apply: They support charities, social enterprises and community groups which are incorporated in the UK. You must have been trading for at least one year and have an annual turnover of at least £60,000.

How to apply: Fill in the short online form and a members of the team will get back to you to discuss your ideas.

More information: <https://www.cafonline.org/charities/borrowing/social-investment>

The Henry Smith Charity - Strengthening Communities Grant | £20,000 - £60,000 | N/A

The Strengthening Communities grant programme is designed to support small charitable organisations working at grassroots level. Through this grant programme we want to make sure that our funding reaches the most disadvantaged areas of the UK, targeting places that are economically marginalised and affected by poverty.

We fund established organisations with a track record of delivering services directly to beneficiaries. We are looking for organisations that are embedded within their communities and are addressing local needs.

We want to fund work that enables:

- People from across the community to participate in activities which improve connectedness, opportunities and wellbeing
- People who are excluded, vulnerable or facing other forms of hardship to have access to

- community-based services that support positive lasting change
- A stronger, active, more engaged community

To be eligible for funding applicants must meet the following criteria:

Organisation size: £20k - £500k

Location: UK-wide, must be within the 10% most deprived areas

Funding covers: Running costs which may include salaries, project costs, and small capital costs needed to support the work.

Organisation type: community-led charities and not for profit organisations.

More information: <https://www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk/explore-our-grants-and-apply/strengthening-communities-grants/strengthening-communities-overview/>

The Henry Smith Charity – Improving Lives Grant | £20,000 - £60,000 | N/A

The Improving Lives grant programme provides grants to charitable organisations that help people when other sources of support have failed, are inappropriate, or are simply not available.

We support established organisations delivering services directly to beneficiaries. We are looking for services which can demonstrate a track record of success, and evidence the effectiveness of the work.

This is our largest grants programme, through which the majority of our funds are distributed.

Organisation size: £50k – £2m (in exceptional circumstances up to £5m)

Location of work: UK only

Funding covers: Running costs, salaries and projects

Organisation type: Charities and not-for-profit organisations, including social enterprises

More information: <https://www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk/explore-our-grants-and-apply/improving-lives-grants-programme/improving-lives-grants-programme-overview/>

Morton Charitable Trust | open now

The Trustees have wide discretion as to which charities the trust supports. They fund activities falling within their charitable purposes of: poverty, education, health, saving of lives, sport, and recreational facilities and activities.

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

Annually awarded:

£40,000

Annual total from 2022 accounts.

When to apply

Apply at any time. The Trustees meet once a year in December.

How to apply

Send applications to the Trust by post or email.

For more information contact:

law@michaelabrown.co.uk

9) Community Funding – Regions and Localities

Aberdeenshire - Community Food Fund | max £2,000 | open now

The Community Food Fund is intended to support local projects that promote the availability of good quality, affordable food in communities. This could include projects such as:

- Community food growing
- Cooking projects and community kitchens
- Community Larders or Pantries
- Community Shops

Geographical areas funded: Aberdeenshire

Who can apply: Constituted Community Groups, Registered Charities and Partnerships involving Community Organisations with a constituted group as lead partner in Aberdeenshire.

When to apply: As soon as possible. Funds will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

How to apply: Apply to the relevant Area Manager via the Area Office email address in the application form which is available via the Council website.

More information: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/communities-and-events/funding/community-food-fund/

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>

Caithness and Sutherland Fund | £1,000 - £30,000 | 26 June (quarterly)

Funding is available each year until 2023 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

More information: www.cnsf.org.uk/

Clashindarroch Wind Farm Covid-19 Emergency Fund | 6 May, 9 September

Supporting projects in the community council areas of Huntly, Strathbogie and Tap O Noth, and Cabrach that are providing help to vulnerable people in difficulty due to the pandemic, or organisations that are facing losses.

Notes on award amounts:

The Community Panel have not set a maximum level of award. Each application will be considered on a case by case basis.

Who can apply

Applicants have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and are set up on a not-for-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: wwwFOUNDATIONSscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/camster

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

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

Geographical areas funded: Dumfries & Galloway

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

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

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

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

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

Glasgow Life - Sport and Physical Activity Fund | max £2,000 | open now

The Sport and Physical Activity Fund supports voluntary sport organisations embedded in their community to increase participation in sport and physical activity, particularly in under-represented groups.

Funding is to establish new or enhance existing activities increasing the number of people being active in Glasgow. Grants can cover a range of costs including:

- Short Term Facility Hire Costs (recommended 6 weeks)
- Costs that provide access for underrepresented and marginalised groups/individuals
- Sports and Safety Equipment
- Training Costs
- Marketing and Promotion
- Administration costs
-

Geographical areas funded: [Glasgow](#)

Type of funding:

Grant

Fund award sizes

Minimum:

£500

Maximum:

£2,000

Who can apply

Organisations must have their own bank account and be appropriately constituted.

When to apply

They encourage you to apply 6 weeks - 2 months prior to your project start date. Upcoming deadlines are:

- 29 February 2024

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/sport-and-physical-activity-fund>

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: www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18294

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

HIE – Community Asset Ownership | N/A| open now

HIE can offer financial assistance with capacity building relevant to eligible groups' ongoing development plans. Start-up assistance can help with early investigation of a proposed purchase including professional fees and study visits and initial community consultation. Technical assistance is available to groups in the pre-acquisition stage and to help with bid preparation.

Support is available to encourage community participation through networking visits, skills training and employment of part-time community agents. Community land grants are designed to assist communities to purchase areas of land or other fixed assets. Funding for post-acquisition capital costs or revenue funding for project-management costs is available.

Geographical areas funded: Argyll & Bute Highland Moray Na h-Eileanan Siar Orkney Shetland

Who can apply: Community-led organisations with broad membership from the whole community.

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

How to apply: To discuss funding for a project please contact your local HIE office.

Exclusions: Applicants must operate in the HIE area.

More information: www.hie.co.uk/support/support-for-community-organisations/community-assets/

Highlands & Islands Air Discount Scheme | 50% discount | any time

The Air Discount Scheme (ADS) aims to tackle the problem of high air fares for the remotest communities in the Highlands and Islands by providing a discount of 50% on the core air fare on eligible routes. Anyone whose residence is in Colonsay, Orkney, Shetland, the Western Isles, Islay, Jura, Caithness and North West Sutherland can apply for membership.

Geographical areas funded: Argyll & Bute Highland Na h-Eileanan Siar Orkney Shetland

Who can apply: Anyone whose permanent/main residence is in Colonsay, Orkney, Shetland, the Western Isles, Islay, Jura, Caithness and North West Sutherland. Registered Third Sector organisations who have employees/volunteers that have their permanent/main residence in an eligible area.

How to apply: Third sector organisations must register their interest in participating in the Scheme with the ADS Administrative Team. They will then be asked to provide a list of volunteers/employees who they anticipate will use the ADS for travel on behalf of the organisation.

Exclusions:

- People whose residence is not in the eligible geographic area, except students that are studying away from home and their main residence is in an eligible area.
- People travelling on any service where the cost of travel is being met in whole or in part by a third party
- People travelling on Public Service Obligation (PSO) flights
- People travelling for the purpose of business
- People travelling on NHS-funded trips
- Anyone in the eligible geographic area who does not have a live, valid card
- People travelling on any service where the cost of travel is being met in whole or in part by a third party

More information: www.airdiscountscheme.com/

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/Council/C/Community-Development-Fund.htm>

Scottish Borders Council – Neighbourhood Support Fund | total avail £450,000 | various

The Neighbourhood Support Fund will assist voluntary and community groups that are active within their communities and who are planning community based projects. Community groups are encouraged to think about how these funds can meet local need to strengthen communities and benefit the lives of people living in the Scottish Borders.

The Fund operates in five Area Partnerships; Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot and Liddesdale and Tweeddale.

Geographical areas funded: Scottish Borders

Who can apply: Constituted voluntary/community groups in the Borders area with a minimum of 3 members and a bank or building society account in the group's name. Unconstituted groups can also apply for a smaller amount.

When to apply: Application deadlines vary by area. Check the Council website for details for your area.

How to apply: Application forms for each area can be downloaded from the Council website.

More information:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20076/community_grants_and_funding/1190/neighbourhood_support_fund

Scottish Sea Farms – Heart of the Community Trust | max £10,000 | open now

The broad aim of the Heart of the Community Grant Trust is to provide financial grants for community projects that deliver lasting change within the regions in which the Company operates. Those regions are: Shetland, Orkney, Highland and Argyll.

The over-arching principle for grant allocation will be to deliver lasting change within communities using the following criteria:

- Health & Health Promotion
- Education
- Personal Development that leads to the enhancement of a community
- Community Projects that benefit the majority

Geographical areas funded: Argyll & Bute Highland Orkney Shetland

Notes on award amounts: Awards can range from a few hundred pounds to as much as £10,000, and can be one-off payments for a particular project or repeat support over several years. The average award is currently between £4,000 and £5,000.

Who can apply: Groups that apply must be established on a not-for-profit basis but do not need to be registered charities.

Maximum annual income: £250,000

How to apply: Each application then goes through a screening process with regional ambassadors. Successful applications will then be submitted to the Heart of the Community Trustees for final verification. Guidelines and application forms are available via the funder website.

Exclusions:

- Unconstituted groups
- Groups whose grant request is for the advancement of religion or politics
- The purchase of second hand vehicles or such equipment that may reflect detrimentally upon the funder should there be subsequent accident or mishap with the said equipment.
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts
- Retrospective funding
- Trips abroad
- Payments towards areas generally understood to be the responsibility of statutory authorities
- Groups who will then distribute the funds as grants or bursaries
- Applications that are for the sole benefit to flora and fauna
- Solely to pay the salary or salary equivalent of any individual connected to the project

More information: www.scottishseafarms.com/community/heart-of-the-community/

South Ayrshire Council Grants | max £3,000 | 20th May

Financial support may be available to appropriately constituted voluntary organisations and community groups which provide and promote social, cultural, economic, environmental and recreation facilities, or support projects which are in the interest of people living in South Ayrshire. There is also a Participatory Budgeting process and a Christmas Lighting Fund.

Geographical areas funded: South Ayrshire

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

More information: www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/grants/

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

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