COMMUNITY INVESTMENT
'Making a Difference in East Ayrshire Communities'

ALERT

13 November 2026

Big Give – Small Charity Week

Big Give, Global's Make Some Noise and NCVO are championing small charities across the UK, through a seven-day online match funded campaign which will take place in June 2027.

Small Charity Week uses the '1:1' model of match funding. Small charities apply to Big Give. Their application is assessed by Big Give and its partner, Global's Make Some Noise. Successful charities are awarded a sum of match funding which is ring-fenced for their organisation. This match funding is unlocked by public donations given through Big Give's online fundraising platform during the Small Charity Week campaign (21 June to 28 June 2027).

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a UK-registered charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, OSCR or Northern Ireland Charity Commission.
- Have an annual income of between £5,000 and £1 million (as per last filed accounts).
- Be working to support people and communities, by which is meant charities working to provide shelter and safety, supporting physical and/or mental health, developing life skills, reducing isolation and/or improving inclusion.

Charities should be seeking to raise at least £500 and up to £10,000 in public donations (to be doubled by match funds provided by the Champion partners). The funding can be used for specific project or core costs (but not for capital costs).

Charities are limited to apply for Champion funds, which are a maximum of 10% of their annual income.

Charities may apply singly or jointly as a consortium.

The deadline for applications 13 January 2027.

Big Give – Small Charity Week

Big Give – Earth Raise

Each year, Big Give's environmental match funding campaign gives charities the chance to have donations doubled for seven days starting on World Earth Day.

To access the match funding, charities need to apply on the Big Give website where they can select either the 1:1 or Pledge Model of match funding. Successful charities are awarded a sum of match funding which is ring-fenced for their organisation. This match funding is unlocked by public donations given through Big Give's online fundraising platform during the week of the campaign.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a UK registered charity with a Charity Commission, OSCR or NI Charity Commission number, or tax-exempt status.
- Have an annual income of at least £25,000 (as per last filed accounts).
- Be working on environmental issues as part of their core mission. This may include biodiversity & conservation; climate change; agriculture & food; sustainable communities; energy; transport; trade & finance; consumption & waste; toxics & pollution.

The funds may be used for either specific projects or core costs.

Charities should be seeking to raise:

- At least £1,000 and up to £10,000 in public donations through the 1:1 model
- Up to £100,000 in public donations through the pledge model

Charities are limited to apply for Champion funds, which are a maximum of 10% of their annual income.

The deadline for applications is 15 January 2027.

Big Give – Earth Raise

Help the Homeless

Grants of up to £5,000 for capital projects that help homeless people return to the community and rebuild their lives.

Funding is targeted at projects to find practical ways to help disadvantaged individuals return to the community through training or residential facility provision, rather than merely providing short term shelter.

The reasons for being homeless vary enormously, but may include ill-health, those who are discharged offenders, addictions, family breakdown or other adverse circumstances. Homelessness is not just about the people that the public sees and thinks about – principally "rough sleepers" living on the streets – but a whole range of people who lack a stable home.

The scheme will only fund capital costs. It will not fund core and running costs, computers or IT equipment.

UK registered charities with an annual turnover of under £500,000 can apply.

Applications are considered four times a year with notification of decision usually within eight weeks of the deadline.

The next deadline for applications is 20 December 2026.

Help the Homeless

Henry Moore Foundation

Grants are available for not-for-profit organisations for projects and activities that promote the growth and development of sculpture across historical, modern, and contemporary registers, and research that expands the appreciation of sculpture.

The Henry Moore Foundation offers funding in the following categories:

- New projects and commissions: Grants of up to £20,000 to encourage new thinking about sculpture or sculpture history or contribute to public awareness and appreciation of sculpture.
- Acquisitions and collections: Grants of up to £20,000 for museums and galleries to acquire or conserve sculpture for their collections, cataloguing, and display costs.
- Research and development:
    - Long-term grants of up to £20,000 for projects that require funding for more than one year, such as a permanent collection catalogue.
    - Small research grants of up to £2,500 for academics, curators, and independent scholars for research costs on the history and interpretation of sculpture.
- Conferences, lectures, and publications: Grants of up to £5000 to publish a new book or journal, or to stage a conference or other event related to sculpture.

This funding round is for projects starting or opening to the public, no sooner than 1 April 2027. From 2027, there will be three application rounds per year instead of four.

The next application deadline is 1 December 2026.

Henry Moore Foundation

International Tree Foundation – UK Community Tree Planting Grants

Grants are available for tree-planting projects that protect and restore indigenous trees and woodlands, support community engagement in tree planting, and increase awareness of the importance of trees and forests to environmental and human well-being.

Proposed projects should meet the following essential criteria:

- Plant trees in public/publicly accessible spaces: sites that are readily accessible to the public, including schools, parks, rights of way, and sites managed by community groups.
- Plant indigenous tree species: this may include traditional fruit trees and 'honorary' natives, where appropriate.
- Engage community members in tree planting and enjoying the benefits of woodlands.
- Have clear plans for maintenance and sustainability.

In addition, for this funding round, proposed projects must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Engage children and young adults in tree planting and learning about trees.
- Engage vulnerable groups and groups with low access to woodlands.
- Create biodiversity in habitats.
- Conserve soil and water.
- Demonstrate new approaches, such as agroforestry.
- Support rewilding and natural regeneration.
- Support work or research on tree pest and disease resistance and climate change adaptation.
- Support urban tree planting.

Grants are available for community woodland/hedging projects that range from 100 to 10,000 trees planted per year, with a maximum price equivalent to £2.15 per tree. In addition, these projects also receive two maintenance grants equivalent to £0.10 per tree, disbursed in the first and second summers after planting.

The deadline for applications is 11 December 2026.

UK Community Tree Planting Grant — International Tree Foundation

NatureScot – Cut and Collect for Species-rich Urban Grasslands

The scheme supports organisations responsible for managing urban greenspace to transform frequently mown, species-poor amenity grassland into species-rich perennial meadows. The work aims to improve biodiversity in towns and cities across Scotland.

Amenity grassland includes areas managed for sport, recreation or their appearance. Examples include parks, playing fields, public green spaces, roadside verges, institutional land, business premises and areas around social housing.

A perennial meadow is a long-lasting habitat of wildflowers and grasses that return and flower from the same root systems each year.

The funding can cover 100% of eligible project costs, up to £40,000 per application, whichever is lower. Eligible costs include cut and collect machinery, scarifying or harrow attachments where needed, and native perennial meadow seed mixes.

Applicants must create at least 0.5 hectares of species-rich perennial meadow on land currently managed as frequently mown amenity grassland. This area may consist of several separate, non-adjoining sites. The newly established meadows must be maintained for at least 10 years.

Housing associations, local authorities, further education institutions and organisations managing the NHS Estate in Scotland are eligible to apply. Applicants must have full management control of the relevant land, along with the permissions, licences and consents to carry out the proposed work.

Applicants must also demonstrate that staff involved in the project have the knowledge and skills required to establish and maintain perennial meadows in line with good practice.

The application deadline is 7 December 2026.

NatureScot – Cut and Collect for Species-rich Urban Grasslands

Screwfix Foundation

Local registered charities and not-for-profit organisations can apply for grants in the region of £5,000 for projects which improve a physical building (or land attached to it) that is used by people in need.

The funding is to be used for the following types of projects:

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

Registered charities, Community Benefit Societies, Cooperative Societies and Community Interest Companies can apply as long as they have suitable governance to manage the fund and are supporting people in need whether by reason of financial hardship, sickness, disability or other disadvantage or distress.

Applicants need to have an online presence such as a website, or Facebook or Instagram page so the funder can clearly see the impact their organisation makes.

The Foundation does not support projects which will be used by general members of the public, such as sports clubs and associations, uniformed groups such as scout and girl guide groups or organisations that support wildlife or animals as their main beneficiary.

The deadline for applications is 10 February 2027.

Screwfix Foundation

The Fore

Grants for small charities that make a big impact, offering unrestricted funding to have a transformational impact on your whole organisation, supporting growth, structure, sustainability or efficiency.

Applications are encouraged applications from organisations working with underserved communities, and those who have struggled to access trust and foundation funding in the past.

The fund is open to small charities, SCIOs, CICs (limited by guarantee) and Community Benefit Societies with an income under £500,000 in their latest set of audited accounts, where these are available. Newly established organisations without audited accounts can also register their interest.

Unrestricted grants of up to £45,000, which can be spread over one to three years, are available alongside wraparound support and training.

Registration for the first funding round is open from 12pm (midday) on Wednesday 25th November 2026 to 12pm (midday) on Friday 4th December 2026.

The Fore

Turcan Connell – Turleton Charitable Trust

Grants to support heritage and the arts in Scotland. Established in 2007, the Trust is administered by Turcan Connell.

Registered charities can apply for funding, with preference given to organisations operating in Scotland.

Grants are typically between £5,000 and £25,000. In exceptional circumstances, the trustees may approve larger amounts or make multi-year funding commitments.

Funding is intended to support work that advances the arts, culture and heritage. The Trust has a particular preference for visual arts and heritage, although applications covering other areas of arts and culture will also be considered.

A small number of applications relating to the relief of disadvantage and the advancement of education may also be considered.

The trustees meet once a year, usually in spring, to decide which grants will be awarded for the following 12 months.

The deadline for applications is 31 December each year.

Turcan Connell - Turtleton Charitable Trust

East Ayrshire Council Community Grant

To check the next deadline for applications please contact Democratic Services at Council HQ on 01563 554400 or **communitygrants@east-ayrshire.gov.uk**

East Ayrshire Council Community Grant

Renewable Energy Fund

To check the next deadline for applications please contact Democratic Services at Council HQ on 01563 554400 or **eacrenewableenergyfund@east-ayrshire.gov.uk** .

Renewable Energy Fund

Tincornhill Quarry Fund

For further information on application criteria and deadline dates please go to:

Tincornhill Quarry Fund

East Ayrshire 4 Community

If you are looking for external funding for a particular project, then please remember to register **FREE** at East Ayrshire 4 Community by going to the following link:

East Ayrshire 4 Community