

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

'Making a Difference in East Ayrshire Communities'

ALERT



11 July 2025

East Ayrshire Council – Place Based Improvement Programme

The Place Based Investment Programme is a five year Scottish Government Investment programme, It supports community led capital projects that are rooted in Community Action Plans, Place Plans, and other forms of community engagement and regeneration.

Now in its final year, the 2025/26 PBIP fund is now open for applicants and East Ayrshire has a confirmed allocation of £620,136, with the possibility of another £171,864 (still to be confirmed by the Scottish Government).

Grants up to £100,000 are available. A series of webinars is being held, and further details are available via the link below.

The deadline for applications is 24 August 2025.

[East Ayrshire Council - Place Based Investment Programme](#)

Arnold Clark – Cost of Living Support

Arnold Clark, the UK's largest independently owned, family-run car retailer, has been offering grants to communities in the areas in which it operates since 2021.

Registered charities and community groups across England, Scotland and Wales can apply now for a grant to support cost of living projects.

To be eligible, they must be based/operate solely in the UK and located within 50 miles of an Arnold Clark branch.

Their work must directly support those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis, such as foodbanks, accommodation, poverty relief and where people/communities in the UK are the primary and immediate focus of investment.

Applications are encouraged from smaller voluntary and community organisations who are working with those most affected and vulnerable to the increased cost of living.

Funding is at the discretion of Arnold Clark Community Fund with a possible maximum grant of £2,500.

Arnold Clark will contact successful applicants on a weekly basis.

There are no deadlines for applications. However, it is recommended that groups apply as early as they can as applications could be paused due to high demand.

Applications are currently being accepted.

[Arnold Clark - Cost of Living Support](#)

Asda Foundation – Foodbank Fundamentals Fund

Groups in the UK who distribute food and other essential items for disadvantaged members of the local community will have two weeks to apply for a grant of up to £750.

Applications will be considered from not-for-profit organisations who distribute food to the most disadvantaged in the community, such as food banks, community pantries, social supermarkets, soup kitchens and breakfast clubs.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be not-for-profit.
- Have an annual income below £250,000.
- Have governing documents.
- Have a safeguarding policy.
- Have a bank account (that accepts cheques) in the group's name and be able to provide proof.

For groups that have more than one branch or sub-group in the same community, Asda Foundation can only support one of these groups with an award.

Costs for the foodbank or food service providers are supported.

Funding can only be used for:

- Essential food (including baby food/formula).
- Basic hygiene items (including toiletries, nappies and baby wipes).
- White goods (e.g. fridge, freezer).
- Storage and essential fixtures/fittings (containers, shelving).
- Fuel costs for delivering food provisions to isolated members of the community.

Applicants are advised to apply early as the scheme may close early if demand for funding is high.

Applications will be accepted from 15 July (10am) to 29 July 2025 (10am).

[Asda Foundation - Foodbank Fundamentals Fund](#)

National Churches Trust – Large Grants Programme

Grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 for urgent and essential structural repair projects (costed at more than £80,000) for Christian places of worship, or the installation of kitchen and toilets (costed at more than £30,000). Match funding of at least 50% is required. As the Trust has limited funding, most grants will be for less than £40,000. The average grant is around £15,000.

Applications will be considered from listed and unlisted Christian places of worship, of any denomination, in the UK that are open for at least six services of public worship a year. Although not listed as distinct priorities, the Trust seeks more applications from non-Anglican denominations and a geographic spread.

Priority is given to:

- Work to architecturally and historically significant buildings
- Urgent/essential structural repair projects (as identified in a recent QIR or building survey as required within two years), with a focus on buildings that are at risk
- Installation of kitchens and toilets where a strong need can be demonstrated
- Places of worship that can demonstrate a suitable maintenance system is in place to protect the investment
- Places of worship with regular opening hours
- Places of worship that can demonstrate strong community engagement and sound plans for economic viability.

There is a two-stage application process.

The deadline for stage 1 applications is 4 November 2025.

[National Churches Trust - Large Grants](#)

Pixel Fund

The Pixel Fund is offering grants of between £2,500 and £5,000 for UK-registered charities to deliver projects and activities that promote the mental health and wellbeing of children and young adults aged under 26 years old and provide a measurable difference to the group's users.

To apply, groups must first attend a Pixel Fund Applicants' pre-meeting to discuss their ideas. Eligible charities will then be required to complete an Eligibility Requirements questionnaire and due diligence form before being assessed and potentially invited to complete a full application.

Typically, no single grant will be worth more than 5% of an organisation's annual income. The trustees have a strong preference for charities with an annual income of less than £2 million and are unlikely to consider any organisation with an annual income of less than £20,000 per year.

To apply, groups must book a place at an applicant pre-meeting, which will be held regularly throughout the year.

[Pixel Fund](#)

Riverwoods – Development Grant

The Riverwoods Development Grant seeks to support local organisations in overcoming these barriers by supporting the production of River Woodland Development Plans. These plans focus on identifying opportunities to expand river woodlands and restore riparian habitats, serving as a critical first step to enhance river health, improve habitat connectivity, and boost species and ecosystem resilience, diversity, and access to nature.

The Grant enables this work by supporting scoping, initial engagement, planning, and design activities for river woodland creation and restoration projects.

In the context of this Grant, native river woodland is defined as woodland that abounds to a watercourse, which may also extend significantly away from the riverbank into wider secondary native woodland creation and restoration areas. However, it is expected that key river woodland habitats and areas (see definitions below) will form the core focus of any proposals:

Key Habitat Features:

- **Riparian woodlands:** A woodland area on the bank of a river or loch, with the width being defined by the biogeochemical site conditions.
- **Floodplain woodlands:** All woodland lying within the fluvial floodplain that is subject to a regular or natural flooding regime.
- **Gorge woodlands:** Native trees in gorges where the influence of the riparian zone extends beyond the floodplain due to high humidity levels.
- **Man-made riparian woodland buffers:** Riparian woodland buffer zones occur on farms as areas between natural and artificial water courses, such as streams or ditches, and agricultural land.

Secondary Catchment Restoration Activities that may be considered:

- Catchment woodlands: Typically encompasses the total area of woodlands in a catchment, including all above defined woodland types.
- Cross-slope woodlands: Smaller areas of woodland or typically belts of woodland across hill slopes.
- Large woody material: Naturally occurring or man-made large wood structures found within the stream or river, also referred to as large woody debris.

The deadline for applications is 28 July 2025.

[Riverwoods-Development Grant](#)

The Tree Council – SP Energy Networks Community Tree Planting Fund

Grants of between £2,500 and £10,000 are available to support well-planned, not-for-profit tree planting projects that will directly benefit people, communities and wildlife across Scotland, with a particular **emphasis on the central and southern belt**. Projects need to be completed by 1 March 2026.

The funding is to be used for UK sourced and grown trees. Projects can include but are not limited to urban streets, Miyawaki forests, agroforestry, orchards, hedgerows, riparian and parklands.

Projects need to show clear community benefit and involvement, such as volunteering, education, or wellbeing initiatives, and the proposed planting needs to take place in publicly accessible, publicly visible or community-used spaces, to ensure broad benefit.

Applications will be accepted from local authorities, charities and other non-governmental organisations, community groups, educational institutions and individual landowners.

The deadline for applications is 31 July 2025.

[The Tree Council - SP Energy Networks Community Tree Planting Fund](#)

East Ayrshire Council Community Grant

The next deadline date for applications is 18 July 2025.

[East Ayrshire Council Community Grant](#)

Renewable Energy Fund

To check the next deadline date for applications please contact Democratic Services at Council HQ on 01563 554400 for further information.

[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](#)