

# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

## 'Making a Difference in East Ayrshire Communities'

# ALERT



16 May 2025

## Asda Foundation – Local Community Spaces Fund

The Foundation is inviting local grassroots community organisations with an income of less than £250,000 to apply to their new £1.25 million fund. Grants of between £10,000 and £20,000 are available for projects within the UK that meet at least one of the following objectives:

- Carry out essential repairs to enable the space to continue to function.
- Renovate an existing space to accommodate more users/activities.
- Create a new community space where groups can meet and undertake activities.
- Improve accessibility to, or within, a community building.

The funding can support a range of costs including but not limited to:

- Kitchen and bathroom refurbishments.
- Creation of a new permanent space.
- Roof and floor repairs.
- Building extensions.
- Disabled access ramps to a community building Upgrades and replacements to windows and doors.
- Boilers and heating.
- Essential building security upgrades.
- Transformation of a disused space into a functional space.
- Removable items.

The Foundation must contribute at least 50% of the total project cost (up to £20,000) and can fund up to 90% of the total project cost.

Projects must not start before September 2025 and must be completed by December 2026.

Groups that have previously received an Asda Foundation Investing in Spaces and Places grant may **not** apply to this fund.

**The deadline for applications is 28 May 2025, but may close early if the fund is oversubscribed.**

[Asda Foundation - Local Community Spaces Fund](#)

## Bòrd na Gàidhlig – Gaelic Officers Scheme

Grants are available to registered charities and community interest companies in Scotland to employ an officer to undertake Gaelic development work in Scotland.

The total value of this fund is £600,000 per financial year.

Grants of up to £40,000 per year are available to support posts between 1 July 2025 and 31 March 2028 (maximum grant of £110,000).

Funding is suitable for posts that will:

- Support day-to-day use of Gaelic in communities.
- Further develop the rollout and implementation of community Gaelic language plans.
- Support Gaelic centres and activities within them.
- Engage in partnership working between organisations in delivering Gaelic services.

**The deadline for applications is 5 June 2025.**

[Bòrd na Gàidhlig - Gaelic Officers Scheme](#)

## CashBack for Communities

A new phase of the CashBack for Communities, funded by the Scottish Government through the Proceeds of Crime Act and administered by Inspiring Scotland, will open to applications in June.

A total of £26 million will be available between 1 April 2026 and 31 March 2029.

The funding will support projects aimed at young people most at risk of being involved in antisocial behaviour, offending or re-offending, or at risk of entering the justice system.

This phase will focus on:

- Providing safe spaces and suitable activities for young people to combat boredom, frustration, and isolation that can contribute to antisocial behaviours.
- Supporting young people to understand their value and become positive influences and leaders within their communities.
- Delivering holistic support for vulnerable young people, including their family or care environment. Where a young person may have the potential to come into conflict with the law, support will be extended to family and caregivers.
- Offering support for young people already in conflict with the law to reflect on past behaviours and work towards a more positive future.

Online information sessions are being held on:

- 20 May 2025 (15:00 - 16:00).
- 28 May 2025 (10:00 - 11:00).
- 3 June 2025 (18:00 - 19:00).

Applicants can register for the sessions on the CashBack for Communities website.

Detailed guidance on the application process is expected to be published on 19 May 2025.

**The Fund will open to applications on 12 June 2025 and close on 7 August 2025.**

[CashBack for Communities](#)

## Co-op Foundation – Future Communities Fund

Unrestricted grants are available to support not-for-profit organisations that are helping young people with experience of the youth justice system to re-build their lives and settle back into their communities within the UK.

A total of £1.75 million is available for this round. Grants of up to £30,000 per year for five years (a maximum value of £150,000 over the five years) are available. It is anticipated that around 10 organisations will receive a grant.

Applications will be accepted from not-for-profit organisations:

- With an annual income of £250,000 or less.
- That are registered and operate exclusively in the United Kingdom.
- Have two or more unrelated directors or trustees on the Board.
- That primarily support justice-experienced young people aged 10-25 years old.
- Which have a sole purpose of supporting justice-experienced young people to re-engage with their community.

In order to be successful, organisations should be able to demonstrate that they:

- Support young people to navigate the social stigma which can be associated for those with experience of the justice system.
- Have strong, existing relationships with referral agencies to ensure a smooth transition out of the justice system.
- Have experience of developing routes for young people transitioning from the justice system into training and employment.
- Have experience of supporting young people to develop skills that help them feel empowered to make positive changes in their lives.
- Value lived experience and have justice experienced young people involved in their governance and/or service delivery.
- Have experience of building flexible, consistent, positive relationships with young people.

Full details will be available once the Fund opens for applications.

**Applications will be accepted from 15 May 2025 to 12 June 2025 (midday).**

[Co-op Foundation - Future Communities Fund](#)

## 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.

There are typically four deadlines per year. This funding round is for projects starting, or opening to the public, no sooner than 1 October 2025.

**The next deadline for applications is 1 June 2025.**

[Henry Moore Foundation](#)

## Inspiring Scotland – Bright Start Breakfasts Fund

The new Bright Start Breakfast Clubs Fund is funded by the Scottish Government and administered by Inspiring Scotland.

The Fund will run from August 2025 to June 2026 and supports the Scottish Government's priority of ending child poverty. Funding is intended to enable the expansion of existing clubs and the development of new clubs and will be focused on helping those families who need it most.

Grants are expected to be between £8,000 and £12,000, depending on the location and needs of the community and school.

The following can apply:

- Primary schools.
- Local authorities.
- Third sector organisations.
- Registered childcare providers.
- Activity providers.

- Parent or volunteer groups.
- Childminding services.

Applications can be made for one or several breakfast clubs.

The following requirements apply:

- Breakfast clubs should operate at least 30 minutes before the start of the school day (usually for less than two hours).
- Clubs must run during the school term.
- Provision should be targeted at primary school-aged children.

Eligible costs include:

- Staff costs (breakfast club supervisors and assistants) and associated costs, including training.
- Equipment.
- Food.
- Cleaning.
- Rent.
- Transport.
- Management costs.

**The deadline for applications is 2 June 2025.**

[Inspiring Scotland - Bright Start Breakfasts Fund](#)

## Local Energy Scotland – CARES Community Buildings Fund

Local Energy Scotland has announced that its Community Buildings Fund is now open for 2025/26.

The Fund is provided by the Scottish Government through the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES).

Through the Fund, grants of up to £80,000 are available to community groups, registered charities, and other not-for-profit organisations across Scotland to support the installation of low-carbon and renewable energy measures in community buildings and to help support decarbonisation.

Funding is intended to enable groups to install low-carbon and renewable energy measures in self-managed community buildings, such as village halls, community centres, community hubs, sports facilities, and faith buildings.

Projects must be completed by 28 February 2026.

There is a two-stage application process.

**The Fund will close to applications at the end of October 2025 or when funding is fully allocated, whichever is sooner.**

[Local Energy Scotland - CARES Community Buildings Fund](#)

## Local Energy Scotland – CARES Community Energy Generation Growth Fund

Local Energy Scotland has announced the second round of the Community Energy Generation Growth Fund.

The Fund is part Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES), building on last year's pilot round. A total of £8 million is available, this includes £4 million from Great British Energy.

Through the Fund, grants are available to established and incorporated community groups such as development trusts and community energy and climate action groups to set up renewable energy generation projects, such as:

- Installing wind turbines and solar panels.
- Developing other types of renewable energy generation, such as hydro to meet local needs.

The funding available is mostly capital. A limited amount of funding is also available for feasibility studies and option appraisals.

The following levels of funding are available:

- **Feasibility Stage:** Grants of up to £20,000.
- **Development Stage:** Grants of up to £250,000.
- **Construction Stage:** Grants of up to 80% of construction costs up to a maximum of £250,000. Or up to 25% of construction costs with no grant maximum cap. Organisations can also apply for short-term bridging loans with a minimum value of £60,000 while securing match funding.

Projects should be able to demonstrate that they can complete a significant project milestone by the end of February 2026.

Local Energy Scotland is running the following online information webinars:

- 21 May 2025 (12:30 - 13:30).
- 29 May 2025 (18:00 - 17:00).

Applicants can register for the sessions on the Local Energy Scotland website.

**The deadline for applications is 25 June 2025.**

[Local Energy Scotland - Community Energy Generation Growth Fund](#)

## Radcliffe Trust

Radcliffe Trust is offering grants averaging between £2,500 and £7,500 for charities, not-for-profit groups, and exempt organisations across the UK to support projects in the areas of music or heritage and crafts.

For music projects, the Trust will consider projects in the following categories:

- Composition and contemporary music - in the case of commission applications, the lead composer must be named.
- Bursaries for courses and summer schools (limited to UK-based students).

- Music therapy and special needs.
- Academic research.
- Youth orchestras.
- Performance projects.
- Educational projects - excluding applications from individual mainstream primary and secondary schools.
- Miscellaneous.

For heritage and crafts projects, the Trust will support the development of the skills, knowledge and experience that underpin the UK's traditional cultural heritage and crafts sectors. This includes support for:

- Emerging craftspeople.
- Craft and conservation projects and training.
- Projects demonstrating creative outcomes by designer-makers.
- Projects with potential for capacity building within the sector.
- Special needs projects focusing on the therapeutic benefits of skills development.

Other areas of cultural creativity related to heritage and crafts may also be considered, including theatre, performance, and literature, especially where projects can be shown to promote and develop high-level skills among early career practitioners and disadvantaged groups.

There are typically two rounds per year, with trustee meetings held in June and December. Groups can apply for Music and Heritage & Crafts grants in the same funding round.

**The next deadline for applications is 31 July 2025.**

[Radcliffe Trust](#)

## Societe General UK Foundation – Bright Futures Grants

Through its new £1 million, three-year Bright Futures Fund, the Societe Generale UK Foundation is offering unrestricted grants of up to £50,000 to UK registered charities and charitable organisations for projects and initiatives across the UK which directly support people from marginalised groups to be empowered and equipped to access education and employment.

The funding must further a recognised charitable purpose. This might include advancing education, relieving unemployment, prevention or relief of poverty, advancement of health, relief of sickness or relief of need because of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Projects should develop key skills, attitudes and attributes to foster equitable education and employment outcomes nationwide.

Projects must demonstrate a clear and measurable impact, ensuring that individuals from marginalised communities are supported to meet one or more of the following goals:

- Pursue and sustain their aspirations.
- Enhance their confidence and self-belief.

- Strengthen their mental health, wellbeing, and resilience.

One-year grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 are available this year. Multiple year funding may be available next year. Applicants should not apply for a grant that exceeds 30% of the last year's income of their organisation.

Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) is delivering the fund, and Expressions of Interest are to be made via the CAF online portal.

**The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 3 June 2025.**

[Societe Generale UK Foundation - Bright Futures Grants](#)

## Tesco Stronger Starts – Cooking for All Fund

The Fund has been created to help improve children's access to healthy food, have a wider understanding of where food comes from and an opportunity to learn how to prepare and cook healthy and nutritious meals.

Any not-for profit organisation or school within the UK who support young people up to the age of 16 around nutrition, healthy eating and cooking can apply for one of 150 grants of £1,000 each.

The grants are to be used for project costs.

Examples of projects with a focus on food security, children and young people could be:

- A school providing pupils with food for breakfast clubs or snacks throughout the day.
- A school wanting to buy equipment for outdoor or indoor activities.
- A school wanting to develop a food growing area.
- A school supporting an after school club.
- A voluntary organisation working with families to run a food bank.
- An organisation addressing holiday hunger.
- A healthy eating project that supports families to cook healthy meals on a budget.
- A Brownie or Scout group needing funding for new play equipment or activities.

Applications will not be accepted for projects supporting young people over 16 years of age, or from CICs limited by shares or CICs that are less than two years old.

**The deadline for applications is 30 May 2025.**

[Tesco Stronger Starts - Cooking for All Fund](#)



## WCIT Charity – IT4Good Fund

Grants of up to £15,000 are available to educational establishments and constituted not-for-profit organisations across the UK to support IT projects and activities.

The WCIT Charity will support activities within the themes of education, inclusion, IT for charities, and understanding of IT, such as the development and delivery of new services, solutions, training, apps, analytics, AI, robotics, or accessibility features/hardware.

Projects that are more likely to be funded include:

- Projects where WCIT is a material or sole funder.
- Projects where WCIT is the sole funder of the IT component of a larger project.
- Organisations that could benefit from pro bono support.

Proposals should demonstrate an innovative use of IT, be scalable for wider replication, and be sustainable over time. Grants of over £15,000 may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Applications are typically considered at four committee meetings per year.

**The next deadline for applications is 18 August 2025.**

[WCIT Charity - IT4Good 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](#)