

# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

## 'Making a Difference in East Ayrshire Communities'

# ALERT



6 February 2026

### Council for Voluntary Organisations East Ayrshire – Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund

The Council for Voluntary Organisations East Ayrshire has received additional funding for the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. As a result, the window for new applications has been reopened across all three programme areas; Micro, Small and Large Grants.

Any third sector organisation within East Ayrshire with an annual turnover under £400,000 per year dedicated to supporting mental health and wellbeing whether you are a registered charity or a small community group working in your local area. Projects should foster connections, provide early intervention and support those most in need.

**The deadline for applications is 12 February 2026.**

**[Council for Voluntary Organisations East Ayrshire – Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund](#)**

### B&Q Foundation – Home Improvement Grants

UK registered charities who are working to improve the lives of people in need can apply now for one-off grants of up to £10,000 for home improvement projects that will be completed in the next 12 months.

The funding is intended for UK charities working to improve the lives of people in need by supporting projects that make homes safe, welcoming, and comfortable. Grants are for essential home improvements and home starter kits—helping individuals and families facing homelessness, domestic abuse, disabilities, illness, or financial hardship to feel more settled and supported in their living spaces.

The funding is for projects that improve accommodation or gardens connected to accommodation.

The funds are restricted and can only be used on a project to provide, maintain, repair or improve housing or community space.

**The first deadline for applications is 20 February 2026.**

**[B&Q Foundation](#)**

## B&Q Foundation – Home Starter Kits

One-off grants are available for UK registered charities who are providing home-starter packs for people in need to move into their home.

The funding is intended for UK charities working to improve the lives of people in need by supporting projects that make homes safe, welcoming, and comfortable.

Grants support home starter kits to help individuals and families facing homelessness, domestic abuse, disabilities, illness, or financial hardship to feel more settled and supported in their living spaces.

Grants of up to £10,000 are available for kits, with a maximum allocation of £500 per kit. Kits to be delivered within 12 months.

The grants can support:

- Small electrical appliances e.g. microwaves, TV.
- White goods.
- Decoration e.g. pictures, throws, etc.
- Furniture
- Bedding
- Cleaning items, DIY tools
- Flooring, Paint
- Kitchen utensils
- Storage
- Home retailer gift cards
- Curtains/blinds
- Lighting fixtures/lamps
- Safety items, e.g., smoke alarms
- Gardening tools, plants, outdoor furniture
- Basic home repair materials
- Laundry essentials, e.g., drying racks, baskets.

**The first deadline for applications is 20 February 2026.**

**B&Q Foundation**

## KFC Youth Foundation – Community Grants Programme

Grants of up to £3,000 per year for up to two years for youth-focused charities and community interest companies (CICs) across the UK to deliver projects for young people that create safe spaces, offer diversionary activities, and build life skills, to help them feel secure, empowered, and ready for a positive future. Proposed projects should align with the following priorities:

- Safe Space – A safe physical and emotional environment with trusted adults or peers, safeguarding, and youth involvement.
- Diversionary Activities – Activities aimed at reducing risk factors (eg, ASB, exclusion, substance misuse) and delivered at key times for vulnerable youth.
- Life Skills – Programmes that build independence skills, financial resilience, food education, and employability.

Grassroots organisations with an annual income of less than £400,000 working with young people aged between 11 and 25 living in areas of high deprivation can apply.

**The next deadline for applications is 27 February 2026.**

#### **KFC Youth Foundation – Community Grants Programme**

## **King Charles III Charitable Fund – Small Grants**

UK registered not-for-profit organisations with an annual income of between £25,000 and £500,000 can apply for grants of up to £3,000 per year for three years to support projects in the following areas:

- **Social inclusion** – promoting social inclusion for vulnerable and marginalised communities through projects that relieve poverty, loneliness and other social issues.
- **Health and wellbeing** – improving the health and wellbeing of people and communities. Grants have enabled people with disabilities, those facing life limiting illnesses and people from disadvantaged and marginalised communities to benefit from improved physical and mental health.

Priority will be given to projects serving the most disadvantaged communities within the UK.

Funding provided through this programme is restricted and must be used exclusively for the project. Core costs or staff salaries may be covered, provided these expenses are directly attributable to the delivery of the project

Grants of up to £3,000 per year for three years are available. The total cost of the project should not exceed £50,000.

Approximately 100 community-based organisations are awarded grants each year.

**The deadline for applications is 11 February 2026.**

#### **King Charles III Charitable Fund – Small Grants**

## **Sasha Foundation**

Grants for charitable organisations working with young people across the UK, with a preference for projects that support young people with depression, mental health issues, or those confronting drug issues.

Typically, grants will be up to £10,000 and at most will be for up to 50% of the total cost of the proposed project.

Funding can be used to support new, continuing, or one-off initiatives. Priority will be given to grassroots community groups and small-to-medium-sized voluntary organisations.

Additionally, the Foundation supports education and healthcare projects and programs in the third world, with a preference for education for young women.

**The next deadline for applications is 1 April 2026.**

**Sasha Foundation**

## Youth Scotland – Rural Action Fund

Volunteer-run youth groups based in rural communities in Scotland are invited to apply for grants of between £100 and £750 to improve their existing youth work provision, or to develop new projects or programmes.

To be eligible for funding groups must have an annual turnover of under £200,000 and a maximum of two Full Time Equivalent staff members. The group should be wanting to try new things, enhance existing provisions or increase their capacity to deliver a specific project or programme.

The grants can be used to cover costs such as:

- Equipment and programme materials.
- Longer-term programme of activities.
- IT equipment to enable digital engagement of young people and delivery of online activities.
- Video-calling licences.
- Data bolt-ons/top-ups for young people.
- One-off events.
- Venue hire.
- Travel costs (to an activity).
- Promotional material.
- Specialist tutor/facilitator costs
- Sessional youth work staff costs.
- Membership fees and essential insurance costs.
- Building repairs and maintenance work
- Hall lets.
- Training costs for volunteers/young leaders.

**The deadline for applications is 12 February 2026.**

**Youth Scotland - Rural Action Fund**

## East Ayrshire Council Community Grant

The next deadline for applications is 13 February 2026

**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](mailto: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**