



TCV Scotland Funding Update – May 2021

Grants for community, environmental and volunteering projects

Action Earth 2021

In 2021, Volunteering Matters Action Earth is offering grants to help local communities to respond to climate change. Funded by NatureScot, these grants support volunteers of all ages, backgrounds and abilities in practical outdoor activities. Any group of volunteers are able to apply for Volunteering Matters Action Earth grants of between £50-250 to run environmental activities in Scotland's green spaces. This could include creating or improving community gardens, wildflower meadows, ponds, woodlands or other wildlife habitats.

In 2021 there are also a limited number of **Action Earth Enhanced Grants** up to £500 for projects which can demonstrate a significant health impact through working with people who have defined health or social needs. These grants are available to projects where a minimum of 50% of the volunteers involved will have defined health issues.

Applications are prioritised from volunteer groups who do any of the following:

- Work in areas where there is substantial social or economic deprivation.
- Improve and develop the health and wellbeing of their local community.
- Involve disabled people, vulnerable people, or those at risk of exclusion.
- Encourage and involve people under 26 in practical outdoor conservation.

Applications are also welcomed that make a major environmental impact or involve mass participation.

- A minimum of 15 volunteers must be involved in the project, each giving at least 5 hours of volunteering time.
- Sites to be worked on must be accessible to the general public.
- Plants, tools, materials and volunteer expenses can be claimed. You **MUST** use non-peat compost if this is one of your purchases and it is strongly recommended to plant native species only.

Action Earth 2021 is now open to applications.

Allander Youth Activities Charitable Trust

The Trust provides grants in support of activities which advance the education and training of young people by providing financial support at a local level to charitable voluntary organisations. Applications must comply with the COVID guidelines for your organisation, and only apply when you know your activity can take place. Applications are only accepted for **outdoor** activities. The Trustees normally meet three or four times each year to consider applications.

Alpkit Foundation

Small awards of £50 - £500 to community groups, schools and organisations that work to remove barriers in getting people outdoors and to experience wild places. The Trustees meet every two months to consider applications.

Arnold Clark Community Fund

The Arnold Clark Community Fund is open to all UK registered charities and local community groups who need financial assistance due to the coronavirus pandemic. The fund is also open to community interest companies, charitable incorporated organisations and social enterprises. Applications up to a maximum of £1,000 will be granted on a weekly basis with 500 applications granted per month.

Application deadline: 31 May 2021.

Asda Foundation: Digital Green Token Giving

Every year, Asda customers have the chance to vote for their favourite local good cause when they shop in store via the Green Token Giving programme. Due to Covid, Green Token Giving will return in summer 2021 via an online vote which will work in a similar way to store voting. Each superstore will feature three community projects online that have been nominated by Asda customers and staff. They will all be local, grassroots organisations having a positive impact on their local community. The group with the most online votes will receive a £500 donation, with second and third place each receiving £200.

Aviva Community Fund

The Aviva Community Fund supports projects that enable causes to adapt their vital services and enhance innovation to create a brighter, more sustainable future. Funding applications are open to projects looking to raise up to £50,000.

Next application deadline: 6 July 2021.

Awesome Foundation – Glasgow

The Glasgow Chapter of the Awesome Foundation gives *'£500, no-strings-attached mini-grants to cool projects that will make the world - and Glasgow - more Awesome!'*

One £500 grant is given away every two months so you can apply any time. Finalists are invited to a gift night which you need to be able to attend. Due to Covid-19, pitch nights are currently taking place on Zoom. Shortlisted projects will give a live 5-minute presentation followed by a Q&A session with the trustees. There are four criteria:

- The project must be based locally (Glasgow - with a G postcode).
- You need to have a budget - prove you have a plan for how additional funds will be raised.
- It has to benefit the local community.
- Most of all, it has to be Awesome

Bank of Scotland Foundation

The Bank of Scotland Foundation operates four funding programmes: **Advise, Invest, Change** and **Reach** which have different application deadlines. Funds are awarded to registered charities who have been operational for more than one year.

Reach: Charities with an income of £1.5m or less can apply for funding between £1,000 - £25,000 over one year to address disadvantage or social exclusion. **The application period is 3-8 June 2021.**

Banks Community Fund

The Banks Community Fund (which is actually made up of a number of funds) provides support to community groups, voluntary organisations and environmental projects that are charitable, educational, philanthropic or benevolent in purpose and which are located within close proximity of a current or proposed Banks Group development and provide benefit to the local community. Its funds are reviewed by a funding panel, including representatives of the local community. The Banks Community Fund is administered by the [County Durham Community Foundation \(CDCF\)](#).

Before applying for a grant:

Applicants **MUST** contact The Banks Community Fund, fund manager at the CDCF, before applying for a grant. Tel **0191 378 6342** or email fundmanager@bankscommunityfund.org.uk

Chestnut Fund

The Chestnut Fund is an independent charity which makes grants available to encourage and enable community groups to carry out conservation activities. The grants are administered by TCV. The grants fall into two categories – ‘Start-up’ grants and ‘Support’ grants.

Start-up grants are for groups who have no money when they are first set up and are available to groups in their first year of existence. The grant will enable them to begin practical work and will cover administrative expenses, e.g. publicity, hire of meeting rooms, telephone bills and/or the first year of TCV Community Network membership plus insurance fees. The maximum grant will be £150.

Support grants are for groups who have no money for tools, equipment and training. Preference will be given to resources selected from TCV sources. This grant is available to all groups, regardless of how long they have been constituted. The maximum grant will be £350.

Groups within their first year can apply for both the Start-up grant and the Support grant. The Chestnut Fund committee meets every 6 weeks to discuss new applications.

Choose Now, Change Lives

The Boost *Choose Now Change Lives* programme has been launched as part of Boost's 20th-anniversary celebrations. Boost is offering community grants to support a range of community groups and organisations. The grants are managed by Groundwork, a charity working locally and nationally to transform lives in the UK's most disadvantaged communities, and will help groups make a difference in their local areas and in truly facilitating change that will benefit communities for years to come. Boost are calling for all community sports clubs, community action groups, youth work, music groups and food banks to get involved and nominate themselves to be in with a chance of a stake of the £20,000 grant fund.

There are three judging rounds and for each round up to three organisations will be chosen to be awarded a grant of between £1,000 and £10,000. To be considered in the judging process, applications for the remaining rounds need to be submitted by **18 July 2021** and **26 September 2021**.

[Coalfields Regeneration Trust](#)

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust is dedicated to supporting former mining towns and villages throughout the UK. It operates a number of programmes in Scotland including the **Coalfields Investment Programme** and **Coalfields Community Futures**.

[Co-op Local Community Fund](#)

The Co-op Local Community Fund supports projects that:

- enable people to access food and co-operate together to feed everyone
- help improve people's mental wellbeing
- offer young people opportunities to develop new skills and make a difference in their community

For successful applicants, the more Co-op members that select your cause, and buy Co-op branded products and services, the more funding your project will receive.

Application deadline: Midnight 30 May 2021

[Corra Foundation – Enabling Neighbourhoods and Communities Fund](#)

The Corra Foundation exists to make a difference to the lives of people and communities. It works with others to encourage positive change, opportunity, fairness and growth of aspirations which improve quality of life. It operates a number of funding programmes including the Enabling Neighbourhoods and Communities Fund to provide small grants to community and voluntary groups across Scotland who are delivering activities that connect and support people within their local community.

The Fund aims to reach groups who:

- Have strong local relationships with people in the community.
- Help increase the well-being and social connections for communities.

It is only available to groups or organisations that are rooted in their community and who receive little or no funding from other sources. Grants usually between £1,000 – £2,000 (maximum of up to £5,000) will be available. Funds will be unrestricted to help groups cover running costs or deliver support or activities in their local area over the next 12 months.

[Cycling Scotland](#)

Grant funding for 2021 has now been allocated. To register an interest in funding to support a local, inclusive cycling event in 2022, please email info@pedal.scot. Read this [overview](#) to find out the funding criteria for this year, including the main responsibilities of organisers. Please note this is subject to review, after evaluation in 2021.

[Cultivation Street](#)

Cultivation Street is a campaign founded by Chartered Horticulturalist and broadcaster David Domoney, to help people to grow and garden together. The campaign runs an annual competition for the best community gardening projects and school gardens around the UK, with £8,000 total in prize money. Competition categories include:

- School garden: register by 20 July
- Community garden: register by 2 August
- Gardens for better health: register by 2 August

[Dulverton Trust](#)

The Dulverton Trust is an independent grant-making charity which supports UK charities and CIOs (charitable incorporated organisations) within its funding categories which include: **Youth Opportunities**,

General Welfare, Conservation and Heritage. It prioritises organisations that are medium-sized (with income between £200,000 and £3 million), have a national footprint and do not receive a significant proportion of income from government or local authority contracts. There are no application deadlines and Trustees make decisions in February, June and October. Applicants are advised to apply for what they need but as a guide most grants are between £25,000 - £35,000 per annum.

[Empowering Women Fund](#)

The Empowering Women Fund will provide funding to support small women's groups and organisations to develop innovative ways of empowering women in their local area and build the capacity of small organisations. The fund is divided into two strands and grants can run for up to 12 months.

Seed funding grants (£500-£1,000)

Available to small women's groups to establish and run micro women's empowerment projects in their local area that support women to build skills and confidence, and decrease social isolation.

Women's Sector grants (£1,000-£25,000)

Available for women's groups and organisations to develop capacity to respond to changing needs in their communities and run projects over a fixed duration of at least 6 months.

The deadline for round one applications is **28 May 2021**. There will be a second round of funding available in the summer, with deadline details available on the website.

[Esmee Fairbairn Foundation](#)

The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation aims to improve our natural world, secure a fairer future and strengthen the bonds in communities in the UK. In 2019 it made grants of £35.8m to a wide range of work in the arts, children and young people, the environment, food and social change. It also has a £45m allocation to social investments. The Foundation's grants support organisations' core or project costs, including staff salaries and overheads. It also provides unrestricted funding for charities. It does not give grants for building or equipment costs, or individuals. The Foundation's current strategy has a focus on three interdependent aims:

- Our Natural World
- A Fairer Future
- Creative, Confident Communities

Most of the Foundation's grants are for three years (54%) or longer than three years (32%). The Foundation does **not** consider online applications from organisations with an annual turnover of less than £100,000 and does **not** accept applications for grants of less than £30,000. In 2019 its median grant size was £130,000 over 3 years, and it made two grants of over £1m. There are no deadlines – it assesses expressions of interest, and makes funding decisions, on a rolling basis.

[Finnis Scott Foundation](#)

The Trustees of the Finnis Scott Foundation can make grants for any charitable purpose, but their present policy is to focus grant-making in the areas of horticulture and plant sciences, as well as art history and the enhancement, conservation and preservation of art. In general, the Trustees only consider applications for grants up to £10,000. Exceptionally, larger grants may be considered at the Trustees' discretion. Preference is given to smaller charities where a grant would have a significant impact. The Foundation funds both capital and revenue projects. Requests for salaries will not be considered, except in the case of educational support (bursaries and apprenticeships). Grants are not given for expenditure which has already been made. The Foundation is unlikely to fund newly established organisations which do not yet have a track

record, or have not yet produced accounts. The Trustees meet quarterly, usually in January, April, July and October.

[Food for Life Get Togethers](#)

Offers small grants of £150 from June 2020 - April 2021 to enable you to host a good food Get Together in your community. The money can either be used for activity costs (eg seeds, transport, technology, food etc) or equipment (eg induction hobs, fridges, durable gardening tools, etc). Applications that bring people of different backgrounds and/or ages together to strengthen and connect communities through one or more of **food growing, cooking and food sharing**.

[Foundation Scotland](#)

Foundation Scotland administers a diverse range of funding programmes benefitting communities across Scotland. Some of its funds are available on a Scotland-wide basis, and others are aimed at specific geographical areas or themes. The Foundation's website currently lists 100 separate funds plus their application criteria and level of grants available.

[Foyle Foundation](#)

The Foyle Foundation is an independent grant making trust that distributes grants to UK charities. It welcomes applications from across the country and encourages applications from all areas outside London and the South East.

Main Grants Scheme: supporting charities whose core work covers [Arts](#) and [Learning](#)

Small Grants Scheme: designed to support charities registered and operating in the United Kingdom, especially those working at grass roots and local community level, in any field, across a wide range of activities. Online applications can be accepted from charities that have an annual turnover of less than £150,000 per annum. Larger or national charities will normally not be considered under this scheme.

- *Our focus will be to make one-year grants only to cover core costs or essential equipment, to enable ongoing service provision, homeworking, or delivery of online digital services to charities that can show financial stability.*
- *Our priority will be to support local charities still active in their communities which are currently delivering services to the young, vulnerable, elderly, disadvantaged or the general community either directly or through online support if possible.*

Applicants must show how any grant will make a significant difference to their current work. Charities can apply for between £1,000 and £10,000. There are no deadlines for submission.

[Gannochy Trust](#)

Under its current three-year strategy, the Gannochy Trust is looking to invest up to £15 million for community groups and organisations in Perth and Kinross and across Scotland.

The Trust's core funding objectives for Perth and Kinross:

- Improve the Quality of Life for people
- Develop and Inspire young people
- Improve the build and natural environment for wide community use

The Trust's core funding objectives for the Rest of Scotland are:

To **develop** and **inspire** young people by:

- Improving access to accredited training and learning
- Increasing employability and employment options
- Increasing leadership or mentoring

The Trust will only consider applications from organisations and projects that clearly demonstrate that they can achieve the Trust's priorities and funding objectives.

Grants awarded:

- Small – Up to £10,000 per annum for up to three years
- Main – Up to £30,000 per annum for up to three years
- Major (Perth & Kinross only) – Over £30,000 per annum for up to three years

2021 application deadlines:

- **21 May 2021** (for Trustees' meeting – 1st July)
- **30 August 2021** (for Trustees' meeting – 30th September)
- **5 November 2021** (for Trustees' meeting – 16th December)

Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation aims to be responsive to where need is greatest and therefore supports a wide range of charitable activity in the following categories: **Arts, Education, Youth, Health, Museums & Heritage, Community, Environment, Faith, Welfare.**

The Trustees have a preference for charities directly delivering services and activities to those in need, and are especially keen to see applications from charities in the Welfare, Youth and Community sectors and also in regions of economic disadvantage. Almost 2000 charities across the UK benefit each year from grants made by the Foundation, ranging from small community and volunteer projects to large national organisations. Despite this range, the common theme is that charities demonstrate they are meeting a need effectively with clear outcomes and benefits, good leadership, sensible business plans and a commitment to excellence.

Regular Grants: For applications below £100,000. These applications are reviewed by the Trustees on an ongoing basis, so there are no specific deadlines.

Major Grants: For application of £100,000 or more, typically for projects and/or annual income in excess of £1 million. These are reviewed at one of the Foundation's eight Board meetings a year.

Glasgow's Nature-Based Accelerator

The Nature-Based Accelerator Programme is a three-months, fully-funded (worth over £1500 to each successful applicant) programme aimed at individuals, enterprises or community groups in Glasgow who have a business or social enterprise idea that uses nature directly or indirectly. This support would be available for a wide range of activities, including beekeeping; carbon offsetting; 'green' roofs; greenspace management; eco-tourism; food or other community growing schemes; skills training; and tree-planting enterprises, plus many more.

The programme will encourage both a more resilient local nature-based economy in Glasgow, and also develop innovative ideas in this economic sector as well as improving and maintaining the city's open spaces. The programme is coordinated through Glasgow City Council's Connecting Nature project, with partners The Melting Pot, the Centre for Civic Innovation, and Glasgow Caledonian University.

The deadline for applications is 21 May. A wider programme is expected to begin around the time of COP26 in Glasgow later this year.

Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust

The Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust makes donations totalling some £140,000 to about 100 charities each year. Recipients must be registered charities, but the trustees have complete discretion as to the type of charitable work supported. In recent years there has been some concentration on support for charities working with children or young people, and those active in the environment and the arts. There has also been a preference for applications from and for Scotland but not to the exclusion of applications from elsewhere. Applications are considered by the trustees each quarter in January, April, July, and October.

Henry Smith Charity – Strengthening Communities

The Henry Smith Charity operates a number of grant programmes, including the Strengthening Communities grant programme which is designed to support small charitable organisations working at grassroots level. Through this programme the Henry Smith Charity wants to make sure that its funding reaches the most disadvantaged areas of the UK, targeting places that are economically marginalised and affected by poverty.

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

Grants are typically £20,000 - £60,000 for between 1-3 years. Organisations applying to this fund will have an income of £20,000 - £500,000 and will be physically based and work within the 10% most deprived communities in England and Scotland. Applications can be submitted at any time. There are no deadlines.

Highlands and Islands Environment Foundation

The HIEF will support projects throughout the Scottish Highlands and Islands which fit into one of the Foundation's key areas of interest:

- Montane habitats
- Freshwater habitats
- Marine and coastal habitats
- Forests and woodlands

Projects should demonstrate clear, measurable environmental impact and those with opportunities for replicability, to amplify their impact, will be prioritised. HIEF support is aimed at local non-profit organisations, associations, clubs or unions, social cooperative enterprises and/or other local bodies, including research centres, are strongly encouraged to apply for grants. Applications are accepted in January, April, July and October.

Hugh Fraser Foundation

The High Fraser Foundation makes donations to charities working in many different sectors including medical research, hospitals, education, organisations working with the young and aged, the handicapped and the under-privileged and arts organisations. So long as the object is charitable the Trustees will consider any application from a registered charity. The Trustees' policy is to pay special regard to applications from Scotland, particularly from parts of Scotland where the local economy and/or circumstances make fund-raising for charitable purposes difficult. The Trustees meet normally in March, June, September and December. The cut-off for applications is normally a month before each meeting.

[I Dig Trees](#)

The I Dig Trees campaign has been run by TCV and OVO Energy since 2014 to provide free native species trees to schools and community groups across the UK. Trees are normally supplied during the planting season from November to March. Visit the TCV website nearer the time for any 2021/22 campaign news.

[Ironmongers' Company](#)

The Ironmongers' Company supports registered charities with projects that provide opportunities for disadvantaged children and young people to fulfil their potential. Grants are only given to registered charities. Projects must meet all of the following criteria:

- For children and young people under the age of 25 who are disadvantaged
- Consist of educational activities that develop learning, motivation and skills
- Have clear aims and objectives to be met within a planned timescale

The Company is looking for projects that deliver clearly defined educational benefits to a specific group of children or young people. Items of equipment will be considered only where a full explanation is given of how they will support this activity. The Company is particularly interested in enabling primary age children to develop a strong foundation for the future. Projects could, for example, support special educational needs, address behavioural problems or promote citizenship, parenting or life skills. Preference will be given to projects piloting new approaches where the outcomes will be disseminated to a wider audience. Grants range from a few hundred pounds up to around £10,000. The average grant awarded is £4,000. The Appeals Committee meets twice a year at the end of March and October. The deadlines for receipt of applications are 15 December and 31 July respectively.

[John McAslan Family Trust](#)

The John McAslan Family Trust seeks out and supports initiatives that make a direct difference to people's lives. It does this through collective participation and by sponsoring a wide range of educational, cultural, community and environmental projects which focus the skills of people of all ages. These projects are often modest in scale, but always big on ambition. They tackle challenges that reflect key global imperatives, and help to energise lives at a local level. In every case the Trust aims to achieve sustainable, life-improving results from its support. The Trust considers applications for sponsorship twice annually, at the beginning of April and November.

[Learning through Landscapes – Local Schools Nature Grants Scheme](#)

The Local Schools Nature Grants Scheme allows Early Years, Infant, Primary and Secondary school and settings in England, Scotland & Wales to apply for £500 **worth** of outdoor resources, and a two-hour staff training session. **NB this scheme does not provide cash grants to schools.** 2021 funding round application deadlines: **25 June, 3 September, 12 November.**

[Love Your Network](#)

Sustrans Scotland recently relaunched its Love Your Network grant for community groups in Scotland. Equipment and training 'bundles' are available for projects which benefit people or wildlife across National Cycle Network routes. The grant is funded by Transport Scotland and seeks to empower communities to learn more about their local routes and implement physical improvements which make journeys on the National Cycle Network more attractive and enjoyable. Bundles offered include: Litter-picking equipment, hand tools, wildlife identification training, ecology advice. **Next application deadline: 28 May 2021.**

[Lush Charity Pot](#)

Through its Charity Pot, Lush offers grants and funding to small, grassroots charities and campaign groups that are often best placed to make a real difference with limited resources and who often struggle to find

funding. It supports organisations around the world that are working in **animal protection, the environment, and human rights**.

Almost all the groups funded have annual incomes of less than £250,000 and most are substantially smaller than this and run entirely or predominantly by volunteers. If your organisation has many supporters and corporate sponsors, or is able to secure mainstream funding such as government grants, you're probably not suitable for this funding. Grants are between £100 - £10,000, with an average of between £2,000 – £4,000. Applications are accepted at any time.

Marsh Christian Trust

The Marsh Christian Trust focuses on providing funding which could help small organisations pay for various running costs such as volunteer expenses, training days, equipment maintenance and other core outgoings. Grants are unrestricted and range from £300 - £2,000. Successful new applicants can expect to receive a grant at the lower end of this scale. The grants programme provides long-term core funding to registered charities experienced in their chosen field of work. The causes that the Trust supports lie broadly within the following areas of work: Arts and heritage, Education and training, Environmental causes and animal welfare, Healthcare, and Social welfare.

The Marsh Christian Trust was founded based on the Christian principles of reaching out, caring for the natural world, and helping those in need. These principles continue to remain a core part of the charity's ethos. However, the Trust's support is inclusive of all organisations, regardless of faith. Recipients of the grant-making programme come from a diverse set of backgrounds. There are no application deadlines.

Mickel Fund

The Mickel Fund donates between £100,000 - £120,000 annually to registered charities working in five core categories including *'The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture and science'*.

Major Grant Donations - The Fund prefers its contributions to 'make a difference'. Major Donations will be considered for one large-scale local project at a time, for example the donation of £5,000 - £10,000 on a one-off basis.

Annual Donations - For those charities looking towards Annual Contributions Funding, the Mickel Fund will donate £500 - £2,000 per year to the chosen national charity, with the view of being updated and reassessed annually. The annual contributions funding can be donated to both long-term supported charities and/or newly assessed charities.

Trustees meet twice a year in Spring and Autumn to consider funding applications. The closing date for applications to be considered at the next meeting is **Thursday 5 August 2021**.

Morrisons Foundation

The Morrisons Foundation awards grant funding for charity projects which make a positive difference in local communities. In the main grants are available to fully fund projects up to £25,000.

Mushroom Trust

The primary goal of the Mushroom Trust is to support the creation and improvement of greenspaces, particularly in urban environments, through an emphasis on horticultural aspects. The Trust helps to fund projects throughout Scotland, especially those in Edinburgh and the Lothians. In recent years the Trust has supported a broad variety of proposals for the improvement of public parks, the development of allotments, the commissioning of landscape designs for long term planning, the planting of community gardens and orchards, and the creation of therapeutic garden spaces. Grants are typically up to £5,000.

Next application deadline: 16 July 2021.

[MyParkScotland](#)

MyPark Scotland helps people to discover and support their local parks. It provides an online crowdfunding platform for people to raise funds for, and donate to, park improvement projects.

MyParkScotland also provides a Crowdfund Resource Kit to help groups wanting to crowdfund for parks and greenspace projects. The Resource Kit introduces and explains the concept of crowdfunding and helps groups plan, run and deliver their crowdfunding campaigns.

[Nancie Massey Charitable Trust](#)

Grants are made to charitable bodies carrying out projects in the following areas: Medical research and Care, The Arts, Education and The Community. They primarily support organisations in Edinburgh. Grants are generally in the range of £2,000 - £3,000. Trustees meet in February, June and October each year. Applications should be submitted at least 10 days prior to any trustee meeting.

Trust Administrator: Chiene and Tait Chartered Accountants, 61 Dublin Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6NL.
Tel: 0131 558 5800

[National Lottery Community Fund Scotland](#)

NLCF runs a number of funding programmes in Scotland:

- **Awards for All:** grants of £300 - £10,000
- **Community-led:** grants of £10,001 - £150,000
- **Young Start:** grants of £10,001 - £100,000
- **Improving Lives:** grants of £10,001 - £200,000
- **Scottish Land Fund:** grants of £10,001 - £1 million

Applications to all NLCF programmes are ongoing.

[National Lottery Heritage Fund](#)

The National Lottery Heritage Fund is the largest dedicated funder of heritage in the UK. In response to the Covid pandemic it has refocused its priorities for 2021-22. Between April 2021 to March 2022, when making funding decisions, the NLHF will prioritise heritage projects that:

- boost the local economy
- encourage skills development and job creation
- support wellbeing
- create better places to live, work and visit
- improve the resilience of organisations working in heritage

Grants from £3,000 - £10,000: no application deadlines

Grants of £10,000 - £250,000: no application deadlines

Grants of £250,000 - £5 million: quarterly application deadlines

[NatureScot](#)

NatureScot is the public agency responsible for Scotland's natural heritage. Consult the website for latest details on any current funding programmes.

Nineveh Charitable Trust

The Nineveh Charitable Trust supports a broad range of UK-based projects and activities, with an emphasis on promoting a better understanding of the countryside. As such the Trust promotes:

- The health, welfare, and education of the general public
- The study and appreciation of agriculture, silviculture, ecology, and land management
- The study and appreciation of land and estate management that encourages conservation of the countryside

There is no funding limit, although recent awards have generally been between £1,000 - £5,000.

The Trustees meet once per quarter to review applications and allocate funding.

Paths for All - Community Paths Funding

This funding provides communities with the resources they need to upgrade, promote and maintain community paths close to where they live by:

- Creating new volunteering opportunities for everyone
- Bringing communities together to work and learn from each other
- Creating better places for people to explore and enjoy
- Creating links that people can use as part of their everyday travel
- Improving communities' health and wellbeing by getting people more physically active outdoors and in contact with nature

Grants of up to a maximum of £1,500 are available 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
- Buy and plant native trees and shrubs,
- Sow a wildflower meadow

Paths for All - Smarter Choices, Smarter Places (SCSP) Open Fund

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 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 are available from £5,000 to £50,000. Funding is available for 50% of a total project cost, although 25% of the total project cost can be in-kind contributions.

Pebble Trust

The Pebble Trust is a Scottish charity established in 2014 with a vision of a more sustainable, equal and low-carbon 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. The Trust supports projects in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland as defined by the Highlands and Island Enterprise [area](#). Exceptional projects outwith the Highlands and Islands, or projects

that have an impact across the whole of Scotland may also be considered. Applications are restricted up to a maximum of £5,000.

The detailed Pebble Trust objectives are:

- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement, in particular supporting organisations and individuals developing sustainable lifestyles and projects which take into account future resource availability, fossil fuel use, climate change and the desirability of a more equal society
- The advancement of community development, in particular encouraging local communities to become stronger and more self-reliant through the adoption of sustainable lifestyles
- The advancement of education and science, in particular carrying out research and education relating to the technical and social aspects of sustainable lifestyles

People's Health Trust

The People's Health Trust was set up to address health inequalities in Great Britain and create fairer places in which to grow, live, work and age. Through its funding and support, it encourages resident-focused approaches as a means of addressing the underlying structural causes of health inequalities. The Trust funds projects addressing the circumstances that affect our life expectancy and quality of our health.

Neighbourhood-based projects – The Trust supports and funds resident-led projects in neighbourhoods experiencing disadvantage because they are the most affected by health inequalities.

Communities of interest – The Trust supports and funds projects which connect groups of people with shared identities, experiences, characteristics or common interests who face additional barriers to good health due to discrimination and further inequality.

The Trust runs two main funding programmes:

- [Active Communities](#) – for great local ideas of between £5,000 and £40,000 for up to two years. The programme is open in different parts of the country at different times.
- [Local Conversations](#) – an approach which involves working together with the residents of a neighbourhood to determine how they would like to use the money raised through their local society lottery.

People's Postcode Trust

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

Remaining 2021 application deadlines: **1 June, 1 July, 2 August, 1 September, 1 October.**

Persimmon Community Champions

The Persimmon Community Champions schemes provides charities and community groups across the UK with grants of up to £1,000. Each of Persimmon's 31 businesses and its PLC head office are giving away up to £2,000 every month to fund local community initiatives.

Perth & Kinross Council Community Environment Challenge Fund

The Community Environment Challenge Fund (CECF) can provide support and funding for community-led environmental projects. Any of the following can be funded:

- Equipment costs, tidy-up and maintenance activities and reasonable professional fees which are directly incurred in respect of the project.
- Improvements to sports pitches and sports ground pavilions.
- The Contributing Third Party (CTP) payment for the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund and other landfill providers.

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. Applications must be submitted by local or national constituted groups (including those acting on behalf of others) and must be developed by community or voluntary organisations.

The minimum grant request is £2,500 up to a maximum of £10,000. 50% match funding is required. For example, an application of £2,500 would have a total cost of at least £5,000. The whole project can be of any size and there is no defined maximum project cost.

[Peter Vardy Foundation](#)

The Peter Vardy Foundation was created as a way of distributing 10% of the profits from Peter Vardy Limited to good causes. It exists to improve the lives of vulnerable children and young people both locally and abroad. The Foundation believes that “Every Life is Worthy” and that every child should have a safe and secure childhood and so makes grants to charities and other non-profit organisations that support children and young people who are disadvantaged and face challenges in their lives. The Foundation works together with these organisations to see lives and communities transformed through support, education and care.

[Radio Forth Cash for Kid](#)

Radio Forth Cash for Kids is a grant-giving charity helping the children from birth up to and including 18 years of age who are vulnerable, come from disadvantaged backgrounds or are living with an illness or disability. It also provides a lifeline to many other charities, organisations and community groups, funding much-needed services and life-changing equipment. All applicants must be within the Radio Forth broadcast area. The value of a grant is typically from £1,000 to £3,000 but it will happily consider applications for larger amounts. Applications are submitted on an ongoing basis. The Local Executive Board meets three times a year after each grant deadline and will reply to successful and unsuccessful applications shortly thereafter.

[Robert McAlpine Foundation](#)

The Robert McAlpine Foundation gives grants to support small registered charities situated throughout the UK that fall within specific categories including children, youth, the elderly, and social. It particularly likes to support projects where its funding can make a real difference. The Trustees meet annually in November to approve grants, for which an application must be received no later than **31 August**.

[Robertson Trust](#)

The Robertson Trust offers funding to constituted community groups and registered charities who are working to alleviate poverty and trauma in Scotland, and who have annual income of under £2million. It operates a number of grant programmes:

- **Wee Grants** - For constituted community groups and charities with an annual income of less than £25,000. Funding of up to £2,000 for one year only. Could cover revenue or capital costs to support your work.
- **Small Grants** - For registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £100,000. Revenue funding of between £2,000 and £15,000 for up to five years. Unrestricted or restricted funding. Can include the costs of equipment to support your work.
- **Large Grants** - For registered charities with an annual income of between £100,000 and £2 million. Revenue funding of between £15,000 and £50,000 for up to five years. Unrestricted or restricted funding. Can include the costs of equipment to support your work.

- **Community Vehicle Grants** - For registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £2 million. Funding of up to £10,000 for a vehicle to support your work.
- **Community Building Grants** - For registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £2 million. Capital funding of up to £75,000 towards 'community hubs'.

Russell Trust

The Russell Trust supports a broad range of charities, particularly in Fife. Categories under which grants may be awarded include:

- The advancement of education.
- The advancement of health.
- The advancement of civic responsibility or community development.
- The advancement of, arts, heritage, culture, or science.
- The advancement of public participation in sport.
- The advancement of environmental protection and improvement.

Grants are generally in the range of £2,000. Request an application form via email:

russell.trust@tullisrussell.com

Scotmid Community Grants

Scotmid's Community Grant scheme helps deserving causes across Scotland. The maximum amount available for a Community Grant is £500.

Scottish Forestry Community Fund

The Scottish Forestry Community Fund supports community groups and organisations that encourage people to use woods more. In the 2020/21 financial year, eligible activities included:

- Schemes that promote physical activity eg walking schemes, safe routes to school, natural play and adventure play
- Developing materials that promote health and wellbeing benefits of using woodlands
- Facilitation of volunteering for skills training from community bodies, health improvement and community development
- Establishment of volunteer groups and the induction of volunteers
- Providing resources to involve communities in the decision-making process of managing their local woodland
- Costs associated with developing Community Asset Transfer Scheme applications eg valuations. Funding will not normally cover legal fees

Two separate application processes:

- i) for applications up to £1,000 (via an application letter)
- ii) for applications above £1,000 (via an application form)

Level of funding on a sliding scale:

- 100% for projects up to a total cost of £5,000
- Up to 90% for projects with a total cost of between £5,001 – £20,000
- Up to 75% for projects with a total cost exceeding £20,000

The Fund's application dates for 2021/22 are to be confirmed (correct on 14 May 2021).

Scottish Government - Community and Third Sector Recovery Programme

The Community & Third Sector Recovery Programme aims to support charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations that are supporting people and communities through the shift from lockdown to recovery. The Programme includes **Adapt and Thrive** funding:

Adapt and Thrive

Adapt & Thrive supports organisations to change and recover. Working with an advisor, organisations will be supported to develop a plan so they can adapt to the challenges presented by COVID-19, operate sustainably, and continue to have a positive impact in their communities. This may mean developing new income streams, restructuring the organisation, or changing how services are delivered. Funding to implement the plan is also available. **The programme is open until 30 June 2021.**

Scottish Government – Improving Public Access

The aim of the Improving Public Access programme is to support new and upgraded paths for public use, providing:

- Improved links and connectivity
- Improved path conditions
- Accessible paths for all

These new and improved paths will create a path resource that encourages outdoor access for a diverse range of users, and helps to integrate responsible access and recreational use with good land management. Public Access (IPA) projects may be small scale, to enhance a single path or they may tackle larger network improvements or long-distance paths. This item is open to local authorities and administrations, public bodies, community associations, public-private partnerships, NGOs, private companies, organisations in charge of tourist and recreational development, as well as individual farmers, groups of farmers, crofters and other land managers. The Improving Public Access programme is open for applications until **30 June 2021.**

Scottish Landfill Communities Fund

SLCF money can only be granted to projects that fulfil at least one of the six 'objects' given in [Regulation 29\(5\)](#) of the [Scottish Landfill Tax \(Administration\) Regulations 2015](#).

These objects can be summarised as:

Object A:	The reclamation, remediation, restoration or other operation on land to facilitate economic, social or environmental use.
Object B:	Community based recycling, re-use and waste prevention projects.
Object C:	To provide, maintain or improve a public park or other public amenity.
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.
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.
Object F:	The provision of financial, administration and other similar services to projects.

Projects under objects C, D and E are only eligible for funding if the project site is within 10 miles of a landfill site or transfer station.

ScottishPower Foundation

The ScottishPower Foundation provides funding to registered charities and particularly welcomes applications that will support the most vulnerable people in society. Applications must address at least one of the ScottishPower Foundation's strategic aims:

- **Education, Training and Research**
To support education, training and research in general, prioritising innovation in order to contribute to energy sustainability.
- **Biodiversity and Climate Change**
To support the protection of the environment and to increase biodiversity, to actively contribute in the fight against climate change.
- **Art and Culture**
To protect and safeguard artistic and cultural heritage by promoting conservation and restoration of the arts and supporting local development.
- **Social Initiatives**
To contribute to sustainable human development by supporting the most vulnerable people and groups.

The application window for funding in 2021 is closed. It is expected to open the next application window in summer 2021, for projects that will start in 2022.

Screwfix Foundation

The Screwfix Foundation supports projects that fix, repair, maintain and improve properties and community facilities for those in need throughout the UK. The Foundation currently offers local registered charities and not-for-profit organisations funding of up to £5,000. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis in March, June, September and December.

Before applying for funding from The Screwfix Foundation, your organisation **MUST**:

- Be a registered Charity or Not-for-Profit organisation.
- Help those in need. This could be by reason of financial hardship, sickness, distress or other disadvantages in the UK.
- Is looking for funding to support projects that relate to the repair, maintenance, improvement or construction of homes, community buildings and other buildings.

South of Scotland Tree Planting Grant

The South of Scotland Tree Planting Grant provides support and financial assistance to plant individual trees or small clumps of trees, in order to retain this landscape resource for the benefit of people, communities and wildlife. The grant is open to any organisations or individuals who wish to carry out a small-scale tree planting project that will enhance the landscape and biodiversity of the South of Scotland and make a contribution to improved public amenity. The site should be less than 0.25ha in size. Examples of eligible projects include: trees in school playgrounds, small copses, field boundary trees, tree lines, parkland trees and orchards. The planting will normally be of native species and be appropriate to the locality.

Assistance is available in two different ways to suit the specific project:

- Up to 100% of material costs (ie: for trees and appropriate shelters, guards, stakes, fencing, mulch mats etc) for private applications from farmers, landowners and individuals (excluding VAT if reclaimable).
- Up to 100% of materials and labour costs for non-profit making organisations such as schools and community groups (including VAT if not reclaimable).

The maximum grant available is £1,000 per applicant per year. Please note applicants must pay for the works upfront and claim the grant back from the scheme administrators.

[SSE Renewables](#)

SSE manages 32 funds, which have supported over 2,500 community projects with grants of over £22million since 2008. It operates two types of funds:

- [Local Funds](#) support communities nearest to a wind farm. It supports panels made up of community members who review applications and decide which projects provide the best benefit for the community.
- [Sustainable Development Funds](#) support strategic projects in the local authority regions in which SSE is investing. This fund support projects which take a longer-term view by delivering transformational social, economic and/or environmental changes.

[Stafford Trust](#)

The Stafford Trust is a grant making Scottish charitable trust which provides financial support to charities registered in the United Kingdom, with a preference towards charitable organisations in Scotland. It supports charities involved in a range of activities including child welfare, adult welfare, animal welfare and community projects. Grants vary, but most lie between £500 and £5,000. The Trustees usually meet twice per annum, in Spring and Autumn, to consider applications. The deadline for applications for the Autumn 2021 meeting is **30 June 2021**.

[Tesco Community Grants](#)

The grant scheme is open for applications and will provide grants of up to £1,500 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. The scheme is administered in Scotland by greenspace scotland.

[Thomson Charitable Trust](#)

The objectives of the Trust are to support charitable purposes which include those connected with music, the arts, sport, education and other spheres. Within the framework it is the policy of the Trustees to consider applications:

- For grants of up to £5,000
- For services or activities which benefit people in Perth or the wider area of Perth & Kinross
- With a preference for start-up projects or improvements to the charitable services being offered.
- To exclude applications for employment costs, core funding or other regular annual costs.

The Trustees meet at the end of May and November each year to consider applications, but decisions may be taken between meetings. Some funding for the project should be provided from the organisation's own resources and from fundraising efforts.

Tree Council: Branching Out Fund

This fund assists schools and community groups proposing to undertake well-planned tree, orchard and hedge planting projects. In Winter 2020/21 grants of £300 - £1,500 were available. Information on the Winter 2021/22 programme will be available in Summer 2021.

Tree Council: Tree Angel Orchards Fund

Free tree packs for schools supported by the Tree Angel Orchards Fund. You can register your interest for the winter 2021/2022 programme.

Trusthouse Charitable Foundation

This foundation gives grants to small and medium sized local organisations in the UK with a demonstrable track record of success working to address local issues in communities of extreme urban deprivation and deprived rural districts.

Small Grants: Single year grants between £2,000 and £10,000 for core costs, salaries, running and project costs. **Projects must have a focus on Community Support.**

Major Grants: Single year grants between £10,000 and £100,000 for core costs, salaries, running and project costs, or Multi-year grants for a maximum of 3 years, not to exceed £100,000 in total over this period, for core costs, salaries, running or project costs. **Organisations should have a focus on Family Support.**

Major Grants: You can apply at any time during the year. The Grants Committee Meetings for 2021 were scheduled for January, April, July and October and it is we advised to apply at least two months prior to the meeting. Allow up to 12 weeks for the entire two-stage application process.

Small Grants: you can apply at any time during the year and receive a final decision 8 weeks after your application. Decisions are made outside the Grants Committee Meetings timetable.

Tudor Trust

The Tudor Trust makes grants, and provides other types of support, to voluntary and community groups working in any part of the UK. It particularly wants to help smaller, community-led organisations that work directly with people who are at the margins of society: organisations that support positive changes in people's lives and in their communities.

'Because we try to respond to the needs identified by organisations themselves, most of our grants take the form of core funding: funding which goes towards the core costs of running an organisation, including salaries, overheads and day-to-day running costs. Last year 92% of our grants, by value, went towards core funding.'

There is no maximum or minimum grant, though in practice it is unusual for the Trust to make a grant of less than £10,000. Usually grants are made over one, two or three years. There is a two-stage application process, and Tudor has no deadlines – it makes grants on a rolling basis.

Wakeham Trust

The Wakeham Trust's core goal is to help small groups of people who are getting together to make a difference in their communities. On the whole, it doesn't support big or established charities. It is especially interested in helping groups that are starting up and need a little seed money to help them get going. The Trust usually makes VERY SMALL grants to VERY SMALL projects because they often find it hard to appeal to larger and more formal funding bodies. If a project is big enough to employ staff, it is probably too big for this trust. All the community projects supported have, as a common theme, the

empowerment of ordinary non-professional people. It normally gives grants to projects where an initial £125 to £2,500 can make a real difference.

Weir Charitable Trust

The Weir Charitable Trust *may* be able to help if you meet **all** of the following criteria:

- You are a small charity or community group with an annual income of less than £125,000.
- You are based and operate in Scotland, providing services to improve the quality of life for the people of Scotland.
- Your application meets one of the five Qualifying Categories - Sport, Health, Culture, Animal Welfare or Recreational Facilities.
- You are seeking funding of less than £25,000

Funding can be used for capital projects (such as equipment, fixtures, fittings and refurbishments), running costs, one-off projects, core costs and salaries. In summary, anything you need it for as long as it contributes to providing a benefit to your community.

Next application deadlines: 27 August 2021 and 25 February 2022.

Woodland Trust

The Woodland Trust provides thousands of tree packs for schools and community groups to plan their own planting schemes. The Trust's next tree delivery will be during autumn 2021.

Woodroffe Benton Foundation

The Foundation provides grants to registered charities involved in various activities including:

- Environmental conservation/Preservation/Protection/Improvement – in particular where this would encourage the provision of access by members of the general public.

The Foundation's Small Grants Programme offers awards of between £500 - £2,500. The Trustees prefer to contribute to core operating costs from their Small Grants programme rather than to a specific project where the funding will be legally 'restricted' or to capital expenditure – applications in these latter categories are, however, not excluded. Applications are only considered at the Trustees' meetings in January, May and September. The deadline for applications is normally six weeks prior to the meeting and applications received after the deadline are automatically held over for consideration at the subsequent one.

Youth Scotland Rural Action Fund

This fund is supported by The Robertson Trust and The Gannochy Trust and aims to enhance and develop community-based youth work in Scotland's rural communities. It makes small awards to enable youth groups operating in rural communities provide more and/or better youth work opportunities for young people. Awards are between £100 - £750. Currently closed to applications but it is hoped the Fund will return for a fourth year.

Further funding information:

[GrantFinder](#) is an online subscription service to search for funding from European and UK government sources, local authorities, charitable trusts and corporate sponsors. Members of TCV's [Community Network](#) can request a funding search be made on their behalf by the Community Network Coordinator.

[Grants Online](#) is a subscription-based grants and funding service with a search tool, daily updates to a grants database and a monthly eNewsletter.

[Funding Scotland](#) is a service provided by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations to provide access to up-to-date, high quality information on funding opportunities that is vital to third sector organisations in Scotland. Funding Scotland is free to any organisation in Scotland and provides a search of over 1,400 funding opportunities including grants, loans, prizes and other support. Additionally, Funding Scotland's local sites, in partnership with Local Authorities and the Scottish Rural Network, provide a free premium service in some local areas.

[Inspiring Fundraising Toolkit](#) is an online resource and is the legacy of the four-year Resourcing Scotland's Heritage partnership programme, led by Arts & Business Scotland with Archaeology Scotland, Built Environment Forum Scotland, greenspace scotland and Museums Galleries Scotland. Inspiring Fundraising aims to help everyone in the heritage sector in Scotland raise funds for their organisation, cause or project, effectively and with greater confidence.

Most **Local Authorities** have an External Funding Officer or service which provides help and advice on grants available to community organisations, which may include grants or Common Good funds provided by the council itself. For details contact your council's External Funding Officer or consult the council's website.

This Funding Update is aimed at helping groups and organisations in the community, environmental and volunteering sectors. The information is believed to be correct at the time of publishing (14 May 2021). Please read funding eligibility criteria and guidelines **fully** before making an application. This information is not exhaustive and other funds may be available. If you know of a funding source which could be added to this list, or have any further comments, please contact g.burns@tcv.org.uk

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