

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT 'Making a Difference in East Ayrshire Communities'

ALERT



7 June 2024

Ayrshire Rural and Islands Ambition Fund

The Ayrshire Rural and Islands Ambition (ARIA) Fund is part of the Scottish Government's Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme. It is led by the ARIA Local Action Group (LAG), a group of representatives from the local area so its decision-making is bottom up. It is administered by South Ayrshire Council.

ARIA currently has two funding streams:

- Main Fund: £5k - £50k
- Community Asset Maintenance Fund: up to £9k

Community groups/third sector organisations with a constitution/incorporation can apply. Those without this may be able to apply through a parent/sponsor organisation who are constituted/incorporated. Small businesses and farms are also eligible. Large organisations of 50 or more employees are ineligible.

Eligible areas Rural Ayrshire & the islands of Arran & Cumbrae, defined in the [eligible area map](#). Potential applicants should use the **finder tool in the top right of the map** to check for project eligibility. Organisations do not have to fall in the eligible area if their project does.

To contact/access the fund please submit an expression of interest form. ARIA is also running information sessions which are available to book. It is strongly advised that you book onto a session as this is where the majority of the information will be shared.

Applicants must engage with ARIA Fund staff before applying. Applications will not be considered without this. Applicants are also strongly advised to submit their application for review before the closing date.

The deadline for applications to the Main Fund is 9 August 2024. The deadline for applications to the Community Asset Maintenance Fund is 15 September 2024.

[Ayrshire Rural and Islands Ambition Fund](#)

Athletics Trust Scotland – Transforming Lives Fund

Athletics Trust Scotland is offering grants of between £250 and £1,000 for registered charities and constituted organisations, groups and clubs in Scotland working to support people in sports who are in need for reasons of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship, or other disadvantages.

Through the Transforming Lives Fund, organisations can deliver projects that support underrepresented groups in athletics and running to allow them to increase participation and improve health and well-being in communities, with priority given to projects that:

- Support to the lower SIMD areas (1, 2, and 3).
- Will directly expand the running network in targeted areas in Scotland.
- Are specifically targeting underrepresented people in their community.
- Provide increased opportunity for disadvantaged people in Scotland to change their lives through running and athletics.

Eligible costs include hardship funding, purchasing athletics equipment, start-up kits, and coaching fees.

The deadline for applications is 1 July 2024.

[Athletics Trust Scotland - Transforming Lives Fund](#)

Inspiring Scotland – Neighbourhood Ecosystem Fund

Inspiring Scotland has announced the launch of a new Neighbourhood Ecosystem Fund provided by the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, the Carman Family Foundation and other funders.

Through the Fund, grants of up to £13,500 are available to community groups in Scotland to:

- Support the design and delivery of ambitious ecosystem restoration projects locally.
- Raise awareness about the importance of local ecosystem restoration and address barriers faced by community-led efforts.

Successful applicants will also receive professional fundraising support of up to £1,500.

Not-for-profit community-led organisations with an annual turnover of less than £200,000 that are locally based and operating within a specific area of Scotland can apply, including:

- SCIOs.
- Community Interest Companies.
- Community benefit societies.
- Cooperatives.
- Not-for-profit companies limited by guarantee.

Unincorporated organisations can apply but must have a constitution and a bank account with two signatories.

Projects must focus on one or more of the following priorities for ecosystem restoration:

- Connecting nature corridors.
- Habitat and species restoration.
- Freshwater and wetland restoration.
- Coastal and marine initiatives.
- Control of invasive non-native species (INNS).
- Urban nature.

The Fund is interested in development stage projects, such as:

- Turning a high-level concept into a more detailed proposal.
- Generating support and buy-in within a community for a proposal.
- Developing partnerships.
- Undertaking modelling, surveys, and feasibility studies.
- Project planning and design.

Funding is intended for revenue costs, including nature development activities, specialist consultancy, new staff posts and core costs. Requests for small amounts of capital funding for physical items essential to the delivery of the project will be considered.

Projects must be delivered within 12 months of a grant being awarded.

There is two-stage application process wherein applicants must first submit an initial Expression of Interest.

The deadline for applications is 3 July 2024.

[Inspiring Scotland - Neighbourhood Ecosystem Fund](#)

NFU Mutual Charitable Trust

NFU Mutual Charitable Trust is offering grants for organisations working in agriculture, rural development, and insurance across the UK to deliver projects and activities across one or more of the Trust's main objectives:

- To advance the education of the public using research and dissemination of information concerning agriculture.
- To advance the education of young people within rural areas.
- To relieve poverty within rural areas.
- To promote the benefit and social welfare of inhabitants of rural communities by associating together with the inhabitants and local authorities, voluntary and other organisations to advance education and leisure.
- To promote research into agricultural-associated activities.
- To advance the education of the public using research and dissemination of information concerning insurance.

Priority will be given to larger initiatives that would have a significant impact on rural communities, as well as initiatives in the areas of education of young people in rural areas and relief of poverty within rural areas.

Trustees met twice a year to consider applications, typically in June and November.

The next deadline for applications is 4 October 2024.

[NFU Mutual Charitable Trust](#)

Parkinson's UK – Physical Activity Grants

The Parkinson's UK Physical Activity Grants Programme supports activity providers, national governing bodies, Parkinson's groups and branches, and sports and healthcare professional who are based and operating within the UK.

Now in its fourth year, the Parkinson's UK Physical Activity Grants Programme offer grants of between £500 and £3,000 to develop new activities for people affected by Parkinson's to participate in physical activity and sport or increased participation in these areas.

Projects must last for between three and 12 months and start within three months of receiving a grant.

They should reach and engage with a wide range of people with Parkinson's especially those who may be from the following groups:

- Newly diagnosed.
- Young onset.
- People and groups seen as 'under-represented' - including socially isolated, not digitally connected or ethnic communities.
- People who are not engaged with Parkinson's UK.
- People who are inactive, or active at low levels.
- People who are still working.

Examples of the types of projects and activities that can be supported include:

- New physical activity provision for people with Parkinson's.
- New physical activity that significantly increase the level of physical activity of people with Parkinson's who are currently active.
- Buying equipment that will facilitate or enhance activities.
- Essential maintenance or replacement of equipment that will lead to greater participation or increased impact.
- Facility hire.
- Coaching fees.
- Specific training.
- Developing community activities that demonstrate a pathway into sustained activity.

- Helping people to access Parkinson’s specific online support to become more active.
- Up to 10% of the applicant’s core costs.

This is a rolling programme.

Applications will be accepted until all of the funding has been allocated.

[Parkinson's UK - Physical Activity Grants](#)

Paths for All – Ian Findlay Path Fund

Paths for All is offering grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 for third sector, community organisations, educational establishments, and National Park Authorities across Scotland to improve the usability and accessibility of local path networks within and between communities, encouraging active travel and public transport which will in turn benefit air quality and reduce carbon emissions.

Through the Ian Findlay Path Fund a total of around £1.2 million is available to support path management projects that:

- Improve accessibility of existing paths.
- Improve the resilience of paths.
- Improve local path network viability through the development of new link paths.
- Improve safety and increase community confidence.
- Increase community use of the core path and local path networks.

The fund will support activities such as:

- Improving accessibility and resilience of existing paths between homes, community facilities, active travel routes and public transport facilities.
- Creating new link paths between homes, community facilities, active travel routes, and public transport facilities.
- Removing barriers to make existing paths more accessible.
- Improving safety and increasing path users’ confidence through provisions such as lighting, wayfinding information, or seating.
- Developing detailed designs to help deliver proposed activities.

There is a two-stage application process wherein groups must first submit an Expression of Interest before submitting a full application.

Applicants should contact Paths for All to discuss their project before submitting an Expression of Interest.

Expressions of Interest may be made at any time.

[Paths for All - Ian Findlay Path Fund](#)

Resuscitation Council UK – Community Grants

Resuscitation Council UK (RCUK), a healthcare charity, is offering small grants as part of its 'Restart a Heart' 2024 campaign to help educate people about cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to use a defibrillator with the aim of saving lives. RCUK reports that currently in the UK only 1 in 10 survive an out of hospital cardiac arrest.

Small charities, community groups, faith groups and community interest companies (with an annual income of less than £500,000) can apply for grants of up to £1,500 to raise awareness around CPR and defibrillator use.

Projects need to focus on one or more of the following:

- Share information around CPR and defibrillator use.
- Address misinformation and barriers to CPR and defibrillator use.
- Provide bystander CPR training.

Priority will be given to:

- Charities and organisations working in geographical areas with low bystander CPR and high rates of cardiac arrest and/or working with communities experiencing inequalities in resuscitation.
- Projects that are tailored to meet the needs of the local community, for example language, cultural, and educational needs of participants.

The deadline for applications is 28 June 2024.

[Resuscitation Council UK - Community Grants](#)

Scottish Building Society Foundation – Funding for Places

The Scottish Building Society established the Scottish Building Society Foundation in May 2023 to support local charities and community groups. Foundation Scotland administers the fund for new and existing projects.

Registered charities, constituted voluntary and community groups, and community companies can apply. CICs are eligible if they meet the Fund's minimum governance standards.

As the Scottish Building Society has six branches in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Galashiels, Glasgow, Inverness and Troon, priority funding will be given to groups working in the local authorities of Scottish Borders, City of Edinburgh, Glasgow City, Aberdeen City, South Ayrshire and Highland. However, applications are accepted from other areas in Scotland.

Eligible projects include (but are not limited to):

- Community facilities and services, transport, open spaces, affordable housing, community development, reduction of poverty, and care for the elderly.
- Community and/or local events.
- Youth and education, providing training opportunities and support for vulnerable youngsters.

- Promoting care and support of vulnerable people by improving community safety, minimising isolation and maximising wellbeing.

The total fund value for the current round is £30,000, and grants of up to £5,000 are available. Core costs must not exceed 25% of the overall project budget.

The deadline for applications is 12 July 2024 for decisions in August.

[Foundation Scotland - Scottish Building Society Foundation](#)

SUEZ Communities Fund Scotland

SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK offers grants of between £3,000 and £25,000 distributed through the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund.

Through the SUEZ Communities Fund for Scotland, £200,000 is available annually for the following types of projects:

- Land Reclamation (Object A) - the reclamation, remediation, restoration, or other operation on land to facilitate economic, social, or environmental use.
- Community Recycling (Object B) – community-based recycling, reuse, and waste prevention projects.
- Public Amenities (Object C) - to provide, maintain or improve an amenity that is used primarily for leisure and recreation. The amenity must be open to all sections of the community for at least 104 days a year.
- Biodiversity (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.
- Historic Buildings, Structures or Sites (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.

Public Amenity, Biodiversity or Historic Building projects must be within 10 miles of a SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK landfill site or transfer station.

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Village hall improvements.
- Nature reserves and conservation.
- Village greens.
- Community centres.
- Public playgrounds.
- Cycle paths.
- Sports fields and facilities.
- Country parks.

- Historic buildings, structures, or sites.

Typically, there are three funding rounds per year.

The next deadline for applications is 7 August 2024.

[Suez Communities Fund Scotland](#)

The Society Foundation

The Society Foundation is an independent registered charity, funded and supported by the executive search firm Society.

Each year, the Foundation offers a small number of micro-grants of up to £2,500 to support people from the following groups move toward paid employment:

- The recently homeless or vulnerably housed.
- Ex-offenders.
- Young people (16-24 years old) not in employment, education or training (NEET).

The funding can be used for:

- Capacity building activities, including IT infrastructure and equipment.
- Staff training and development
- External consultancy/support.

The funding aims to play a transformative role by increasing the sustainability and effectiveness of organisations that are doing really vital work.

Applications are accepted from UK registered charities, Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIO) or Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO) and organisations with a governing document showing a clear charitable aim/purpose as defined by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Applicants must have a turnover under £500,000 per annum.

The deadline for application is 8 July 2024.

[The Society Foundation](#)

Woodward Charitable Trust – General Grants

The Woodward Charitable Trust, a grant-making trust, is one of the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts. Twice a year it awards grants to UK registered charities with an annual turnover of less than £200,000 who are making 'a real difference in their communities and who stand out in the work that they do'.

The funding is for charitable organisations in the UK working in the following areas:

- Children and young people (up to 25 years) who are isolated, at risk of exclusion or involved in antisocial behaviour. This covers gang violence and knife crime, education and mentoring, as well

as projects that work to raise self-esteem and employment opportunities and encourage an active involvement in and contribution towards the local community.

- Disadvantaged families. This covers parenting support and guidance, mental health, food poverty, refuges and domestic violence projects.
- Prisoners and ex-offenders and specifically projects that maintain and develop contact with prisoners' families and help with the rehabilitation and resettlement of prisoners and/or ex-offenders after their release.

The majority of an applicant's beneficiaries (more than 50%) must be within at least one of these areas to be eligible.

Although grants of up to £3,000 are available, most grants are for £1,000 or less. The Trustees favour small-scale, locally based initiatives and most grants are only for one year.

The grants are for core costs rather than specific projects and will cover staff salaries, rent, utilities, general office costs, accountancy/audit costs, fundraising, governance and compliance, and costs supporting the core programmes of the organisation.

Applications will be considered from UK registered charities, charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs), community interest companies (CICs) and exempt charities with an annual turnover of less than £200,000.

Organisations may apply for a grant for up to three years in a row, or three times within a five-year period. Once this has been reached they must wait two years before reapplying.

There are two application windows each year with applications usually considered in March and November.

The deadline for applications is 26 July 2024.

[Woodward Charitable Trust - General Grants](#)

East Ayrshire Council Community Grant

The next deadline date for applications is 26 July 2024.

[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](#)