


# Stroupster Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

Fund Year 8: 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023



Greencoat UK Wind Ltd, owner the Stroupster Wind Farm, makes an annual donation to benefit the groups and organisations in the Dunnet & Canisbay Community Council area. The Fund is held and administered by Foundation Scotland who receive and process applications. Decisions on awards are made by the Stroupster Community Fund Panel. The Panel is made up of nine local people, four are nominated by the Community Council and five are self-nominated and potentially elected from the wider community.

## 2023 Fund activity



During 2023, the fund has awarded 65 grants totalling £348,908...



including 33 awards to community groups totalling £304,764



.. and 13 awards towards driving lessons totalling £6,500...



... and 19 awards to people doing other training courses totalling £37,644.

## How to apply



### Guidance and forms

For guidance and to apply for a **community group grant** go to: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk> or use the short link: <http://bit.ly/Stroupster>. There are three deadlines through the year: 15th March, 15th July, 15th November

For guidance and to apply for an **education and training grant**, or a grant towards driving lessons go to: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk> or use the short link: <http://bit.ly/Dunnet> There are no deadlines, you can apply any time.

# Awards to community groups in 2023



During Year 8, the Panel made 33 awards totalling £304,764. 13 of these (£154,618) were to groups or projects based within the Dunnet & Canisbay area and the other 20 (£150,146) were to groups or projects based elsewhere in Caithness.

## The Dunnet & Canisbay based projects were:

1. **Caithness CAB** £6,000 - budget for struggling households
2. **Caithness Seal Rehab and Release** £15,000 - Seal sanctuary and hospital improvements
3. **Caithness Voluntary Group** £19,475 - Development Trust Officer to support John O'Groats Trust
4. **Canisbay Parent Council** £2,880 - P6/7 residential trip
5. **Dunnet and Canisbay Community Council** £8,000 - Micro-grants to enable small community grants
6. **Dwarwick Pier Association** £16,000 - improvements and upkeep
7. **John O'Groats Development Trust** £15,000 - Community Plan 2024
8. **John O'Groats Football Club** £14,700 - utility tractor and storage container
9. **John O'Groats Mill Trust** £25,000 - developing the visitor journey
10. **Lyth Arts Centre** £24,793 - Lighthouse centenary celebration
11. **Pentland Parish Church of Scotland** £850 - Flower Festival for 2023
12. **Pentland United** £1,920 - Physiotherapy training
13. **Scottish Huntington's Association** £5,000 - support for local families

## The projects based elsewhere in Caithness were:

1. **Befriending Caithness** - £30,000
2. **Caithness CAB** £47,000 - Money Advice Officer
3. **Caithness Diving Club** £5,105 - diving boat engine, navigation equipment
4. **Caithness FM** £6,230 - new roof
5. **Caithness KLICS (SCIO)** £9,000 - Sessional workers
6. **Caithness KLICS (SCIO)** £2,250 - rent for Thurso group sessions
7. **Caithness Poverty Action Group** £6,240 - training events
8. **Keiss Amenities Association** £1,590 - internet connection and sound system
9. **Northern Pilgrims' Way Group SCIO** £450 - promotional leaflets
10. **North Highland Women's Wellbeing Group** £5,700 - awareness raising
11. **Northstone58 Stonefest** £3,000
12. **Reiss & Killimster Park** £15,000
13. **Scottish Surfing Federation** £2,000 - National Surfing Championships 2023
14. **Scottish Surfing Federation** £5,000 - National Surfing Championships 2024
15. **Thurso High School** £300 - Law Society competition debating club trip
16. **Thurso High School** £3,000 - S6 University Trip
17. **Thurso High School** £1,280 - Iceland trip
18. **Thurso High School** £1,000 - Berlin trip
19. **Thurso High School** £1,000 - Ski trip
20. **Wick Academy Football Club** - £5,000 new trailer

# Education and Training Bursaries in 2023

An educational grant can cover a number of costs linked to study. First time applicants can apply for up to £1,500, a second time applicant can apply for up to £1,000 and going forward a person will be able to apply for up to £750 for future courses.

The purpose of this fund is to improve local people's opportunities for employment. You don't have to be unemployed to apply. The process is quick with awards made usually within six weeks of receiving the application.

During 2023, 32 people received an educational grant. These were:



13 young people aged 17 or 18 towards the cost of driving lessons and the driving tests.



10 young people aged under 25 who wanted to go away to college or university. These are the courses they selected:

1. International Relations
2. Sport and Fitness BSc Hons
3. MPhys Mathematical Physics
4. MSc Construction Project Management
5. 5G5B Actuarial Science and Diploma in Industrial Training 1, BSc Hons
6. Master of Arts (Honours) French (With Integrated Year Abroad)
7. CompEx Courses
8. Master of Arts Health and wellbeing
9. MA English
10. NC Health and Social Care

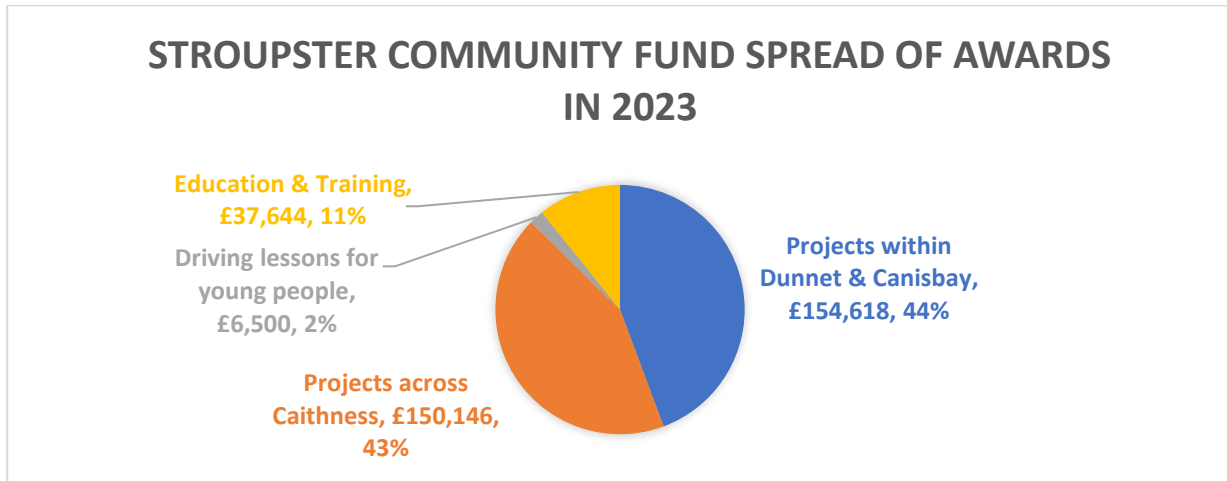


9 adults aged between 25 and 65 who wanted to do a short courses, online courses or qualifications to improve their career options. These are the courses they selected:

1. Online Permaculture Design Course for Artists and Creatives
2. Seal Pup Rehabilitation and Welfare
3. Seal Pup Rehabilitation and Welfare
4. HGV Licence
5. HGV Licence
6. HGV class 1 C+E
7. COSCA Certificate in Counselling Skills
8. Heartfelt Mindfulness
9. HGV Licence
10. Day Skipper Theory & Practical

# Fund Impact

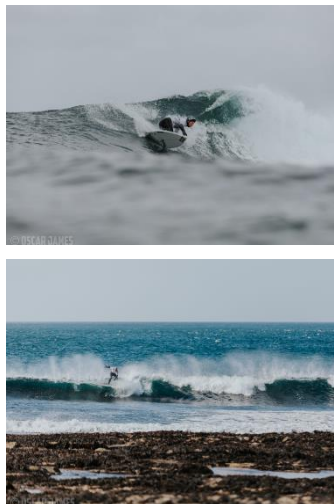
The Fund received its first donation from Greencoat UK Wind in 2016. Annual payments are £5,000 per MW of installed capacity at the wind farm and are index linked. Payments will be made over the 25 years the windfarm is likely to be operational. The 2023 annual donation, received in January 2023 was £206,972. The 2024 annual donation was received a little early, in December 2023, was £217,114.51.



Keiss Primary 7's conquering Fairburn's Jacob's ladder in October 2022:



National Surfing Championships 2023:



Visit to Caithness Seal Rehab and Release centre in Brough to see the capital improvements and meet rehabilitating seals.



## Foundation Scotland

For more information contact:

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