



EDF Renewables Corriemoillie Contin Community Fund

Fund Factsheet

What is the EDF Renewables Corriemoillie Contin Community Fund?

The EDF Renewables Corriemoillie Community Fund is a charitable fund that supports community groups benefitting residents living in the community council areas of Contin, Garve & District, Lochbroom, Marybank Scatwell & Strathconon, and Strathpeffer. 20% of the Fund goes to an Education & Training Fund covering these five areas. Of the remaining 80%, the Contin Community Fund receives 7% to support charitable activity in the Contin area.

The Fund is provided by EDF Renewables, the company which owns and operates the Corriemoillie Wind Farm. The Fund will be available as long as the wind farm is operating, which is expected to be up to 25 years.

Who is Foundation Scotland?

The Contin Community Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland, which has a strong track record of administering community benefit funds across Scotland. Foundation Scotland is a charity (no. SC022910) dedicated to strengthening communities by awarding grants that make a genuine difference to the lives of local people. It runs a range of grants programmes which support the work of groups and organisations across Scotland.

How much 'community benefit' money will the Fund have to distribute?

The initial payment to the Contin Community Fund, in 2017, was £13,566. The Fund is indexed linked to rise in accordance with the Consumer Price Index (CPI), reviewed annually, with Year 1 taken as the base year for indexation calculation. Payment dates for the Fund are pegged to the annual anniversary of the date of full commercial operation of the Corriemoillie Wind Farm, which was 19th December 2016.

Who makes decisions on grants?

The Panel that takes the decisions on applications is made up of seven local people. One person is nominated by Contin Community Council and six people have been recruited through an open recruitment process. In order to ensure that the Panel will be as representative of the community as possible, the Panel has a mix of ages, has both male and female members, has members living in different parts of the community, and has a wide range of perspectives and expertise.

Foundation Scotland will assess your application and a report will be provided to the Panel, and the Panel will decide on your application. The Panel will normally meet around six to seven weeks after the deadline for applications, and will also guide the overall Fund strategy. If the funding is not awarded in full by the Panel each year, it will roll over to the next year, and will not be lost.

What is the purpose of the Fund?

The Fund will provide grants to community groups to support charitable activities. Applicants should consider the community priorities which were first set out at an Open Day in Contin in May 2015 and are reviewed annually. Current priorities have been identified as access, history and heritage and improving outdoor spaces (woods and play park). The Panel will also fund projects outwith these priorities. Grants from the Fund will pay for both revenue items (e.g. running costs), and capital items (e.g. to buy some equipment).

The Fund cannot support:

- Projects which do not primarily benefit people living within the Contin Community Council area.
- Individuals or groups without a constitution.
- The advancement of religion or party politics.
- Overseas trips or the repayment of loans or payment of debts.
- Retrospective funding (i.e. paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application can be made, including loans or debts).
- Activities contrary to the interests of companies or other clients donating to the Fund.
- Activities likely to bring Foundation Scotland, or companies donating to the Fund into disrepute.
- Anti-renewable energy/anti-wind farm activities, including activities contrary to the interests of EDF Renewables and its subsidiaries.

The purposes of the Fund may change over the lifetime of the Fund, as determined by the Panel, in order to meet the changing needs of local people.

Who can apply?

Groups and organisations working to benefit people in the Contin Community Council area can apply for a grant. The group must have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and be set up on a not-for-profit basis. But the group does not need to be a registered charity to apply.

When are the application deadlines?

There will be two rounds of grant making each year (if there is sufficient money available for a second round of awards). The relevant dates for 2020 are:

	<u>Application closing date</u>	<u>Application decision date</u>
Year 4 Round 2	24 August 2020	5 October 2020
Year 5 Round 1	8 February 2021	22 March 2021

However, should your group require a grant at short notice, that may be possible. See 'How often will grants be made?' below.

How much can I apply for and how do I apply?

The minimum award is £250. The maximum figure is £3,000. You apply by completing an application form. You can download a form or apply on-line at the [Foundation Scotland website](https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/contin/). <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/contin/> Applications for more than £3,000 will be considered where exceptional need and impact can be demonstrated. Those wishing to apply for more than £3,000 are advised to call the Fund Co-ordinator (contact details below) to discuss their application before submitting.

How often will grants be made?

Applications will be considered twice per year. Application deadlines will be publicised via posters, local web-sites and social media, and the local press. Each application will be considered on its merits.

Short notice applications (requiring a grant outside the Fund deadlines) may be considered by the Panel if the following criteria are met: there is a pressing and unforeseen deadline for the expenditure; there is a clear benefit to the community as a whole, beyond the aspirations of a single organisation/group; and funds are available to support the award.

How long will we have to spend the grant?

Groups that receive a grant will normally have up to 12 months to spend their grant.

Can a community group have more than one grant at a time?

Yes, this is feasible where the grants are being used for different projects. All applications are subject to an assessment by Foundation Scotland so the application will be assessed even if the group is already in receipt of a grant.

What happens at the assessment stage?

Part of Foundation Scotland's role is to ensure that the project being proposed is feasible, that there is a clear need for grant support, and that the group applying can manage the grant and the project.

Foundation Scotland is also regulated by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) so needs to demonstrate that the EDF Renewables Corriemoillie Fund – which is a charitable fund – is providing public benefit and being used charitably. The assessment stage is proportionate and Foundation Scotland will help rather than hinder!

Can we get help with preparing the application?

Contact the Fund Co-ordinator Marion McDonald (contact details are below), and she will help guide you through the process.

Are grants only available to community groups?

Contin Community Council has set up a Micro Grant scheme with £678 from the Contin Community Fund initially. This will provide small grants of up to £250 to groups (either informal groups or constituted groups) or individuals who want to organise events, projects or other activities etc for the benefit of the community. Contact Contin Community Council for an application form at contincommunitycouncil@gmail.com Micro Grant application forms should be returned to Chair, Contin Community Council, 10 Woodland Park, Contin, Strathpeffer, IV14 9EU.

What is the Community Council's role in the Fund?

Foundation Scotland has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Contin Community Council regarding the Fund. The Community Council decided that a Panel of local people should be appointed to take decisions on the Fund, and under the Memorandum the Community Council has the right to nominate one member to the Panel.

Where can I find out more?

Please call Foundation Scotland on the numbers below for more information:

Fund Co-ordinator

Marion McDonald
Foundation Scotland
07912 759524

marion@foundationscotland.org.uk

Fund Administrator

Kathryn Brignall
Foundation Scotland
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