



Auchrobert Community Fund

Fund Factsheet

What is the Auchrobert Community Fund and who is it for?

The Auchrobert Community Fund is funded by Falck Renewables from its Auchrobert wind farm in South Lanarkshire. The fund supports projects located within or directly benefiting the area of Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill and Boghead. This is called 'the area of benefit'.

How is the Auchrobert Community Fund managed and who makes decisions about it?

Awards are decided by an Advisory Panel, currently made up of representatives of Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Coordination Group; Boghead Community Group and Thornton Road Community Centre Association. Currently the Panel comprises:

George Buckley	Thornton Road Community Centre Association
Evans Watson	Thornton Road Community Centre Association
Ian Grant	Boghead Community Group
John Mclean	Boghead Community Group
John Hamilton	Blackwood Kirkmuirhill Village Coordination Group
Jim Troup	Blackwood Kirkmuirhill Village Coordination Group
Vicki Connick	Community Member

The Fund is held and administered by Foundation Scotland, a national grant-making charity. The Foundation receives and processes applications and works with the Panel to award grants.

Who can apply for an award?

Applicants must normally fulfil the following conditions to apply to the fund:

- The proposal is for projects or activities consistent with the overall charitable purpose of the Auchrobert Community Fund;
- Applicants have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and are set up on a not-for-private-profit basis. However, applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply.
- Applicants have a representative membership structure i.e. they do not unduly restrict their membership and/or the committee or board is elected by and accountable to, a wider group of people.
- Applicants provide their latest set of accounts signed by an independent third party and a copy of a recent bank statement.

How much is available?

The Auchrobert Community Fund income comprises index-linked annual payments. The amount remaining in 2020 for distribution is £63,450.75, any unspent funds at the end of the year will be available in 2021. The amount available for distribution in 2021 and future years will be at least £51,000.

What sizes of awards are available?

Awards between £500 and £5,000 are available with the option that people can approach Foundation Scotland if there is reason for requesting a larger sum. Foundation Scotland will bring any expressions of interest to the Auchrobert Community Advisory Panel to consider. If you are interested in applying for funds and would like to discuss your project please contact Foundation Scotland. Applications can be made online at www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/falck-auchrobert/ or by email. Pre-application enquiries are welcome. See below for contact details.

A **micro grant** scheme, for awards under £500, is also available and administered directly by Kirkmuirhill Coordination Group. Applications are by a simple application form and decisions are made on a rolling basis. Please contact the Kirkmuirhill Coordination group directly for further details.

What are the deadlines and timescales?

The fund operates up to two funding rounds per year. Current dates are on the fund web page. Groups will receive a decision approximately 6-8 weeks after the closing date.

What will the Auchrobert Community Fund support?

The Fund will support charitable activities that benefit Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill and Boghead. Projects may be focused on general community activity or services/activities for specific groups (e.g.: families, older people, younger people, those with particular needs). However, all projects must clearly be benefitting those who live within part or all of the area of benefit.

Awards can support a wide range of costs and activities including equipment costs, running costs for local groups, staff or sessional worker costs, consultations, maintenance or refurbishment of community facilities etc.

What other criteria apply to the fund?

As well as demonstrating a fit with the aims outlined above, applicants are encouraged to consider the following:

- **Match funding:** That other possible funding sources for the project have been explored. This might include applicants raising some funds through their own fundraising efforts. The fund should not displace funding that could be obtained from other sources but should help lever-in additional funds if possible. Additionally, it should not reduce community-based groups' commitment to organising local activities that contribute to a vibrant community calendar and promote community spirit. Ideally, applicants can demonstrate that a percentage of the total project cost will be sourced from other funding sources, including the applicant organisation itself, which might be in a position to contribute to the project cost.
- **Local procurement:** That local suppliers will be used for the provision of goods and services, where appropriate (e.g. in terms of quality of products / services available) and feasible (in terms of

availability and cost). 'Local' will vary depending on the nature and availability of the item/service in question.

- Care for our environment: That consideration has been given to minimising the environmental impact of projects and reducing the applicant organisation's 'carbon footprint'.
- Local consultation: That the organisation has consulted an appropriate number of the intended beneficiaries of the project and can demonstrate local support for the proposal.
- Partnership working: That the organisation has considered the benefits of delivering their project in partnership with other organisations. This could involve working with voluntary, private or public sector bodies that operate at local, regional or national level.

What cannot be supported?

Awards cannot support the following types of activity:

- The advancement of religion or party politics (including requests to support the core activities of religious or political groups);
- Activities understood to be the primary responsibility of statutory authorities;
- Projects primarily benefiting residents outwith the Area of Benefit (determined by the Community Council boundaries);
- Activities contrary to the interests of Falck Renewables or Foundation Scotland;
- Activities likely to bring Falck Renewables or Foundation Scotland into disrepute;
- Anti-renewable energy or anti-windfarm activities;
- Retrospective funding (i.e. paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application to the fund can be made);
- The repayment of loans or payment of debt;
- Costs towards any element of overseas trips.

How can I apply?

Application forms and guidance are available online or to download from

www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/falck-auchrobert/ If you require an application to be sent to you please contact the Programme Administrator (see contact details below).

What if I have more questions?

We welcome pre-application enquiries. For further advice or information on the Auchrobert Community Fund or to discuss your project proposal informally, please contact the Foundation Scotland team on the number above.

Currently due to coronavirus, all applications must be submitted online or via email (with signed supporting documents attached) to communitybenefit@foundationscotland.org.uk

For any questions please contact the Programme Administrator on 01557 814 927 or via the email above



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