

Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund

Fund Factsheet

What is Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund and who is it for?

The Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund is funded by Falck Renewables from its Assel Valley wind farm in South Ayrshire. The fund supports projects located within or directly benefiting the community council area of Girvan & District. Other funds are available for projects benefitting the neighbouring community council areas of Barr and Pinwherry & Pinmore, and these are administered under separate arrangements.

How is Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund managed and who makes decisions about it?

An Advisory Panel, made up of Girvan & District Community Councillors, decides on awards from the fund. 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 Girvan & District Assel Valley 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 provide their latest set of accounts signed by an independent third party, or if the group has been operating for less than one year, they should provide a cash-flow projection.

How much is available?

The fund income comprises index-linked annual payments. The amount available in 2017 is approximately £47,592. From 2018, around £25,000 will be available each year.

What sizes of awards are available?

Awards between £500 and £5,000 are available. Applications can be made online at www.foundationscotland.org.uk/AsselValleyGirvan or by email or in writing. Pre-application enquiries are welcome. See below for contact details.

A **small grant** scheme, for awards up to £500, is also available and administered directly by Girvan and District Community Council. Applications are by a simple application form and decisions are made on a rolling basis. Please contact the Community Council directly for further details.

What are the deadlines and timescales?

The deadline for applications for 2017 are Monday 20th March and Monday 4th September. Groups will receive a decision eight to ten weeks after the closing date.

What will Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund support?

Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund will support charitable activities that benefit the community of Girvan & District. 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, priority for awards can be given to projects that address the following additional criteria.

- **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. In some cases it could be taken to mean within Girvan and the surrounding area, but in others South Ayrshire or indeed the South of Scotland might be most appropriate).
- **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 whether delivering their project in partnership with other organisations / groups will add value (financial, capability, or other). 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 Girvan & District Community Council, Falck Renewables, Foundation Scotland or any other companies or donors contributing to the fund
- Activities likely to bring Girvan & District Community Council, Falck Renewables, Foundation Scotland, or any companies or donors contributing to the fund 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 debts.
- Costs towards any element of overseas trips that are not part of a recognised Twin Town arrangement.
- Activities benefitting primarily flora or fauna

How can I apply?

Application forms and guidance are available online or to download from www.foundationscotland.org.uk/AsselValleyGirvan or by post or email from the Programme Administrator at Foundation Scotland on 01557 814927 or office@foundationscotland.org.uk.

Completed and signed applications should be submitted to Girvan & District Assel Valley Community Fund at Foundation Scotland, The Kiosk, Gatehouse of Fleet, Dumfries and Galloway, DG7 2HP

What if I have more questions?

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



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