

Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund Main Grants Programme Fund Factsheet

What is the Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund and who is it for?

Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund is provided by Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd from its Blackcraig wind farm in Dumfries & Galloway.

Main Grants from the Fund can support projects located within or directly benefiting people in the following community council areas: Balmaclellan, Balmaghie, Carsphairn, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Crossmichael & District, Dalry, Dunscore, The Royal Burgh of New Galloway and Kells Parish and Parton. For boundary maps and other information on community council areas please see the Dumfries & Galloway authority website or contact Foundation Scotland for assistance.

The **purpose of the Fund** is help these communities be **even better places to live and visit** for people of all ages by becoming more **connected, strong, creative, inclusive, healthy and long-lasting**.

The Fund's **current priorities** are to:

- **Make life better** for local residents and visitors by helping to meet their social, emotional, physical and environmental needs and wishes.
- **Stimulate the feeling of belonging** and pride in the area by encouraging people to join in with positive and creative activities
- **Encourage activity that shares and celebrates the skills, experience and knowledge** of local people.

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

Decisions on grant awards are made by The Glenkens & District Trust, which is made up of ten local volunteer Trustees. Administration support is provided by Foundation Scotland, a national grant-making charity. Their role includes assessing applications received and general liaison with groups.

How much is available?

£213,275 will be available for distribution in 2019 through the Main Grants Programme. It is hoped that a similar sum will be available in successive years but this is not guaranteed. Other Blackcraig funds will be available from your Community

Council, and you should contact it directly to confirm.

Who can apply for an award?

Community groups and organisations providing services or activities that benefit one or more of the communities listed above can apply for an award. Applicants must have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and be set up on a not-for-private-profit basis. However applicants **do not** need to be registered charities to apply.

Community-led groups that are trading and using any surplus for the benefit of the community can apply. Applications from private, for-profit businesses are not eligible to apply.

Applicants must provide their latest set of annual accounts and a recent bank statement with the application. Annual accounts must be inspected and signed by an independent third party.

Where an organisation operates different projects through one legal entity the 'parent' organisation will be considered the applicant, although the main contact can be the person with most knowledge about the project for which funding is being sought.

Where a group wishes to apply for a grant for more than one project it may submit more than one application or consolidate multiple projects into a single application. However, any single application cannot exceed the maximum grant level across the various projects. In addition, applicants are expected to be aware of the many other groups and organisations in the area, of varying types, scale and capacity, competing for support from the Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund. If more than one application is made, or where more than one project features in an application, the organisation may be asked to confirm the priority order of the applications or projects to facilitate decision making by GDT.

What sizes of awards are available?

In anticipation of high demand, groups can apply for grants of between £500 and £25,000. These award levels will be reviewed after the first two rounds.

What are the deadlines and timescales?

In this first year, the Main Grants Programme will **open on June 1 2019 and close on August 23rd 2019**. Decisions will be made in late October. To ensure you comply with the exclusion on retrospective funding (see below) please ensure the project you

want support with is not starting before late October. If, because of the nature of the project, costs are ongoing then please note that the Fund cannot provide grants to cover costs already incurred.

A second funding round will operate at the beginning of 2020 if there are remaining funds to distribute. Check www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/blackcraig or call Foundation Scotland for latest details.

What kinds of costs can be supported?

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. Please see below for the kinds of activities that cannot be supported.

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 (including teaching equipment in schools).
- Organisations or groups with unduly restrictive membership criteria and/or where the committee or board is not elected by, or otherwise accountable to, a wider group of people.
- Grants to individuals or un-constituted groups (other than through the discretionary Community Council schemes and where that that grant provides community benefit) or grants to private for-profit businesses.
- Projects primarily benefiting residents outwith the Main Grants Programme area of benefit.
- Activities contrary to the interests of Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd, The Glenkens & District Trust or Foundation Scotland, or likely to bring any of them into disrepute.
- Anti-renewable energy or anti-wind farm activities.
- Retrospective funding (i.e. paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application to the Fund is made).
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts.

Fund Criteria (reflecting approaches the Fund wants to encourage)

Priority for awards will be given to projects that address one or more of the approaches outlined below which are designed to improve how community groups plan and deliver projects and work together better. Applicants are encouraged to show that they have

considered some of these in an appropriate and proportionate way relative to their project.

- **Partnership working:** Some groups already collaborate and share ideas and resources. We want to encourage more of that because we will all benefit from more sharing. So we want to encourage groups to explore if delivering their project in partnership with other organisations / groups adds value (financial, capability, or other). This could involve collaborating with other local groups or working with voluntary, private or public sector agencies that operate at local, regional or national levels.
- **Geographic breadth of impact:** We appreciate and respect that some activity is very place based and delivered to a specific group perhaps tied to a particular place. However, where possible, we want to encourage people to consider if their project or activity can link with or reach to other parts of the Fund's area of benefit.
- **Building skills, knowledge & understanding:** We want to encourage applicants to consider opportunities to build the skills and knowledge of group members or other local people, associations or organisations connected with the project. This could be formal or informal or through some form of mentoring activity, peer support or buddying scheme, or any other learning or development opportunity that could be created through the project.
- **Being imaginative:** The Fund can support established project activity but if people have ideas to try different things, we want to encourage that. Whether it's trialling a new event, running a service differently or reaching new people in different ways. We don't want our communities to be limited by what they have known until now. We want us all to think ambitiously and creatively especially where people have new ways of solving old problems.
- **In it for the long term:** We want to encourage applicants to take a long term view of their project. So when an application is for recurring activity (such as rental of a space or an annual festival), please consider how that the activity might become more sustainable at some point in the future. Of course some things are not sustainable without external funding and will always be grant dependent. Do tell us if this is the case with your project and why.
- **Respecting and caring for our local environment – for ourselves and future generations:** We recognise the importance of protecting our environment. We recognise too that our actions as citizens and participants in community life can contribute to the growing climate emergency we all now face.

So consider where and how your project can contribute, even in a very small way, to combatting this emergency. This may, for example mean, encouraging car sharing if volunteer travel is involved, or other carbon reduction/ energy awareness features.

- **Leverage/match funding:** Match funding is not mandatory but we would hope that those applying for higher value grants will be able to demonstrate that other funders are contributing to the total project cost or bids are in progress.
- **Procuring smartly:** Where possible we encourage applicants to work with suppliers of goods and services local to their area. Of course the definition of 'local' will vary depending on the goods/services in question. In some cases it could be taken to mean suppliers located within the Fund Area of Benefit (the ten communities) but in others a more regional reach may be more appropriate.

How can I apply?

The simplest way is to apply online, via the fund web page www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/blackcraig Alternatively, application forms and guidance are available to download from the same page, or can be requested by email or post from the Programme Administrator at Foundation Scotland on office@foundationscotland.org.uk or 01557 814927. Materials will also be available at some shops, cafes and other outlets in communities across the area of benefit.

What if I have more questions?

We welcome pre-application queries. For further advice or information on the Fund or to discuss your project proposal informally, please contact the Foundation Scotland team by email office@foundationscotland.org.uk; phone 01557 814927 or post at The Kiosk, Gatehouse of Fleet, Dumfries & Galloway, DG7 2HP.
