



**Foundation
Scotland**

FUND REPORT

**RWE Rosehall Wind Farm
Community Fund**

Year 11 Report

1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023





The year at a glance



**ANNUAL DONATION
FROM RWE
£86,908.89**



**7 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED,
5 AWARDS MADE
£112,888**



**COSTS OF PROJECTS
SUPPORTED IN YEAR 11
£525,390.88**



**AWARDED SINCE FUND
ESTABLISHED (2012)
£892,569.65**



**FUND PANEL VISITED
ROSEHALL WIND FARM,
14TH NOVEMBER 2022**

Summary of Applications and Awards

- **Bonar Bridge Football Club:** awarded £3,888 towards the installation of new LED exterior lighting as part of the refurbishment of the car park serving the Bonar Bridge FC club house and community playing field at Migdale Park.
- **Kyle of Sutherland Hub:** awarded £60,000 to provide an annual subsidy to the Kyle of Sutherland Hub for three years, from 1st April 2023, to safeguard the vital services the Hub provides.
- **The Bradbury Centre:** awarded £25,000 towards core operational costs for two years to mitigate the effects of inflation and ensure a high-quality day-care service is available for four days a week to all residents in need, to promote health and connection and maintain people in their own homes.
- **Lairg Crofters Show:** awarded £4,000 to fund the purchase of a storage container for storing show equipment.
- **Lochview Rural Training:** awarded £20,000 to fund a contribution toward the manager's costs for 24 months, to develop the organisation and the services provided.

Financial Overview

In Year 11, RWE Renewables made a community benefit payment of £86,908.89 to the fund. The donation is split equally between the three communities, so each community was allocated £28,969.63. The following tables show the financial headlines for the fund year followed by a general summary of Fund finances for the Year. Grants paid out include multi-year grants allocations awarded in previous years towards projects continuing in Year 11.

Table 1: Financial headlines 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023

Financial Headlines 2022/23	
Annual donation from RWE	£86,908.89
Total value of grants awarded.	£112,888
Total costs of projects supported.	£525,390.88
Total grants paid out	£77,808.02

Table 2: Financial statement 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023

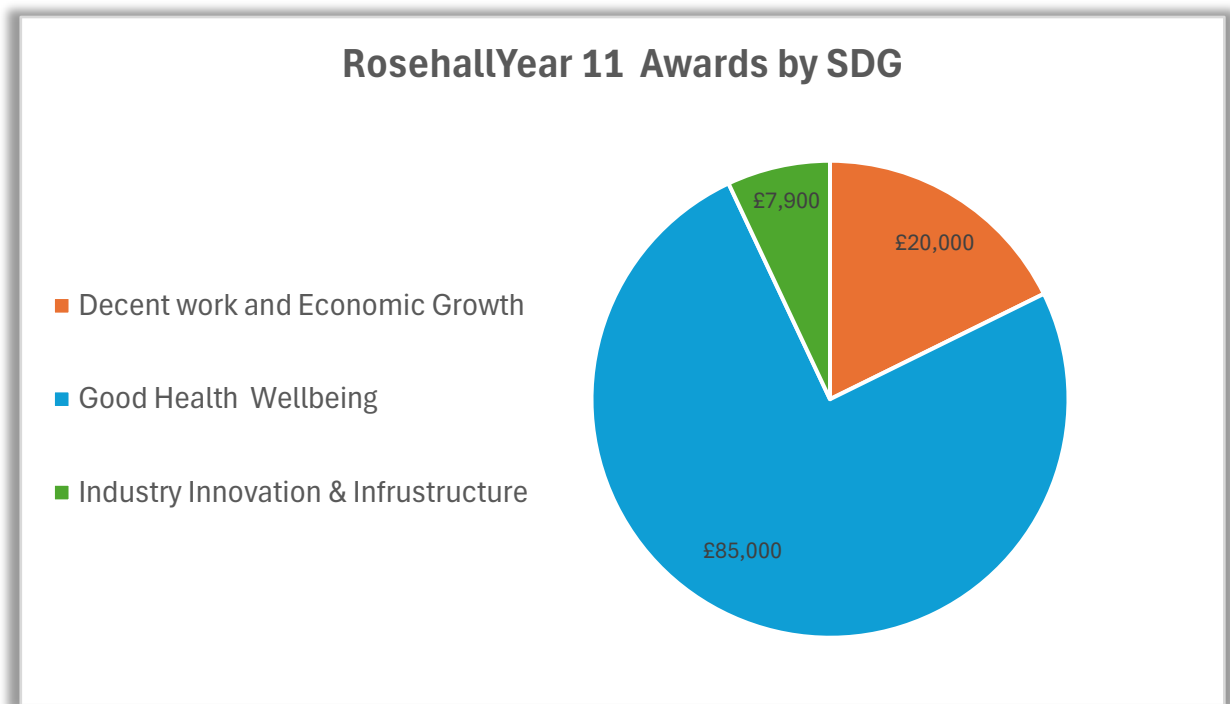
	General Account	Ardgay & District	Creich	Lairg	Balance in grant making funds
OPENING BALANCE (22nd Aug 2022)	£237.62	£8,039.47	£6,971.99	-£2,599.86	£12,411.60
INCOME:					
Year 11: Donation RWE Renewables	£86,908.89	£28,969.63	£28,969.63	£28,969.63	£86,908.89
Year 11: Foundation Scotland Costs	£8,690.89				
TOTAL	£95,837.40	£37,009.10	£35,941.62	£26,369.77	£99,320.49
EXPENDITURE					
Total Grants Paid Out / Awarded this year (Sub Funds by Community Council Area)		£22,960.70	£27,219.94	£27,627.38	£77,808.02
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£77,537.68	£30,350.03	£31,702.03	£28,998.03	£91,050.09
Pending Payments (multi year awards)		£38,716.62	£38,716.68	£20,900.00	£4,259.25
CLOSING AVAILABLE BALANCE (31 Jul 2023)	£227.62	-£22,446.00	-£27,772.77	-£4,019.61	-£19,935.39

The negative available balance shown in the financial statement includes allocations against future years but does not include the value of future donations.

Awards by Sustainable Development Goals

Foundation Scotland use the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to help assess the impact of awards made for each fund. The 17 SDGs were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The SDGs are integrated; they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

Each award from the fund has been assigned a primary SDG to which the purpose of the award fits most closely, although awards will often deliver across several SDGs. A summary of the value of awards made in year 11 by their primary SDG's is given below.



Impact Case Studies

Lochview Rural Training



Lochview Rural Training (LRT) was established in 2021 and aims to promote, organise and deliver rural learning, training, and career opportunities, to improve awareness, knowledge and access to the rural landscape and promote an understanding of the value of rural life for social wellbeing for all. LRT operates as a social enterprise so the fees from the adult courses help to subsidise its work with young people.

Its regular projects and services include a Junior Crofters Club and a Young Crofters Club as well as traditional and contemporary rural skills for adults.

These initiatives are seen as key to supporting the next generation of rural entrepreneurs and the long-term sustainability of local economies and communities in East Sutherland.

LRT also work with directly schools and a range of local partners to support broad access to additional education opportunity and accredited qualifications.

In January 2023 LRT was awarded £20,000 over two years towards the Managers salary to enable it to deliver and develop its work as a key provider of rural training in East Sutherland.

During 2023, they worked with TYKES young carers, Highlife Highland, Lairg & District Learning Centre, Brora Learning Zone, local primary and high schools and the Highland Council employability and NHS Mental Health teams.

A wide variety of courses have been run for young people on lambing, tuppung, sheep shearing, needle felting, food growing, basket weaving, dry stone dyking, fencing, meat boxes, wool spinning, peg looms, and straw crafts.

As a result of the assured support for the Manager role, LRT has been able to run some additional activity in the past year alongside its more established work with adults and young people.

This included a muddy boots summer club, some women only courses and gaining ASDAN accreditation which means it can offer accredited courses to young people.



LRT also; supported young people to gain 3 VOSCAR volunteer awards, 12 saltire awards and 18 dynamic youth awards and secured funding from several other funders to deliver fully and partially funded courses.

LRT report that they delivered 23 Junior Crofters Sessions, 28 Young Crofters sessions, 59 school sessions, 115 Employability Sessions, 20 Adult Workshops and 13 1:1 Sessions.

Quotes from people taking part in sessions include:

“I attend Lochview as I am suffering from health issues. I have always struggled in school due to my autism but since attending here I feel my physical wellbeing is improving. I am building up my time attending and am now able to complete 9 hours per week..... I hope in the next 6-12 months with the help of Lochview that I can look at getting a job full time on a farm!” **Youth attendee**

“I have seen my daughter blossom, excited for croft days and planning her own future as a crofter. The knowledge, skills, goal setting and personal growth he’s experienced is all due to her time at Lochview Rural Training centre.”

Parent of young crofter



Bonar Bridge Football Club

Bonar Bridge Football Club offers football training, games and associated activity for primary aged children, youth players and adult men at Migdale park, Bonar Bridge.

It was awarded £3,888 towards a £23,628 project to install new LED exterior and the refurbishment of the car park serving the Bonar Bridge FC club house and community playing field at Migdale Park.

The project to refurbish the car park followed the successful completion of the asset transfer of the clubhouse & changing facilities and their complete refurbishment. This was phase one of a three-phase project to secure the facilities and playing fields for the Club and for the benefit of the school and wider community.

With over a hundred primary age and youth players attending training sessions on weekday evenings at the time of application concerns were being raised about player safety due to poor lighting in the club's car park. This was particularly the case before and after training sessions during the winter months which is the bulk of the season.

The car park has space for around 30 cars but with no lined parking spaces, poor drainage, and a difficult entrance it had become chaotic and dangerous at peak times particularly in the dark. There were several car collisions prior to the refurbishment and safety concerns were particularly acute around younger primary aged children who are particularly vulnerable due to their size in relation to vehicles.



By resurfacing the car park, improving drainage, improving the entrance, and providing LED car park lighting, the club has made the car park safer for all users including members of the public using the car park to access the public playing field, and for parents dropping children off at the nearby primary school.

The club's use of directed LED lighting also answered the concerns of nearby residents over light pollution, and the refurbishment as a whole has also made the club and Migdale Park itself more attractive to wider members of the community.

Though a relatively modest grant, it demonstrates a community safety benefit that far outweighs the financial value of the Rosehall Fund grant. With additional funds coming from other local community benefit funds and local business sponsors, the project demonstrates how the fund has contributed to a long-term improvement in a local sports facility that will have benefits for residents for years to come.

One user said: "I feel so much safer entering and leaving the car park and 100% less anxious about hitting another car or person. The lighting is brilliant, and the new surface is not waterlogged. The entrance improvements have definitely slowed vehicles down."

Community Panel

The SSE & RWE Community Funds Panel is governed by Terms of Reference agreed between the Community Council and Foundation Scotland and is reviewed from time to time. All panel members receive an induction to the fund, their role, and Foundation Scotland's grant making processes. Together, panel members bring a range of experience and knowledge with backgrounds including education, agriculture, health and social care and many others.

13 volunteer representatives serving on the Panel, comprising of two community councillors and two elected community representatives from each of the three community council areas.



During Year 11, Panel members were:

Ardgay & District Community Council area:

- Marion Turner – Community Council representative
- Silvia Muras – Community Council representative
- David Hannah
- Marc Foggin

Creich Community Council area:

- Keith Williams – Community Council representative
- John White – Community Council representative
- Caroline Munro
- Sarah Forest

Lairg Community Council area:

- Andrew Mackay – Community Council representative
- Jackie Young – Community Council representative
- Steven McLean
- Robert Johnstone

Conclusions

Year 11 has been a steady year for the fund which has also underlined its strategic approach to community development and opportunity through its ongoing support through multi year awards for key local anchor organisations including Kyle of Sutherland Hub, Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust, the Bradbury Day Care Centre and Lairg and District Community Initiatives.

The decision to support Lochview Rural Training with a two-year award an organisation at the time of decision that was only 12 months old - has also proved to be a key investment for the fund which has demonstrated how community benefit funds can bring in significant impact through support for salaries and core running that give local organisations capacity to access additional funding and bring forward projects.

For the funds awarded in Year 11 total project costs showed a 5:1 return in project value for each pound invested.

Though the number of applications to the fund appear low, the overall annual spend remains high and the impact of the fund is significant.

Further Information

For more information contact:

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Appendix

1. Fund Context

The Rosehall Wind Farm Community Fund is provided by RWE Renewables, owner of the 24.7 MW Rosehall Wind Farm, 2.5 km north-east of Rosehall in Sutherland in the north of Scotland.

The fund was launched in August 2012. Annual donations to the fund are £2,500 per MW of installed capacity. Payments are index linked to when the wind farm started exporting electricity and will be made over the 25 years the wind farm is likely to be operational. In Year 10, the annual donation to the fund was £77,488.

The fund supports community activity and development by supporting the charitable activities of constituted, not-for-profit groups working to benefit residents of three community council areas: Ardgay & District, Creich and Lairg (the fund area).

Requests to support a wide range of costs and activities can be considered, for example: equipment costs; running costs; events; staff or sessional workers costs; consultations; feasibility studies; refurbishments and other costs.

The SSE & RWE Community Funds Panel makes recommendations on awards from both RWE Rosehall Wind Farm Community Fund and the two SSE Funds that operate in the same area - the Achany Community Fund and the Kyle of Sutherland Apprenticeship Scheme.

The panel has 12 volunteer representatives serving on it, made up of two community councillors and two further community representatives from each of the three community council areas.

2. About Foundation Scotland

Foundation Scotland helps communities create positive change and deliver lasting impact. We support philanthropists to help their personal giving make the most difference.

We work with donors to invest in community action that enables people and places to flourish. We work in partnership with communities to maximise opportunities from place-based funds. And we offer social investment opportunities to enable social enterprises, community organisations and charities to grow and deliver positive social impact.

We have distributed more than £170 million to grassroots organisations across the country since the Foundation launched in 1996. Our developmental approach and in-depth knowledge of charitable and community sectors ensure that funds entrusted to the Foundation make a real difference to people's lives nationwide.

Foundation Scotland is an independent Scottish charity (SC022910), one of 47 community foundations in the UK and part of a global network of over 1800 foundations worldwide.

For more information about Foundation Scotland, please visit <http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk>