

RWE Rosehall Community Fund

Fund Report
January 2024 - December 2024

Executive Summary

The year at a glance



Annual donation from RWE: £98,911.42



Awards paid out: £86,100



Total cost of projects supported in 2024:
£1,183,552

2024 has been a significant year for the RWE Rosehall Community Benefit Fund. Most notably, it brought the publication of the Biggar Economics study jointly commissioned by RWE, Foundation Scotland and SSE Renewables. The study reviewed the impact of the community benefit funds from the RWE Rosehall and SSE Renewables Achany wind farms, finding that they delivered substantial and lasting benefits to the local communities and offered valuable insights into how such benefits could be maximised in other areas.

This report estimates that to date this funding has:

- Generated wellbeing benefits valued at between £10.1 and £14.5 million.
- Supported the creation of around £11.8 million local economic value; and
- Enabled the creation of around 18 long-term jobs.

[You can read the full report here.](#)

In addition to the publication, the fund has continued to successfully support the local community, awarding £86,100 in grants in 2024 to both new initiatives and ongoing, highly valued multi-year awards. 2024 has also seen 5 new panel members stepping up to replace retirees, bringing a range of skills, experience, and new perspectives alongside a deep commitment to the continued development and prosperity of its communities.

Financial Overview

In 2024, RWE Renewables made a community benefit payment of £98,911.42 to the fund. The donation is split equally between the three communities, so each community was allocated £32,970.47. The tables below show the financial headlines for the fund year followed by a general summary of fund finances for 2024. Grants paid out include multiyear grant allocations awarded in previous years towards projects continuing in 2024.

Table 1: Financial headlines 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Financial Headlines 2024	
Annual donation from RWE	£98,911.42
Total value of grants awarded.	£26,100.00
Total grants paid out	£86,100.00
Total costs of projects supported.	£1,183,522.00

Table 2: Financial statement 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

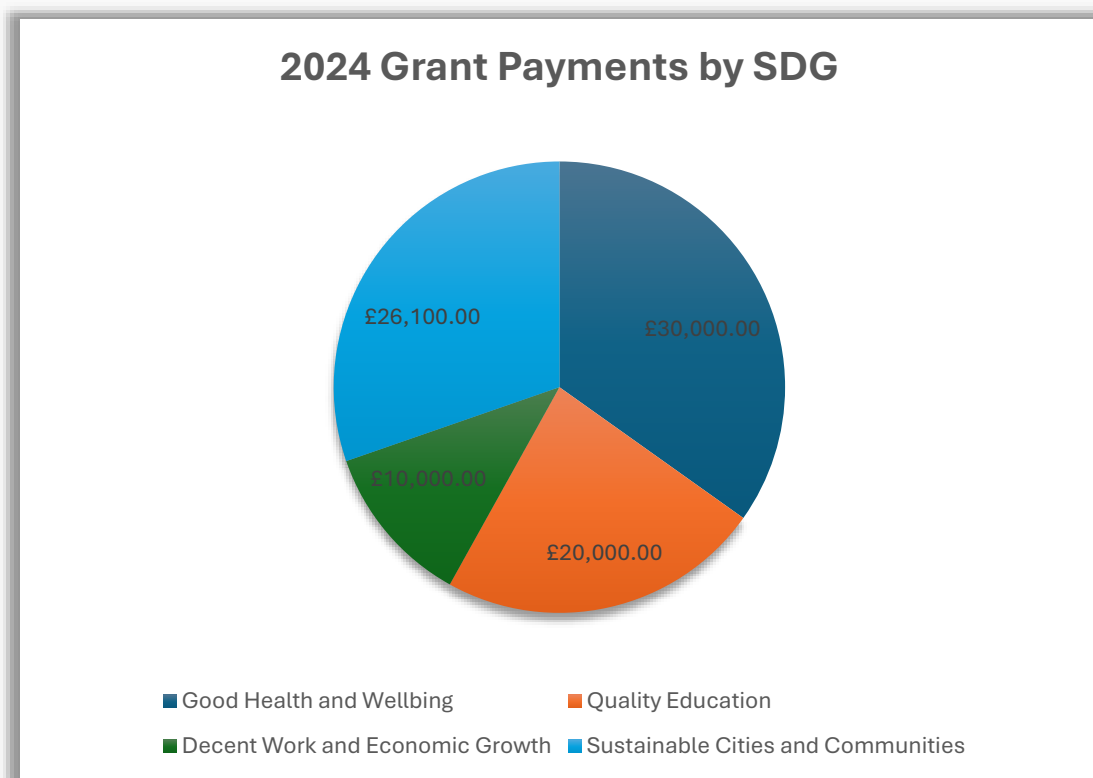
	Ardgay & District	Creich	Lairg	Total
OPENING BALANCE (1st Jan 2024)	£34,146.55	£28,819.81	£26,340.50	£89,306.86
INCOME:				
Year 12: Donation RWE Renewables	£32,970.47	£32,970.47	£32,970.48	£98,911.42
TOTAL	£67,117.02	£61,790.28	£59,310.98	£188,218.28
EXPENDITURE				
Total Grants Paid Out / Awarded this year (Sub Funds by Community Council Area)	£33,249.99	£33,250.00	29,599.99	£96,099.98
Grants Cancelled/ returned	£3,333.33	£3,333.34	£3,333.32	£9,999.99
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£29,916.66	£29,916.66	£26,266.67	£86,099.99
Pending Payments (multi year awards)	£9,999.99	£10,000.01	£10,000.00	£30,000.00
CLOSING AVAILABLE BALANCE (31 Dec 2024)	£27,200.37	£21,873.61	£23,044.31	£72,118.29

Awards by Sustainable Development Goals

Foundation Scotland uses 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 recognise 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 2024 by their primary SDG's is given below.



Grants Awarded and Paid Out in 2024

New grants awarded

Lairg CC £2,100: To contribute to the cost of maintaining the green spaces in the village, by contracting a Village Officer to improve the local environment and enhance community life.

KSH £24,000 - The Den project: Funds towards the costs of building a new permanent purpose-built activity space in order to add year-round capacity for activity and events to the Kyle of Sutherland Hub and generate additional income towards Hub costs for the benefit of residents.

Total awarded £26,100

Multi-year payments

A total of £60,000 was paid out in multi-year awards. This includes 4-year strategic investment awards made to 5 local anchor organisations in 2020.

Lairg and District Community Initiative £10,000: To make a strategic investment in Lairg District Community Initiatives allowing the group to carry out activities as designed by the staff, boards and volunteers over four years. (Final payment)

Lochview Rural Training £10,000: To fund a contribution toward the manager's costs for 24 months, to develop the organisation and the services provided. (Year 2 payment)

Lairg & District Learning Centre £10,000: Funds towards the costs of the manager's salary for two years to increase hours to full time to insure the continued smooth running of the organisation and implementation of its long-term net zero plans.

Kyle of Sutherland Hub £20,000: 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. (Final year payment.)

Criech, Croick and Kincardine Day Centre AKA The Bradbury Centre £10,000: 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. (Payment two – final.)

Conclusions

2024 has seen the fund play a vital role in supporting the community to provide essential services, much-needed project funding and crucial early support for an ambitious new capital development project (Kyle of Sutherland Hub - The Den). As well as responding positively to new ideas, its ongoing support for key local anchor organisations through multiyear support, some of which was unrestricted, underlined a high impact, joined up, and strategic approach to community benefit across the three communities.

The overall annual spend remained high and the impact of the fund was significant. It has provided tangible positive benefits to residents and addressed immediate needs as well as long-term ambition and aspiration.

Further Information

For more information contact:

Chris Lee, Community Funds Advisor

Email: clee@foundationscotland.org.uk

Tel: 07912 759525

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 £200 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.

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