

# Community Funding Bulletin 2025



## Halkirk District Wind Farm Community Funds

Foundation Scotland administers three of the local community benefit funds from local wind farms, for the residents of Halkirk District. These wind farms are Achlachan, Bad á Cheò and Halsary, collectively known as the ABH Funds.

Foundation Scotland is an independent charity with expertise in grant making and provides governance and administrative support to the Funds under contract to the wind farm owners. The Foundation's costs for this service are paid from the Fund.

Decisions on awards are made by a local Funding Panel, comprising up to 14 volunteers from the community.

### 2025 Fund activity

During 2025 the three Funds have...



Awarded 62 grants ranging from £157 to £25,000 totalling £188,716...



Including 31 awards to community groups totalling £152,903



.. and 20 awards to people learning to drive totalling £9,657...



... and 11 awards to people doing other training courses totalling £26,156.

### How to apply

#### Guidance and forms



For guidance and to apply online go to: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk> or use the short link: [bit.ly/ABHfunds](https://bit.ly/ABHfunds) or scan this QR code with your smart phone:



#### Application Deadlines:

- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> March
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> July
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> September
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> December



(decisions take 6-8 weeks)



**ABH Funds**  
Halkirk and District



## Awards Made in 2025

### Awards to groups or projects within the Halkirk District Fund area (20 projects receiving £116,766)

£375 – **Spittal SWI** – Replace broken Christmas light braids

£25,000 – **Caithness Voluntary Group** – Purchase Halkirk District Community Bus

£15,000 – **Caithness Voluntary Group** – Halkirk District Community Bus & core operating costs

£18,047 – **Caithness Voluntary Group** – Halkirk District Development Officer

£3,000 – **Halkirk & District Community Council** – Halkirk District Microgrant scheme

£1,819 – **1st Halkirk Guides** – Trip to Landmark Adventure Park

£2,385 – **Sidh Chailleann Art** – Caithness Art & Stone Festival

£1,200 – **Scotscaid Hall** – Summer Zumbini & music classes for families

£1,830 – **Halkirk Young Farmers** – Hall hire for activities

£5,000 – **Halkirk Young Farmers** – Livestock dressing equipment

£1,046 – **Halkirk Young Farmers** – Travel costs for speechmaking event

£650 – **Halkirk Young Farmers** – Sports equipment for new activities

£1,680 – **Spittal SWI** – Annual running costs for meetings & trips

£5,650 – **Halkirk Primary School Parent Council** – Educational & sports trips for pupils

£2,551 – **Spittal Village Hall** – Core hall costs

£475 – **Northern Pilgrims Way Group SCIO** – Print leaflets for Skinnet Stone launch

£1,514 – **Northern Pilgrims Way Group SCIO** – Landscape Skinnet Stone site & improve access

£6,000 – **Northern Pilgrims Way Group SCIO** – Flagstone wall & signage for Skinnet Stone

£18,500 – **Association of Northern Trails Scotland** – To develop new path network

£5,044 – **Ormlie Community Association** – To run Halkirk Baby & Toddler group

### Awards to groups or projects out with the Halkirk District Fund area (11 projects receiving £36,137)

£7,552 – **Venture North** – Expand Taste North festival & Foodie Fortnight

£4,000 – **Caithness Youth Pipe Band** – Attend Edinburgh Tartan Parade

£1,000 – **Caithness Voluntary Group** – Winter poverty relief (food, warm items, energy aids)

£1,000 – **Thurso High School PTA** – Bus costs for Paris educational trip

£1,000 – **Thurso High School PTA** – Support S6 university visit trip

£1,500 – **Caithness Farmers Society** – Year 1

setup & speaker costs

£1,500 – **Thurso Football Academy** – Professional coaching for 80 children

£4,585 – **Edinburgh Science Foundation** – Generation Science workshops in schools

£10,000 – **Assynt Mountain Rescue Team** – New base & equipment at Ormlie Industrial Estate

£3,000 – **Lyth Arts Centre** – Drama & comics clubs for youth

£1,000 – **Thurso Hockey Club** – Winter pitch fees & equipment

# Bad á Cheò Education and Training Awards

The purpose of the bursaries is to improve people's opportunities for employment. Anyone aged over 16 who lives within the Halkirk District area can apply for short courses or multi-year courses which they can see potential for employment in.

Costs might include course fees, course books, study aids, equipment etc. Please note travel, subsistence and accommodation costs will only be considered for people aged 16-25, and in the first instance students should check whether they are eligible for free bus travel.

31 Halkirk District residents received an award in a variety of subjects, including 20 who received a grant towards the cost of driving lessons.



## Micro-grants

Individuals or non-constituted groups looking for a small grant of up to £300, can apply for a micro-grant. For more information, please contact Halkirk District community council: [secretary@halkirkcommunitycouncil.org](mailto:secretary@halkirkcommunitycouncil.org)

## Joining the Panel

If you are interested in joining the Panel we'd love to hear from you. You can contact [eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk) or call 07801 530218

### The ABH Fund Balances Snapshot – on 31 December 2025

Fund Name	Balance
Achlachan Wind Farm Community Fund	£429.49
RWE Bad á Cheò Wind Farm Community Fund	£6,818.39
Halsary Windfarm Community Benefit Fund	£411.69
<b>The ABH Available Balances Total</b>	<b>£7,659.57</b>



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Halkirk and District