

Constituted Groups for Community Benefit Information and Guidelines

IMPORTANT – Start planning well before you will need any money. Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust (SFCT) cannot pay a grant retrospectively. Please contact SFCT and apply well ahead of committing to spending any money. It is essential that applicants await the decision of SFCT before commencing the project.

Aims and Objectives of the Constituted Group for Community Benefit Grant

Grants of up to £25,000.00

The Constituted Community Group grant scheme is designed to assist charities and community groups (constituted and not for profit organisations with charitable aims) to undertake projects to improve the quality of life and life chances of residents within the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council area.

Grants are awarded where they can achieve a significant positive impact and enable groups to fulfil their own objectives in our community. Groups active in social welfare, heritage, education, environment and community development may be supported with grants.

Our grants are directed at locally based projects involving and mainly initiated by residents of Stratherrick and Foyers. Successful grant applications must accord with the broad aims of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust and our funders.

Eligibility

Applicants must supply:

- A written signed constitution or governing document. This must include a dissolution clause.
- An annual income of less than £250,000.
- A minimum of three members on their management committee or board.
- A Bank Account in the name of the group operated by at least two unrelated signatories.
- Provided a Completion Report for any previous grant from SFCT.
- Minutes from previous AGMs (unless this is a new group).
- A set of Annual Accounts.
- Copy of most recent bank statement.

What SFCT will not fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups whose grant request is advancement of religion or politics (including requests to support the core activities of religious or political groups). • Groups whose grant request is to fulfil a statutory responsibility. • Groups with a purpose averse to SFCT and/or our funders interests or is likely to bring SFCT and/or funders into disrepute. • Groups that are anti-renewable energy/wind farm. • Projects that involve retrospective funding (costs incurred before a funding decision is made). • VAT costs that can be recovered. • Groups who have not provided a completion report for any previous grants awarded by SFCT. • Groups whose annual income in the current or previous financial year is over £250k. • Groups with fewer than 3 members on their management committee or board. • Groups who do not have two unrelated bank signatories. • Groups who do not have a constitution or governing document, that includes a dissolution clause. • Groups who will then distribute the funds as grants, bursaries, or loans. • Projects that do not benefit people in the Stratherrick and Foyers area. • Groups other than not-for-profit groups.
When can an application be made?	<p>Applications can be submitted on any date throughout the year. Once received they are held until the next grant application deadline.</p> <p>There are four advertised grant deadlines each year and these are published on the SFCT website.</p> <p>Incomplete forms or applications requiring further information will be returned to you requesting more detail.</p> <p><i>Please see important notice at the beginning of this document.</i></p>
Do I have to wait for SFCT to make a decision before the project can start?	<p>Yes, you must not proceed with your project until SFCT has made a decision on your application.</p> <p>All grant deadlines are published on the SFCT website.</p> <p>Please apply for your grant as early as possible to avoid any delays in processing your application.</p>
What can my group apply for?	<p>You may apply for the financial costs that will be incurred by your project. These may include equipment, training, sessional workers, food, fuel, transport and admission tickets. A single application may include a number of strands. For example, a piece of sporting equipment and help with coaching costs. You may apply for up to 100% of the costs of the project. All funds must be spent within 12 months of your award being made, and any unspent funds to be returned to SFCT. A breakdown of spend, including receipts and invoices is required at the end of the 12 month period along with your Completion Report.</p>

What must be included in my application?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please include as much information about your project or activity as you can. • Please supply quotes or pricelists, or screenshots, for any items you propose to purchase. SFCT normally expects applicants to seek three quotes for items over £500.00, and these are to be included with an application. • Remember to include details of a referee who should be someone who knows about your planned project and is independent of you. Please ask the Referee to make sure he or she is happy to act in this role and be contacted by SFCT.
Are there any other rules?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A maximum of two applications up to the value of £25,000.00 per group per project, is permitted each year. • As with all SFCT grants, previous recipients of grant must return a Grant Completion form for their last grant to be eligible to apply again. • You will have one year to spend the grant after which any unspent funds must be returned. • If your project repeats annually, you must submit a fresh application each year. • Applicants may apply for one-off projects that run over two or three years, for example an employee. Payment will be made at stages over the duration of the project provided an interim report is provided when requested.
Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust Funding	<p>SFCT uses funds it receives from renewable energy companies to support a range of community and individual grant schemes. This grant scheme is supported by funds from the community benefit money received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSE and Greencoat UK Stronelaig windfarm • SSE Dunmaglass windfarm • SSE Glendoe Hydroelectric scheme • Greencoat UK Wind Corriegarth windfarm • Green Highland Allt Luaidhe (228) Limited Knockie Hydroelectric scheme • Easter Aberchalder Partnerships wind turbine.
Publicity and general Data Protection regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please remember that if you are awarded a grant from SFCT, your name and the amount you received will be made available on the SFCT website. • This information is made public to demonstrate how funds are being used and to encourage other applicants to use the grant scheme. • Please check the SFCT Privacy Policy on the SFCT website at www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk
Further help	<p>If you need help to fill out the application form, please contact:</p> <p>SFCT Funding and Development Officer: funding@sfctrust.org.uk</p>