



INVERCLYDE
Community Fund

Inverclyde Windfarm Fund Impact Report 2023/24



Introduction

Inverclyde Community Fund SCIO is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registration (SC051145) which award small grants to local community groups and voluntary organisations in Inverclyde.

In 2023/24, grants were distributed through the Inverclyde Windfarm Fund (IWF). The fund is a partnership between Inverclyde Renewables LLP and Inverclyde Community Fund (ICF). Grants are awarded to third sector organisations and groups that support and promote at least one of the following objectives:

- Environmental
- Renewable energy
- Energy efficiency
- Sustainable development
- Charitable
- Educational
- Community
- Sport and recreation
- General community amenity schemes

The Board decided to allocate three pots of IWF funding, each with a different focus, but meeting the fund objectives:

1. Inverclyde Windfarm Fund: Grants of up to £1,000 for organisations with an annual income of under £250,000. These were awarded through an open application process.
2. Sustainable Development Grants: Launched in August 2023, we accepted applications for grants of up to £5,000 from larger organisations and individuals to deliver projects with environmental or sustainable development outcomes.
3. Winter Grants: In November 2023 we invited organisations tackling the cost of living crisis and helping to reduce social isolation in Inverclyde over the winter period to apply for grants of £2,000.

Awarding a total of £78,700, projects supported cover a wide range of activities. From growing food, getting young people involved in sport, and support for socially isolated people, to music and arts projects, emergency first aid training, and food banks helping those most in need in our communities.

2023/24 in numbers

£78,700

total awarded

54

Successful Applications

*one grant returned

10

Winter Grants

5

Sustainable Development Grants

95

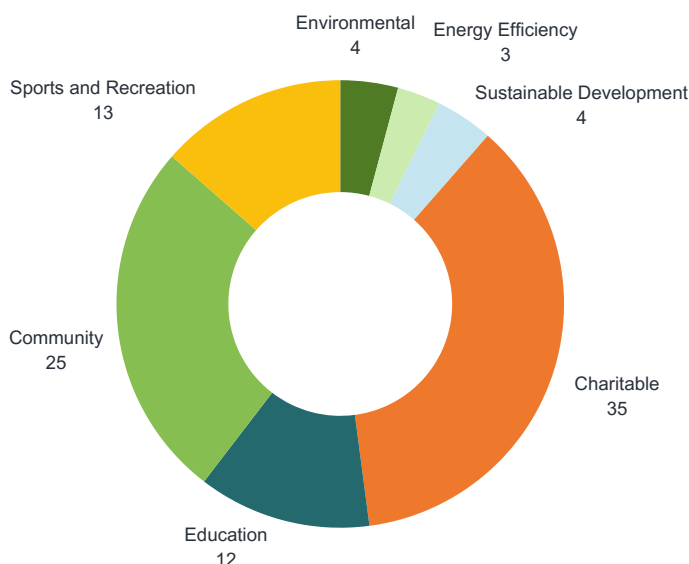
Applications Received

57%

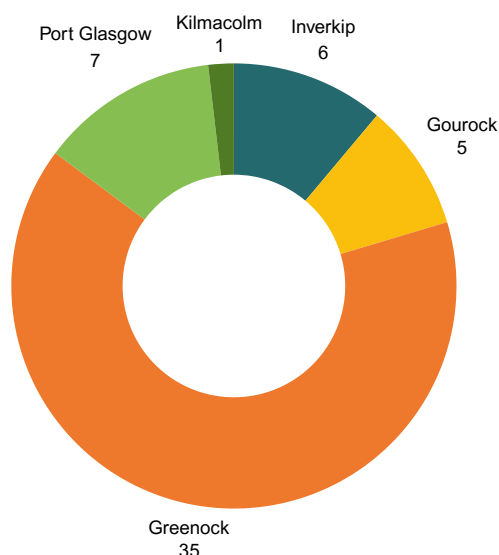
Success Rate

Priority Areas Met

*excludes Winter Grants and SDGs



Geographic Spread



Financial Overview

£68,131

FUND VALUE

£11,912

CARRIED FORWARD 2022/23

£78,700

TOTAL AWARDED

£1,343

FUND BALANCE

£21,000

WINTER GRANTS

£20,500

SDGS

Grant Examples

Blooming Inverkip - £1,000

Blooming Inverkip is an inclusive volunteer led gardening group that runs from the Inverkip Community Hub. They were awarded £1,000 in June 2023 to create a new greenhouse area, and set up a sustainable power supply for the garden.

The group have purchased solar panels to fit to the existing shed roof. The enhanced lighting is energy efficient, and will allow for use of the garden during darker evenings. The greenhouse area is well on its way to completion and will be used during the 2024 growing season.

As a result of the award, the group were able to be more creative and adventurous with regards to the extension of the area and have since gone on to secure additional funding from another funder.



Port Glasgow New Parish Church - £1,000



Supported with grant of £1,000 in July 2023, Port Glasgow New Parish Church set up a social enterprise café called “Chatty Cafe”. Run entirely by volunteers, the free cafe meets every Friday.

The purpose of the cafe is to help those within the community who feel socially isolated and in need of a warm meal and companionship.

The cafe has seen the number of attendees increase each week and the Church is focusing on more advertising to reach even more people.

Compassionate Grit - £1,000

Compassionate Grit were awarded £1,000 in December 2023 to provide a series of basketball sessions for young people in Inverclyde. The programme was designed to promote physical activity, teamwork, and community engagement among participants. The grant allowed the purchase of equipment and training materials such as basketballs, bibs and first aid kits, along with hall rental costs.

In total, six sessions were held engaging 32 young people from the local community, providing them with a positive outlet for physical activity and personal growth. As part of the programme, Compassionate Grit also worked alongside another local basketball group, sharing learning and experiences.

The grant also allowed Compassionate Grit to expand their reach and enhance the quality of their offerings, contributing to longer-term sustainability and growth for the organisation.



Man On! Inverclyde - £1,000

Man On! Inverclyde were awarded £1,000 in August 2023 to run Talk On women's group, a support group for survivors of domestic abuse. Six women were supported through the group, taking part in a course covering topics including self-care, housing and benefits.

The group ran as a pilot project and Man On! Inverclyde have since linked with other local women's charities to begin plans to roll out the course to other groups.

The grant was also a learning opportunity for the organisation staff who gained experience in the funding process, from application through to project delivery.

Lyle Gateway - £2,000 (Winter Grants)

As part of the Winter Grants programme, Lyle Gateway received £2,000 to host a Christmas Day lunch and Singing for Wellbeing sessions.

The Christmas Day lunch was attended by 37 people who enjoyed a three course lunch surrounded by friendly faces. Helping to alleviate the feelings of social isolation, the group included three Ukrainian ladies whose families and friends are miles away in Ukraine.

The Singing for Wellbeing sessions ran weekly with 30 attendees benefiting from increased wellbeing and reduced isolation.



Starter Packs Inverclyde - £1,000

Working closely with local social work, women's aid and homelessness services, Starter Packs provide a range of basic household items to people who have been homeless moving into a new home in Inverclyde. They were awarded £1,000 in September 2023 which helped to create 52 Adult Packs and 54 Children's hygiene packs.

“For people who have nothing, giving them a basic pack of essential household and hygiene items will make a difference to their lives.”

Inverkip (Morton) Walking Football - £1,000



In June 2023, Inverkip (Morton) Walking Football were awarded £1,000 to purchase kit and equipment for the team to use at training and tournaments. This amount was match funded by the players.

The club aim to encourage physical exercise and social interaction in the over 50s by providing an inclusive and accessible activity. The club works with local health groups and charities to promote health awareness. They work closely with Morton in the Community and have taken part in local and international tournaments.

Sustainable Development Grants

5

**Sustainable Development Grants
(SDGs) awarded**

£20,500

total awarded through SDGs

The Sustainable Development Grants (SDG) launched in August 2023 and provided grants of up to £5,000 for larger organisations and individuals to deliver projects with a specific focus on environmental or sustainable development outcomes.

Projects supported through the SDGs were working towards specific priorities:

- The Environment
- Renewable Energy
- Energy Efficiency
- Sustainable Development (including Community/Society, Economy or Culture)

The following Sustainable Development Goals have been supported directly by the awarded SDGs and the work of the organisations supported more broadly:



Wellington Allotment Gardens Association - £3,000

Wellington Allotment Gardens Association (WAGA) facilitate allotments and raised beds which are used by local groups where they can grow their own produce and provide educational opportunities.

In response to previous year experiences with extreme weather events, WAGA recognised the need to secure their supplies of water against fluctuating rainfall levels and establish a water saving strategy. They were awarded a grant of £3,000 which is being put towards the development of a rainwater harvesting installation which will not only help secure water supplies during extreme heat events, but also reduce flood risk by lower water run off.

Sustainable Development Goals supported:



Belville Community Garden Trust, £4,500

Belville Community Garden Trust operate within one of the most deprived areas within Inverclyde and act to support local community development. An important aspect of their work is in widening accessibility for those with physical disabilities and aim to reduce social isolation among the older generation, 'New Scots' and the recovery community. Through consultation, the group identified a want for the provision of practical workshops themed around 'money saving' and sustainable behaviours.

The group have used their grant of £4,500 towards the provision of sewing and knitting classes (an extension of a group that already meets) and hosting of bike repair cafes (again an extension of their repair service)."

Sustainable Development Goals supported:



Inverclyde Shed, £5,000

Inverclyde Shed has been an incredibly successful endeavour and as a result, has seen substantial growth. This is demonstrated by their successful community-asset transfer of a former Inverclyde Council building, which now operates as a Hub to deliver their activities. As part of this, they identified a use for their new growing space to continue growing during Winter and allow them to continue to supply the members of Inverclyde, local charities and food pantries with produce.

A grant of £5,000 contributed to the establishment of an 'aeroponic' growing system for growing vegetables by irrigating roots in a nutrient dense mist. The project will also be an opportunity for other local groups, and those further afield, to see this new technology in operation.

Sustainable Development Goals supported:



Youth STEM, £5,000

Youth STEM 2030 is a youth-led social enterprise which is based in Inverclyde and since launching in March 2020, has supported over 2500 young people across the globe as 'changemakers'.

Although many young people often want to make a difference towards tackling Climate Change, they often don't possess the knowledge, skill or tools required to take meaningful action. To address this, Youth STEM 2030 developed a 10-week programme which a select number of young people from Inverclyde would take part in.

During the programme, the young people were mentored by experts through a sustainability-oriented curriculum to not only further their knowledge on this subject, but also improve their critical thinking, research and design and science communication skills. They then used this knowledge to undertake a final project.

Sustainable Development Goals supported:



Wellington Park Bowling Club, £3,000

Wellington Park Bowling Club is a lawn green bowling club based in Greenock which operates across the Summer and Autumn seasons and provides people with the opportunity to engage in the sport through many events.

As part of the growth and continued operation of the club, Wellington Park Bowling Club has a desire to increase their offering to the local community beyond the game itself. Part of this growth plan included the creation of a community garden of two to three allotments which would be intended to be used for growing of vegetables, fruits and apple trees (among others).

Sustainable Development Goals supported:



Winter Grants

10

Winter Grants awarded

£21,000

total awarded through Winter Grants

The Winter Grants are awarded over the winter months to groups who support the most vulnerable in our communities who are at risk of social isolation. This year, they also focused on supporting those people struggling with the cost of living crisis.

Applications were invited from organisations that are known to ICF who have experience of delivering this type of work. An effort was made to target areas across Inverclyde with the greatest need of support.

Organisations invited to apply were asked to complete a short, light touch application with a fast turnaround to ensure support reached communities as quickly as possible.

Progress and Future Plans

2023/24 was the third year of the Inverclyde Windfarm Fund and awareness of the fund continues to grow with new groups applying each year.

Fund Promotion

Looking ahead to 2024/25, we will continue to publicise the fund through local news, online via our website and social media, as well as through word of mouth from previous grantees. We have close connections with both CVS Inverclyde and Inverclyde Council who help to promote the grants.

Responsive Grantmaking

As we all continue to face challenges linked with the ongoing cost of living crisis, local groups are uniquely placed to support our communities in Inverclyde. As a fast and responsive grant maker, at ICF we are able to award grants based on emerging needs. The Winter Grants in particular are extremely successful at quickly getting support out to groups who see an increased demand during a particularly difficult time of year for many people.

Through the Sustainable Development Grants, organisations and individuals have the opportunity to try something new and pilot projects.

Improved Applications

In 2024/25 we will be moving a more streamlined application process with a new database system and online application form. As a volunteer-run organisation, the new system will improve efficiency and make monitoring and reporting easier.

The updated application form has fewer questions and makes it clearer what we want applicants to tell us about their work. The hope is that this will reduce the time taken to complete the application and increase the quality of applications submitted.

Thank you!

Thank you to our main funder Inverclyde Renewables LLP and the Trustees at ICF who make all of this year's achievements possible.

We're extremely proud to support the wonderful work taking place in communities all across Inverclyde and are looking forward to 2024/25.

Grants Awarded

Sustainable Development Grants

Winter Grants

RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	SUMMARY
Inverkip Bowling Club	£1,000	Towards the costs of replacing the Club's equipment/storage shed.
Alison Bunce (Ind)	£1,000	To run a pilot pet bereavement group.
Inverkip (Morton) Walking Football	£1,000	Towards the costs of equipping the club and players to deliver your popular walking football activity in Inverkip.
World Walking		Grant returned.
St Andrews Primary PP	£1,000	Towards the costs of providing the basics of a school sports team kit.
Caddlehill Allotment Gardens	£1,000	Towards the costs of finishing the development of the large greenhouse.
Wellington Park Bowling Club	£1,000	Towards the costs of refurbishing the 'away' dressing room.
Wellington Allotment Gardens Association	£1,000	Towards the costs of improving access for people with additional support needs.
Inverclyde Music Festival	£1,000	Towards offering Showcase Dance classes, transport and costumes to New Scots who have moved to Inverclyde.
Lyle Gateway	£1,000	To support singing and wellbeing classes, and replacement of fridges.
Kidron Project	£1,000	Towards the delivery of the 5-week Life Coaching course.

Greenock and District Rifle Club	£1,000	Towards the replacement of the flooring and adding thermal insulation to the Club's premises.
Inverclyde Woodturning Club	£1,000	Towards the purchase of professional woodturning equipment.
Inverclyde Athletic Club	£1,000	Towards the costs of delivering training at Ravenscraig Stadium.
Gourock Park Bowling Club	£500	Towards the costs of upgrading the alarm system.
Kilmacolm Primary School PPG	£1,000	Towards installing a renewable energy source to heat/supply water to the school polytunnel.
Inverclyde Cricket Club	£800	Towards the purchase of cricket practice nets.
Inverkip Community Hub/Blooming Inverkip	£1,000	To assist with the setting up of a Greenhouse facility on the Hub community garden, and to help with the purchase and set up of a stand-alone, sustainable power supply for the existing shed and garden.
Belville Community Garden Trust	£1,000	Towards the costs of strimmer's, lawnmower and PPE.
Man On! Inverclyde	£1,000	To pilot a service for the Talk On (Women) group, supporting domestic abuse survivors.
Ardgowan Club	£1,000	Towards the costs of purchasing three new special senior benches which should be low or maintenance-free.
Port Glasgow New Parish Church	£1,000	Towards the costs of delivering a "Friday Café".

Starter Packs Inverclyde	£1,000	To purchase of hygiene packs for adults and children in Inverclyde.
Wellington Allotment Gardens Association	£3,000	Towards the costs of installing a rainwater harvesting station.
Caddlehill Community Green Space	£1,000	Towards the purchase and installation of four outdoor picnic tables.
Inverclyde Shed	£5,000	Towards the costs of installing and running an 'aeroponic' growing tower within the new workshop premises.
Greenock & District Scouts AM Radio Club	£1,000	Towards the purchase of a computer and monitor to provide a more interactive and up to date experience for young people.
Belville Community Garden Trust	£4,500	Towards the costs of delivering knitting and sewing classes, and a bike repair café.
Youth STEM	£5,000	Towards the costs of delivering the Youth STEM Changemakers: Inverclyde Sustainability Action Programme.
Ambassador Church Lunch Club	£1,000	Towards the equipping of the kitchen and dining facilities to support lunch clubs.
Wellington Park Bowling Club	£3,000	Towards the costs of developing a community garden.
Branchton Community Centre	£2,000	To purchase groceries to give out to disadvantaged families in between Christmas and New Year.
Children in Poverty Inverclyde	£2,000	To purchase warm winter clothing for disadvantaged Inverclyde children aged 3-10 years.

Craigend Resource Centre	£2,000	To provide free meals and hot drinks, and to offer a Christmas arts & crafts day for children.
Inverclyde Community Development Trust Pantries	£3,000	To cover running costs and overheads for the Greenock and Port Glasgow pantries, as well as contributing to rental increases.
Port Glasgow Church Angels Foodbank	£2,000	To purchase food for the 72 families/230 individuals using the service each week.
Gibshill Community Centre	£2,000	To offer a warm space for residents across Inverclyde, and to offer free homemade soup, homemade sandwiches, tea and coffee during open mic sessions.
Inverclyde Foodbank	£2,000	To purchase goods to offer more variety in food parcels.
Port Glasgow New Parish Church	£2,000	Towards the running of a weekly "Chatty Café", providing hot soup and toasties to all members of the community.
Lyle Gateway	£2,000	To enable 40 people who otherwise would be spending the day alone to come together for a three course lunch in the company of others on Christmas Day.
St John's Church Gourock	£2,000	Towards running a twice-monthly "Bowl & Blether" sessions.
Compassionate Grit	£1,000	To deliver six 2.5 hour basketball sessions to young people in Inverclyde.
Compassionate Inverclyde	£1,000	To purchase items for 'jolly boxes' to be distributed to isolated people at Christmas.
Inverclyde Faith in Throughcare (IFiT)	£900	To pay for software training and support for staff.

Greenock Westburn Parish Church	£1,000	Towards the costs of energy and food to continue to deliver weekly 'Warm Space' sessions.
Allegria Choir	£1,000	Towards to cost of professional fees, rehearsal space hire, sheet music, licensing and concert hall hire.
32nd Greenock Scouts	£1,000	Towards the costs of installing energy efficient lighting to the premises.
Church of the Nazarene	£1,000	Towards the costs of purchasing equipment and materials to run a new Dementia Cafe.
Greenock & District Sea Cadets	£1,000	Towards the costs of purchasing a new Whaly boat to encourage younger cadets to engage more fully with boating activities.
Heartstart Inverclyde	£1,000	Towards the costs of hall hire and materials to deliver emergency life support training.
Inverclyde Tourist Group	£1,000	Towards the costs of developing and maintaining a virtual Greenock Waterfront Trail, enabling cruise passengers and visitors/tourists to explore Greenock.
1st Gourock Scouts	£1,000	Towards the costs of purchasing buoyancy aids, canyoning helmets and wetsuits to enable the Scouts to safely participate in Canyoning and Gorge-walking.
Inverclyde Family Contact Centre	£1,000	Towards the purchase of new carpet with underlay for the ground floor rooms.
Green Tangerine CIC	£1,000	Towards the costs of a post-Inverclyde shoreline 'Spring Clean' picnic at Lunderston Bay.



Inverclyde Community Fund SCIO
SC051145

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