

1<sup>st</sup> November 2021



INVERCLYDE  
Community Fund

## Inverclyde Windfarm Fund 2021 Case Study – Greenock & District Sea Cadets Corp

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### **Amount Awarded: £1,000.00**

“The grant was spent on the purchase of four new paddle boards. The paddle boards were a new and fast-growing sport in the UK, and so this venture allowed cadets to experience water sports at a cost that all can adore, free at the point of delivery.

The Scottish Canoe Association has now set up a recognised qualification that can be awarded on the satisfactory completion of a structured course which we are working towards; however, numbers are such that we can only do this in small groups.

The grant allows us to get more children on the water in a controlled and safe environment. We increased attendance and engaged with more children during lockdown as the sport is set to aid social distancing.

The boards are environmentally friendly as they are powered solely by physical strength. During the open day, the boards were very popular and have led to the cadets recruiting more children. They are so popular that we are looking to invest in a few more.

The instructors are embracing the new addition as it sees more cadets gaining a level of independence and freedom, with mistakes being corrected and practiced frequently. From start to finish, all involved have a fun-filled and enjoyable time. This is gauged by the laughter created by the cadets – “the world isn’t so bad”, “the best fun I’ve had in ages”, “I’m getting one of these for Christmas!”

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With the introduction of the sport, we have seen an increase in self-confidence, team building, and the fear of water being reduced. Our numbers have increased, and this is again because of children being given opportunities they could not afford in their domestic circumstances.

Many of our users come from difficult backgrounds and Cadets gives them a much-needed self-belief and -worth whilst allowing them to develop skills recognised by our governing body.”

- Greenock & District Sea Cadet Corp (August 2021)

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### Further Reading

Read more about all of the other work that Greenock & District Sea Cadets do [here](#).

Visit the Greenock & District Sea Cadets Facebook page [here](#).



*Figure 1 - Extract from a demonstration video provided by GDSCC*