



Inverclyde Windfarm Fund Impact Report

April 2024 to March 2025



Introduction

Inverclyde Community Fund SCIO is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (registration SC051145). The Fund has worked since 2012 awarding small grants to local community groups and voluntary organisations across Inverclyde.

In the financial year 2024-25, Inverclyde Community Fund (ICF) distributed grants through Inverclyde Windfarm Fund which it administers on behalf of Inverclyde Renewables LLP who manage a local six-turbine windfarm on Corlic Hill.

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 two 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. In September it was decided to increase the maximum grant size to £2,000 to reflect increasing costs.
2. **Emergency Storm Grants:** In February 2025 we invited organisations affected by damage caused by Storm Éowyn to apply for emergency grants of £2,000. These were awarded through a lighter touch open application process.

In total, £63,720 was awarded to this year to 41 organisations across the length and breadth of Inverclyde. Of this £61,720 was paid, with one grant of £2,000 being paid out in the 2025-26 financial year.

2024/25 in numbers

£63,720

total awarded*



Successful Applications



Storm Grants



Organisations Supported



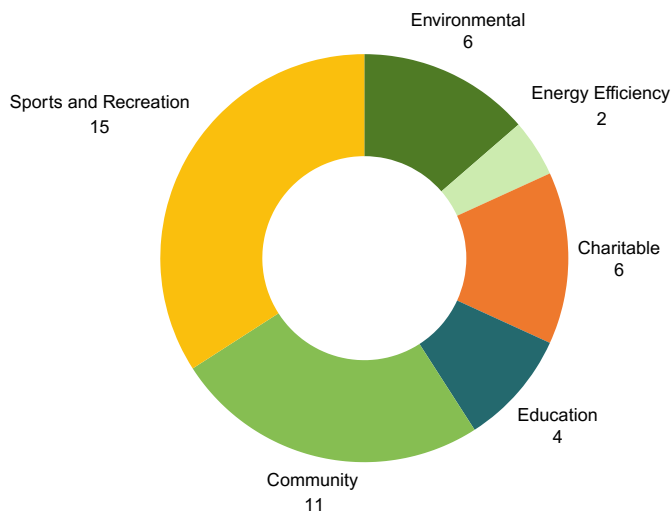
Applications Received



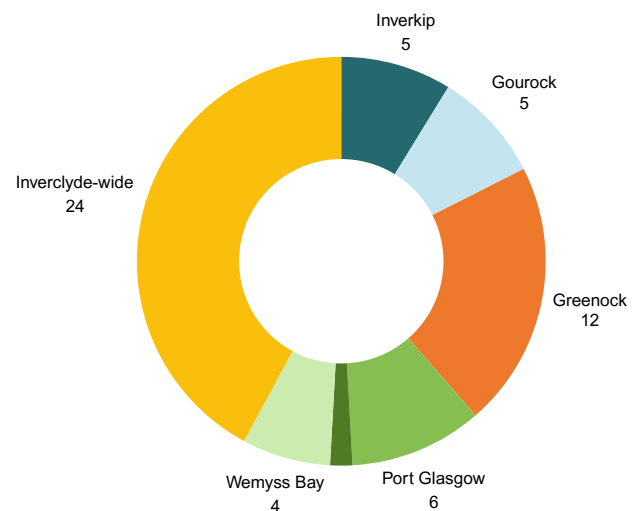
Success Rate

Priority Areas Met

*excludes Storm Grants



Geographic Spread



Financial Overview

£69,474

FUND VALUE

£1,343

CARRIED FORWARD 2023/24

£63,720

TOTAL AWARDED*

£5,754

FUND BALANCE

£14,200

STORM GRANTS

*A total of £63,720 was awarded in FY 2024/25 with £61,720 paid. The remaining £2,000 was paid in FY 2025/26.

Grant Examples

Wishes Group - £1,000

Wishes, a wellbeing focused social group for women who meet weekly at Youth Connections in Larkfield, is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year by launching a new project with help from a £1,000 grant. The group used the funding to buy a sublimation printer, a Cricut machine and a press, along with recycled shopping bags to create eco-friendly, personalised items like mugs, T-shirts, and teddy bears.

Without the grant, the project wouldn't have been possible. It has given the group new purpose, improved members' mental health, and built confidence as they prepare to sell their crafts at local events including the Inverclyde Heritage Fair and the Gourrock Garden Party.

"I love the social aspect, the fun and the laughter. We have a great time together."

"I'm deaf and sometimes I find it difficult in social situations but I always feel included."

"It's absolutely magic, we will be going berserk, making stuff right, left and centre."

Thanks to the grant, the group is now looking forward to sharing their work with the wider community.



The women of the Wishes group showcase their new equipment.

Inverclyde Youth Theatre (Kayos) - £1,000

Kayos used a £1,000 grant to bring *Dracula The Musical* to life as part of the Galoshans Festival, a project chosen by the young people.

The production celebrated the achievements of Inverclyde's Music Service and gave former pupils the chance to continue developing their music skills and public performance experience. Working with local directors, musical and technical staff, many of whom were past Kayos members, provided current members with strong role models and valuable mentorship.

The grant made a significant difference. £500 was used for bursaries, supporting two young musicians with professional mentorship, equipment, and performance fees, helping them maintain their music practice while studying and working.

The remaining £500 funded rehearsal and performance venue hire, supporting local businesses and partnership work. The venue provided

an atmospheric and memorable setting for audiences.

Thanks to the IWF grant, Kayos not only delivered a vibrant, youth-led production, but also strengthened skills, supported the local creative community, and helped young people stay connected to the arts.



Young people at their performance of *Dracula The Musical*.



Lyle Gateway - £2,000

Based in Greenock, Lyle Gateway runs a range of activities aimed at reducing social isolation and helping to improve mental health and wellbeing. With a £2,000 grant, the Gateway launched a weekly International Café where New Scots shared dishes from their cultures with the wider Inverclyde community. Each week, 40–50 people attended, with a peak of 146 at a special Scottish-themed event featuring food and dancing.

The grant helped to cover travel expenses for New Scot volunteers and subsidised meals, removing financial barriers to participation. Ten New Scots

volunteered regularly, building skills and confidence. The Café also provided a vital space for practising English and forming friendships, leading to Lyle Gateway being recognised by the Scottish Refugee Council as a place to recommend to New Scots. Following the success of the Café, the Gateway is now planning two creative wellbeing courses for 2025, shaped by conversations with New Scot participants.

Without this funding, the level of engagement achieved and the future opportunities now in development would not have been possible.

Inverkip (Morton) Walking Football - £1,000



Inverkip (Morton) Walking Football players with their new goals.

Thanks to a £1,000 grant, Inverkip Walking Football was able to replace its worn and deteriorating goals and nets, addressing safety concerns and improving the quality of play.

The new equipment has allowed the club to continue running safe, professional weekly walking football sessions for women, men, and mixed teams at Inverkip Hub. It has also helped attract new members from across Inverclyde, offering more people the opportunity to stay active and connected.

Beyond the pitch, the group promotes physical and mental wellbeing by tackling social isolation. Regular social events, including guest speakers and health talks, have fostered strong connections among players, making Inverkip Walking Football a vital part of the local community.

Riverside Youth Band - £2,000



Two young players with the Band's new tenor horns.

A £2,000 grant to Riverside Youth Band, a brass band for young people, has had an even greater impact than originally anticipated. With the funding, the band purchased two high-quality tenor horns, now proudly used by two enthusiastic young members. Shortly after the grant was awarded, the band was gifted an additional instrument, which is being refurbished using remaining funds combined with club contributions.

In addition, the band invested in a new professional-quality xylophone, which will benefit four young players, including one showing exceptional potential.

Initially expected to support three young musicians, the grant has now directly benefited seven members. Over the expected 25 - 30 year lifespan of the instruments, it is estimated that around 50 young people will have the opportunity to use them.

Clydeview Academy Parent Council - £1,000

With a £1,000 grant, Clydeview Academy Parent Council launched a range of initiatives promoting children's rights and inclusion. The funding supported the creation of a crafting club, offering a welcoming space where pupils, particularly those from overseas and transitioning into secondary school, could build friendships, gain confidence, and feel a sense of belonging.

The grant also funded uniforms for pupil volunteers who promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) within the school and at local primary schools. Their professional appearance helped them lead engaging, youth-led sessions, strengthening links with younger pupils and easing the transition into secondary school.

The impact of the grant has been significant and lasting. It has fostered social connections, supported emotional wellbeing, empowered student leadership, and reinforced Clydeview Academy's commitment to inclusion and rights-based education. The resources purchased will ensure that these initiatives continue to support future pupils for years to come, leaving a meaningful legacy.

The success of the project was proudly showcased during the school's UNCRC Gold accreditation visit in March, with the pupil volunteers, dressed in their new uniforms, embodying the school's spirit of inclusivity and respect.

Inverclyde Shed - £1,000

Inverclyde Shed creates spaces where people of all ages can come together to meet, make, grow, and share, tackling social isolation and promoting wellbeing.

Using a £1,000 grant, Inverclyde Shed developed a new community orchard and garden beside St Laurence's RC Church in Greenock. Through research, the group discovered that the site was once an orchard and the street it is located on still bears the name Orchard Street. Now, the land is being brought back to life. Funding from Inverclyde Windfarm Fund helped to secure additional funding, which in total has enabled the planting of 200 trees including apple, pear and plum, far beyond the original plan.

Around 15 volunteers were involved in the work, alongside apprentices from West College Scotland, pupils at Lomond View Academy and the unpaid work team.



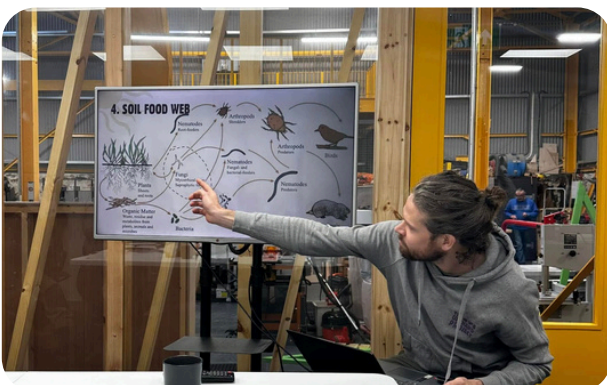
Inverclyde Shed volunteers hard at work.



The site at St Laurence's RC Church.

The site is already being used by local schools and community groups for outdoor learning and gardening, with future harvests of fruit and honey planned to help address local food insecurity and support the Shed's sustainability. Further plans include adding additional elements such as a pond and benches.

The project has strengthened community ties and will continue to grow as a shared resource for years to come.



Inverclyde Shed volunteers hard at work.



The site at St Laurence's RC Church.

Emergency Storm Grants

8

Storm Grants awarded

£14,200

total awarded through Storm Grants

On 24th January 2025, Inverclyde, like much of Scotland's central belt, experienced the brunt of Storm Éowyn. The storm brought winds gusting widely at well over 70Kt (81mph), and in places over 80Kt (92mph)

In Inverclyde this caused significant transport disruption, property damage and power outages across the area. Many of our local voluntary groups were among those affected.

The Trustees recognised that the cost of repairs would likely be out of reach for many smaller groups or result in using funds which would otherwise be used to deliver their vital services. In February, ICF opened an emergency storm grants fund to support those groups. Organisations were asked to complete a short, light touch application with grants awarded within a few weeks.

Groups supported through the storm grants were:

- Caddlehill Allotment Gardens
- Inverkip Community Initiative
- 32nd Greenock & District Scouts
- Newark Boating, Rowing and Sailing Club
- Ardgowan Hospice
- Wellington Allotment Gardens Association
- Kilmacolm Local Association of Guides

Grants Awarded

Emergency Storm Grants

RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	SUMMARY
Inverkip (Morton) Walking Football	£1,000	Towards the cost of replacing the goal and nets, allowing the club to continue running safe, professional weekly walking football sessions helping people to stay active and connected.
The Ripe Bunch	£1,000	Towards the cost of purchasing reusable coffee cups, name tags and stationary with the group logo, enhancing group identity and reducing single use items.
Inverkip Bowling Club	£550	To purchase training equipment for use with the Junior Section, Schools and Local Youth Organisations, along with a bowls launcher for people with mobility issues or disabilities.
Inverclyde Youth Theatre (Kayos)	£1,000	To cover bursaries for two young local musicians and help towards the cost of rehearsal space hire fees for a performance at the Galoshans Festival.
Inverclyde Masters	£1,000	Towards the cost of running a yearly Gala event and ongoing pool hire costs.
Wellington Park Bowling Club	£1,000	To purchase materials to expand the community garden area at the club, enhancing the visual and environmental surrounding of the Club.
Port Glasgow New Parish Church	£1,000	Towards the cost of summer holiday sessions for primary school aged children promoting physical and mental health, plus activities for older people experiencing social isolation.

WISHES	£1,000	Towards the cost of equipment and materials for producing sustainable products to sell, with the aim of generating an income to help the group become self sustaining.
Inverclyde Vineyard Church SCIO	£1,000	To increase the Community Cafe from once a month to twice a month, welcoming the local community and providing a multi-generational meeting space.
Greenock and District Angling Club	£1,000	Towards the purchase an off-grid solar panel kit to provide a renewable energy supply to the fishing hut.
Gourock Park Bowling Club	£500	Towards the cost of tools and equipment to level the playing surface which is in need of repair after 30 years of use.
The Inverclyde Shed	£1,000	Towards the cost of establishing a community orchard, garden and bee apiary at a site in Greenock beside St Laurence's RC Church, creating a lifelong learning space and sustainable food growing.
Inverclyde Historical Society	£1,000	Towards the cost of producing informational materials about John Galt, commissioning a local craftsperson to create a life size figure, maintain his grave and hold a wreath laying ceremony.
Gourock Rotary Charitable Association	£1,000	To cover the cost of venue hire, materials and trophies to host youth competition finals at the Beacon Arts Centre.
Greenock Glenpark Harriers	£950	To replace defibrillator batteries enhancing participant safety, and provide branded running kit to junior runners removing financial barriers and increasing club identity.
Inverclyde Community Care Forum (Your Voice)	£2,000	Towards the cost of building alteration works to create an additional two community group rooms, and contribute towards the costs of the installation of two disabled toilets and electric powered doors.

Inverclyde Community Care Forum (Your Voice)	£1,000	To cover annual gym rental costs, providing a space for physical and mental wellbeing and peer support groups.
Lyle Gateway	£2,000	Towards subsidising food costs to remove financial barriers for New Scots to attend a weekly Café International, benefitting around 40-50 New Scots increasing social connections.
Inverclyde Music Festival Association	£2,000	To relocate the Chanter, Bagpipes and Drumming Classes from the Town Hall to the Beacon stopping unavoidable disturbance and sound interference faced by other Festival Classes running concurrently.
Compassionate Inverclyde	£1,000	To cover the cost of providing 400 Jolly Boxes to people in hospital, hospice, Orchard view, Larkfield Unit and Langhill clinic at Christmas, increasing mental wellbeing of recipients.
Clydeview Academy Parent Council	£1,000	Towards the cost of uniforms and resources to support pupils from overseas at Clydeview Academy who have English as an additional language, fostering inclusion, language development, and cultural exchange
Cycling Without Age Scotland	£820	To purchase a mobile phone, PAYG contract, marketing materials and waterproof jackets for the Gourock Chapter.
Youth Connections	£1,700	Towards the cost of creating an engaging and interactive garden space at Aileymill Primary School.
The Wyllieum	£2,000	To design and build of a replica of George Wyllie's paper boat by local people, working with local mental health support organisations.
Greenock & District Rifle Club	£2,000	Towards the cost of roof repairs for the Clubhouse and new concrete slabbing on the shooting range, improving safety for users.

Lower Clyde Development Band	£2,000	Towards the cost of new uniform for band members to wear at competitions and to increase identity and pride.
Auchmountain Community Centre	£2,000	Towards the cost of hosting cooking classes teaching individuals and families how to cook healthy meals on a budget.
Wellington Allotment Gardens Association	£2,000	To purchase six recycled plastic composting bays with lids and one Mega Hotbin, enhancing environmental benefits.
New Port Theatre Company	£2,000	Towards the cost of AV equipment and hall rental costs, keeping costs low for local performers and helping the group to adapt to changing costs.
Riverside Youth Ban	£2,000	To purchase two beginner-quality Tenor Horns and a beginner-quality Bass Tuba, enabling more young people to join the band without financial barriers.
Inverclyde Faith in Throughcare (IFiT)	£2,000	To deliver a 4 week CBT course, 6 week self esteem course, and 8 sessions of massage therapy for individuals involved in the community/criminal justice system.
Inverclyde Family Contact Centre SCIO	£2,000	Towards running costs of the service, keeping services free/low cost to families in need to support.
Caddlehill Allotment Gardens	£2,000	Towards the cost of replacing the large greenhouse which was destroyed during Storm Éowyn.
Green Tangerine CIC	£1,000	Working in partnership with other local organisations, towards the cost of hosting a #TakePrideInInverclyde Event at Lunderston Bay to celebrate the natural environment of Inverclyde.

Hope Community Church	£2,000	Towards the cost of insulation to reduce energy costs and improve energy efficiency.
Craig Molloy Coaching C.I.C	£2,000	Towards the cost of kit for over 50s walking football, coaching qualifications, and refreshments for sessions, encouraging people to stay active.
Inverkip Community Initiative	£2,000 Paid in 2025/26	Towards the purchase of a replacement greenhouse/polytunnel after the previous greenhouse was damaged during Storm Éowyn.
32nd Greenock & District Scout Group	£2,000	Towards the cost of repairs to fencing, garage roof and windows following damage during Storm Éowyn.
Newark Boating Rowing and Sailing Club	£2,000	Towards the cost of structural repairs and solar panel replacement following damage during Storm Éowyn.
Ardgowan Hospice	£1,600	Towards the cost of replacement flooring at the Kilmacolm shop following flood damage during Storm Éowyn.
Ardgowan Hospice	£1,600	Towards the share of repairs to the roof of the Gourock shop following damage during Storm Éowyn.
Wellington Allotment Gardens Association	£1,000	To replace a greenhouse damaged during Storm Éowyn.
Kilmacolm Local Association of Guides	£2,000	Repairs to Guide Hut following damage during Storm Éowyn.
Inverclyde Youth For Christ	£1,000	To cover the cost of Safeguarding Training for 7 volunteers and up to 12 First Aid Training places.

Progress and Future Plans

This has been another successful year for Inverclyde Community Fund as Inverclyde Windfarm Fund continues to make a difference to communities across Inverclyde. From youth arts projects and mental health groups, to environmental projects and work with New Scots, the impact of the fund locally is recognised by many.

This year, the Trustees have focused on getting to know local groups even better and simplifying the application process, reducing barriers and reaching new groups who we haven't supported previously.

Several of our Trustees have been out and about in the community, visiting groups and projects in person to get a better understanding of the activities taking place in Inverclyde. One of the many benefits of this is that it reduces the reliance on a group's written application as we can get a fuller picture of their work through these visits, making the application process more accessible.

Another change this year also aims to make our process more accessible as 2024/25 was the first year of our new online application and end of grant reporting system. The updated application form has fewer questions and provides clearer guidance on the type of information we would like to see.

Finally, a new database system has improved efficiency and made monitoring and reporting easier for our small team of volunteers. The hope is that the system and process will continue to improve and develop as time goes on.

Thank you!

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

We are privileged to support the extraordinary work taking place across the length and breadth of Inverclyde and look forward to working with organisations old and new in 2025/26.



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