

Micro Grant Guidance

Any project funded by a microgrant has to have a charitable purpose. Foundation Scotland is a charity and can only fund charitable projects. Micro grants may come from various sources but are managed by Foundation Scotland.

Constituted/Unconstituted groups are eligible to apply for micro-grants but they should not use the micro-grants scheme to circumvent applying for grants elsewhere, for example through submission of multiple micro-grant applications.

Place based funds - projects should primarily benefit residents within the area of benefit – be sensible around that – other people may attend; activity might take place in another area, or applicant may be based in another area, but local residents should be main beneficiaries

The upper limit of a single grant is currently £1000 but an award of this level needs to benefit the whole community whereas lower awards would be targeting a smaller number. Generally awards would be in the area of £500 unless there is justification to be awarded more. Awards are made at the discretion of the funder.

Providing purpose is charitable and project has community benefit – what can be funded is very broad – one of the benefits of wind farm funds. Capital items such as sports equipment, football strips, tools, paint, planters and revenue items such as hall hire for an event or activity; maintenance costs for small repairs to community assets; costs of outings such as bus hire; refreshments for an event; arts workers for an event; musicians for a ceilidh or gala; running costs such as insurance, venue hire etc. Refreshments costs applying to events need to be invoiced. Entrance fees for events are not usually covered but may be if it is of benefit to the community.

Can be fun! Charitable can be associated with negative issues and problems but remember it does also include recreation, community development, culture, sport etc – galas, concerts, yoga classes, shinty, a mural... lots of positive and cheery examples!

A single project doesn't have to benefit whole community (but over time hopefully awards benefit a wide range of demographics in different groups and a number of these small awards will add up to more significant local impact).

Repeat applications should not be made within the year for which the grant is made.

A group may combine funding requests into a single grant application providing that it does not exceed the funding limit.

A grant may be used as match funding for another grant application elsewhere but if an application is being made to Carrick Futures it should be for the whole of the funding.

Grants cannot be made retrospectively.

Grant applications should include a full list of all items that require funding including the actual costings.

Evidence that the grant has been used appropriately needs to be provided to the funder by the end of the year that the grant has been awarded. This should include the invoices for any purchases made.

A report on the effective use of the grant is required. This may be a formal written account or just a verbal report to the funder who should make a comment on it in their minutes.