

NOT SO

PRETTY VACANT



SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION
COIMISEAN FEARAINN NA H-ALBA

Transforming vacant and derelict land in Scotland

Funding sources for bringing vacant and derelict land back into use

Vacant and derelict land, whatever the size, affects our communities and their potential. Over time derelict sites can damage an area, resulting in social, economic and environmental harm. However, these sites also present opportunities for regeneration and renewal – unlocking growth, reviving communities and reducing inequalities. There is a wide variety of funding options available to communities and local authorities to help bring the land back into use and benefit those living around vacant and derelict sites.

This table provides a brief description of different funding sources available, highlighting the main limitations of each and indicating what type of activity the funding is most suitable for. Individual funding options are not mutually exclusive, and a mix of sources is often used by groups for financing projects. The circumstances of the community involved and the development opportunity it is seeking to finance will influence which source – or combination of sources – are used.

Summary of funding sources for bringing vacant and derelict land back into use

Provider	Fund Name	Project Type	Location	Applicant	Type	£ available	Status
UK Government	<u>Levelling Up Fund</u>	Local infrastructure Seeks to regenerate town centres and high streets, invest in local transport schemes and create, renew and upgrade local cultural and heritage assets	UK wide But note reference to Levelling Up Index	Local authorities Cross border groups of local authorities	Grant	£800m ring fenced for Scotland, Wales & NI Projects that require up to £20m Bids between £20 – 50m for transport projects only	First round announced in Oct 2021 Future dates for further rounds awaited
UK Government	<u>UK Community Renewal Fund</u>	Investment in skills, local business, communities and place and supporting people into employment	UK wide But note the 100 priority places	Local authorities	Grant	£220m UK wide	Closed (2021-22 only)
UK Government	<u>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</u>	Supporting people and places More details to be announced when the Investment Framework is launched	UK wide	Local authorities	Grant	£1.5bn UK wide	To be launched in 2022
UK Government	<u>Community Ownership Fund</u>	Community ownership of assets and amenities at risk of closure	UK wide	Community groups	Grant	£12.3m minimum for Scotland Bids up to £250k Bids up to £1m for sports clubs/ grounds at risk of loss (exceptional cases only)	At least eight bidding rounds Rounds 1 and 2 now closed Round 3 will take place in May 2022
Scottish Government	<u>Place Based Investment Programme</u>	Place based investment	Scotland wide	Local authorities	Grant	£325m Allocations will be made to each LA	Part of local government budget settlement

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Scottish Government	<u>Vacant & Derelict Land Investment Programme</u>	Tackling persistent VDL and supporting place based approaches to delivering regeneration and inclusive growth as part of the transition to net zero	Scotland wide But note prioritisation of DUSTE sites	Local authorities and Clyde Gateway	Grant	£50m	Applications for 2023-24 funding will commence in Spring 2022
Scottish Government	<u>Vacant & Derelict Land Fund</u>	Tackle long term VDL in worst affected areas in terms of extent of VDL and levels of deprivation	Fife, Glasgow, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire	Local authorities	Grant	c. £7.6m p.a.	Part of local government budget settlement
Scottish Government	<u>Regeneration Capital Grant Fund</u>	Regeneration in areas with high deprivation, demonstrate clear community involvement, large scale transformational change, encourage additional investment and address market failure	Scotland wide	Local authorities, their SPVs and URCs	Grant	c. £20m p.a.	Currently closed and will reopen for applications later in 2022
Scottish Government	<u>Investing in Communities Fund</u>	Tackling poverty and inequality, place based approaches, community-led regeneration and ensuring transition to net zero	Scotland wide	Community groups, charities, RSLs, not-for-profits	Grant	c. £10m p.a.	Will open end of March/early April 2022
Scottish Government	<u>Business Improvement Districts</u>	Help local businesses improve their communities Local improvements	Part of a town, tourism and visitor area, commercial district, or specific theme	Local businesses	Grant (business levy thereafter)	As agreed by local businesses	Open

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Scottish Government	Scotland Loves Local Fund	Build the wealth of local communities, revitalise local places, increase footfall and activity, promote local places and communities	Scotland wide	Town centre partnerships, chambers of commerce, community and charity trusts	Grant	£10m Grants between £5,000 – 25,000k	Details of next funding round awaited
Scottish Government	Scottish National Investment Bank	Net zero, improving places, harnessing innovation	Scotland wide	Businesses and the third sector	Loan	Loans between £1m – 50m	Open
Crown Estates	Local Partnerships Fund	Support and develop local communities Sustainable development and regeneration Coastal and rural communities	Scottish Crown Estate land (or land which can be purchased to be part of the Crown Estate)	Businesses	Loan	Investments between £150,000 – £750,000	Current round now closed
Central Scotland Green Network	Growing Food Together Fund	Community food growing	Scotland wide	Third and public sector organisations	Grant	c. £100,000 p.a.	Current round now closed
NatureScot	Nature Restoration Fund	Restore wildlife and habitats on land and sea and address the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change	Scotland wide	Constituted organisations, private individuals and companies, partnerships and organisations working collaboratively with others	Grant	£55m At least £12.5m annually	Open for grants of £25,000 – £250,000 Will open for larger grants later in 2022

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Scottish Forestry	<u>Grant Scheme</u>	Creation of new woodland and the sustainable management of existing woodland	Scotland wide	Private owners	Grant	Unavailable	Open
Scottish Government	<u>Affordable Housing Supply Programme</u>	Enabling affordable housing providers to deliver homes for social rent, mid-market rent, and low cost home ownership	Scotland wide	Local authorities, RSLs	Grant	£3.2bn	Open
Scottish Government	<u>Housing Infrastructure Fund</u>	Unlocking sites that will deliver affordable homes in support of the Affordable Housing Supply Programme and as in line with local authority strategic priorities	Scotland wide	Local authorities, RSLs	Grant	£50m	Open
UK Government, Scottish Government & Local Authorities	<u>City Region & Growth Deals</u>	Strategic approaches to improving regional economies	UK wide	Regional Partners (typically including LAs, LEPs, etc)	Grant	No set limit	All areas of Scotland now covered
North Ayrshire Council	<u>Repurposing Property Grant Scheme</u>	Bring vacant land and properties back into use	North Ayrshire	Property owners, community groups	Grant	Stage 1 worth £200,000	Closed Stage 2 will launch in due course

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West Lothian Council	<u>Place Based Investment Capital Grant</u>	Delivering the community wealth building approach	West Lothian	Local community organisations, public sector (including council services), other community planning partner organisations and private sector	Grant	£1.3m was available for funding in 2021-22	Closed Will launch for 2022-23 applications later in 2022
Community Fund	<u>Scottish Land Fund</u>	Help communities take ownership of the land and buildings within their local area	Scotland wide	Voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, social enterprises, community councils; public sector organisations	Grant	£5,000 – £1m	Open
Community Fund	<u>Awards for All Scotland</u>	Strengthen communities, improve spaces and places and help more people reach their potential	Scotland wide	Voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, social enterprises, community councils	Grant	£300 – £10,000	Open
Community Fund	<u>Community led</u>	Community-led activity and wellbeing	Scotland wide	Voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, social enterprises, community councils	Grant	£10,001 – £150,000	Open
Community Fund	<u>Bringing People Together</u>	Build stronger connections across communities, and improve the infrastructure and conditions that are needed to strengthen these connections	Scotland wide	Voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, social enterprises, community councils	Grant	Up to £300,000	Open

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Heritage Fund	Heritage Fund	Support the heritage sector to strengthen its recovery and to build back positive change across the UK's heritage Heritage priorities are landscapes and nature, community heritage and heritage at risk	Scotland wide	Not-for-profit organisations or a private owners of heritage	Grant	Three categories: £3,000 – £10,000 £10,000 – £250,000 £250,000 – £5m	Open
Heritage Fund	Heritage Enterprise	Economic growth by investing in heritage Rescue neglected historic buildings and sites and return them to a viable productive use	Scotland wide	Community organisations and partnerships between community organisations and commercial organisations	Grant	Conservation deficit	Open
Sport Scotland	Sports Facilities Fund	Create or improve places where people take part in sport or physical activity	Scotland wide	Non-profit distributing, constituted organisations whose membership is open to all sections of society	Grant	Up to £100,000	Open
Creative Scotland	Open Fund	Supporting the arts, screen and creative industries	Scotland wide	Organisations and groups; private individuals	Grant	c. £13m p.a. Grants for between £1,000 – £100,000	Open
Historic Environment Scotland	Repair Grant (to become Open Programme)	Supports conservation-standard repair projects	Scotland wide	Not-for-profits; private owners/commercial owners can apply but not a priority	Grant	£10,000 – £500,000	Open

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Historic Environment Scotland	Heritage & Place Programme	Development and delivery of heritage focused schemes Vibrant and sustainable places	Conservation areas or distinctive heritage areas with local authority recognition	Local authorities, national park authorities and not-for-profit organisations	Grant	Not set value but grants typically £750,000 – £1.5m	Open
Historic Environment Scotland	City Heritage Trusts	Regenerate buildings, revitalise city centres, open up new spaces for residential or commercial use, training in traditional skills, raise heritage awareness	Seven City Heritage Trusts in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Perth & Kinross and Stirling	See individual trust details	Grant	See individual trust details	See individual trust details
Architectural Heritage Fund	Project Viability Grant	Revitalise meaningful buildings Consider potential uses/viability report	Scotland wide Note historic building criteria	Community Councils, community benefit societies, charities, charitable trusts	Grant	Up to £10,000	Open
Architectural Heritage Fund	Project Development Grant	Revitalise meaningful buildings Developing and co-ordinating projects	Scotland wide Note historic building criteria	Community Councils, community benefit societies, charities, charitable trusts	Grant	Up to £40,000	Open
Architectural Heritage Fund	William Grant Foundation Tailored Support Fund	Revitalise meaningful buildings Unexpected cost arises or emergency repairs	Scotland wide Note historic building criteria	Community Councils, community benefit societies, charities, charitable trusts	Grant	Up to £10,000	Open
Association of Industrial Archaeology	Grant Scheme	Preservation and restoration	Scotland wide Note archaeologically important industrial building criteria	Not-for-profits	Grant	Major projects – up to £20,000 Small projects – up to £7,500	Open

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Edinburgh World Heritage	<u>Conservation Funding Programme</u>	Conservation of historic buildings, delivering improvements to public places, or engaging people directly through education	Edinburgh – Old and New Towns	Under review	Grant	Under review	Closed
Garfield Weston Foundation	<u>Grant Programme</u>	Arts, education, youth, health, museums & heritage, community, environment, faith, welfare	UK wide	Charities, RSLs	Grant	c. £80m p.a.	Open
Robertson Trust	<u>Grant Programme</u>	Financial wellbeing, emotional wellbeing, educational and work pathways	Scotland wide	Community groups and charities	Grant	Wee Grants up to £2,000 Small Grants £2,000 – £15,000 Large Grants £15,000 – £50,000	Open
Hugh Fraser Foundation	<u>Grant Programme</u>	Arts and culture, medical & health, the environment and education, care and support of the young and elderly, people with disabilities and the under-privileged	Scotland wide	Charities or community interest companies	Grant	c. £2m p.a.	Open
Pilgrim Trust	<u>Preservation and Scholarship Fund</u>	Preservation or repair of buildings and sites of historic importance	UK wide	Charities and public bodies	Grant	Small Grants £5,000 or less Main Grant Scheme £5,000+	Open



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Further Information

In 2020 the Scottish Land Commission created the Vacant and Derelict Land Taskforce, bringing together a host of public and private agencies to transform the existing approach to bringing those abandoned and unloved urban spaces back into productive use.

The findings and recommendations of the Taskforce can be found on our website:

[landcommission.gov.scot/
notsoprettyvacant](http://landcommission.gov.scot/notsoprettyvacant)

Further information about our work on vacant and derelict land can be found at www.landcommission.gov.scot

Information and resources on transforming vacant and derelict land, including toolkits and a map of long-term derelict sites, can be found at www.landcommission.gov.scot/duste-map

Information about bringing vacant and derelict land back into use can also be found via Stalled Spaces Scotland at www.ads.org.uk/stalled-spaces-scotland

The Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Register can be found at www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-vacant-and-derelict-land-survey---site-register/

www.landcommission.gov.scot/notsoprettyvacant

#NotSoPrettyVacant