

**SCOTTISH LAND
COMMISSION**

**REVIEW OF THE
FUNDING SOURCES
FOR THE RE-USE OF
VACANT AND
DERELICT LAND**

2022 UPDATE

Ryden

01	INTRODUCTION
02	UK GOVERNMENT
03	SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT
04	REGIONAL & LOCAL PUBLIC SECTOR FUNDING
05	NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDING
06	HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND
07	DEVELOPMENT TRUSTS & CHARITIES
08	PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY
09	CIVIC CROWDFUNDING, LOCAL & OTHER SOURCES
10	SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS
	APPENDICES
A	SUMMARY TABLE OF FUNDING SOURCES FOR VDL

01

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Scottish Land Commission (SLC) instructed Ryden to update its 2019 report on funding opportunities for vacant and derelict land (VDL). This update provides an overview of the funding landscape (sources) and the appendix contains an itemised guide of relevant funding which are currently available.
- 1.2 Scotland currently has almost 11,000 hectares of VDL. This is a large, diverse and hugely fragmented volume of land but has the potential to create long term regeneration and renewal – unlocking growth, reviving communities, increasing community empowerment and reducing inequalities.
- 1.3 Since Ryden’s 2019 report, the wider funding landscape has seen significant changes. Britain’s exit from the European Union in January 2020 means it cannot participate in the next round of European Union Structural Funds which included the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund for which the Scottish Government was the managing authority. This has affected funds included in the previous review such as SPRUCE and LEADER. In its commitment to fully replacing European funding levels, the UK Government has introduced several new funding streams which are applicable to the whole of the UK and means they are now more actively involved in economic development in Scotland than was the case previously.
- 1.4 The Covid-19 pandemic has also affected the funding landscape. A number of funders have had to change their funding objectives to simply maintain business-as-usual and a number of one-off emergency funds were created by the Scottish Government. The policy landscape has also moved on. In Scotland, there is an increased focus on net zero and other agendas including the Clyde Mission, community wealth building and natural capital which has resulted in a number of funders reviewing their objectives and re-casting grant programmes. The recovery from the pandemic is set to be green and inclusive.
- 1.5 A positive introduction, based on the recommendations of the VDL Taskforce, has been the £50m VDL Investment Programme which was introduced by the Scottish Government in 2021. This new fund is available to all local authorities and now operates in addition to the c. £7.6m pa VDL Fund which targets the five local authorities most affected by VDL.
- 1.6 This update considers a range of direct and indirect (i.e. depends what the land is being used for, rather than just being vacant/derelict) funding sources which have been provisionally assessed. However, funding sources, particularly at the local level are constantly changing and regular update of this review is recommended. The review could also lead to a funding-micro site or page on the Scottish Land Commission’s website.
- 1.7 Within this review we have ordered the funds by provider. However, depending on the future audience it may be more appropriate to order the funds by theme to support the needs of potential applicants/candidate projects, e.g. regeneration, environment, community funding etc. Accordingly, the report covers:
 - UK Government (Section 2)
 - Scottish Government (Section 3)
 - Regional & Local Public Sector Funding (Section 4)
 - National Lottery Funding (Section 5)
 - Historic Environment Scotland (Section 6)
 - Development Trusts and Charities (Section 7)
 - Private Philanthropy (Section 8)
 - Civic Crowdfunding, Local & Other Sources (Section 9)
 - Summary & Conclusions

1.8 For each fund we have recorded:

- Aim of fund
- Level of funding available
- Eligibility criteria including geography, sector and outputs
- Application process
- Named example of a funded project (where available)

1.9 We have also included a summary table of funding sources for VDL within Appendix A.

02

UK GOVERNMENT

LEVELLING UP FUND

Aim of Fund

- 2.1 Launched in 2021, the Levelling Up Fund is a capital fund designed to directly support communities across the UK with capital investment in local infrastructure. It is open to all areas of the UK and seeks to regenerate town centres and high streets, invest in local transport schemes and create, renew and upgrade local cultural and heritage assets.
- 2.2 The Fund is jointly managed by Her Majesty's Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Transport.

Level of Funding

- 2.3 The Fund will provide £4.8bn of capital investment across the UK over the next 5 financial years for local infrastructure projects with £800m of this ring-fenced for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is anticipated that all funding provided from the Fund will be spent by 31 March 2024 with the potential exception of larger schemes into 2024-25.
- 2.4 The focus is on projects that require up to £20m of funding however bids between £20m-£50m will be accepted for transport projects only, e.g. roads schemes.
- 2.5 The first round of successful bidders was announced in October 2021 with c. £1.7bn awarded across the UK. Eight projects led by Scottish local authorities received funding worth just under £172m (around 10% of the total value of awards). In the first round five of the eight projects were in Priority 1 areas (discussed below).

Eligibility

- 2.6 In Scotland, funding will be delivered through local authorities and all areas are eligible. Bidders are encouraged to collaborate with neighbouring authorities on cross boundary schemes and to submit joint proposals across their local areas where appropriate. Relevant local stakeholders should be consulted and evidence of local engagement is required as part of each project's strategic case.

Application Process

- 2.7 The amount of funding each area receives will be determined on a competitive basis with funding targeted towards places with the most significant need as measured by an index which takes into account need for economic recovery and growth, need for improved transport connectivity and need for regeneration. This index places areas into a category 1, 2 or 3, with category 1 representing places with the highest level of identified need. The Levelling Up Index for Scotland is shown below.

Priority Category	Local Authorities
1	Dumfries & Galloway, Dundee City, East Ayrshire, Falkirk, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, Scottish Borders, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire
2	Aberdeen City, Angus, Argyll & Bute, Clackmannanshire, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, Fife, Midlothian, Moray, Na h-Eileanan Siar, Stirling, West Lothian
3	Aberdeenshire, City of Edinburgh, East Dunbartonshire, Highland, Orkney Islands, Perth & Kinross, Shetland Islands

- 2.8 These bandings form part of the criteria for assessing bids.

- 2.9 Local areas should take a holistic approach to their infrastructure needs across transport, regeneration and cultural investment when developing their bids. Applications for funding should clearly demonstrate how proposed investments will support relevant local strategies and their objectives for improving infrastructure, promoting growth, enhancing the natural environment and making their areas more attractive places to live and work. Local areas will also need to show why the proposed investment or set of investments represents the highest value local priorities.
- 2.10 Each bid can be a bid for an individual project or a package bid consisting of multiple projects. Package bids must clearly explain how their component elements are aligned with each other and represent a coherent set of interventions.
- 2.11 The Levelling Up Fund also includes a role for MPs “at the heart of its mission”. Local authorities can submit one bid for every MP whose constituency lies wholly within their boundary, and “the expectation is that an MP will back one bid which they see as a priority”. It is also worth noting that Local authorities can only have one successful bid for each of their allocated number of bids over the lifecycle of the Fund, and so some local authorities may hold off bids till later rounds.
- 2.12 Future dates for the further rounds of the fund have yet to be announced.

Example

Granton Gas Holder, Edinburgh

The first round of the Levelling Up Fund awarded £16.5m to the City of Edinburgh Council for the Granton Gas Holder. This funding will restore and open to the public, the category B listed Granton gas holder. The successful implementation of this project will unlock the wider regeneration of Granton Waterfront, securing further public and private investment of around £1.2bn to deliver a new coastal town for Edinburgh and the region.



Granton Waterfront is a post-industrial site, located in the north west of the city, three miles from Edinburgh's city centre. It suffers from high levels of contamination, steep topography and made ground. Subject to various masterplans and piecemeal development, construction ground to a halt in 2008 due to the financial crisis. In 2018, the Council purchased the former gas works from National Grid to accelerate regeneration. A condition of this purchase was the restoration of this historic structure. Together with other landholdings in the area, the council now own around 50 hectares of developable land. In 2020, a development framework was approved by the Council for the regeneration of the area.

Delivery is made up of four key phases, with the gas holder restoration, forming part of phase 1 'Heart of Granton'. The Heart of Granton forms the new town centre and is a key connection between existing communities and the shore.

Over the next six years, phase 1 will bring over 788 homes, and around 4,000 m2 of business and creative workspace. Key services will include a three-stream primary school, medical centre and a district heating energy network. Strong active travel connections within and to surrounding areas will be achieved with over 4,100 m2 of new or enhanced networks of cycle and footpaths alongside a transport hub to offer an integrated suite of mobility services, amenities and supporting technologies to support people in their travel journey.

UK COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND AND UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

Aim of Fund

- 2.13 With the UK now having left the European Union, European Structural Funds will come to an end. Investment from EU Structural Funds will continue to be spent by local areas until 2023 and the UK Government has committed to at least matching EU receipts through the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund, on average reaching around £1.5 billion a year. This new Fund, to be launched in 2022, will operate throughout the UK and play a part in uniting and levelling up the whole country.
- 2.14 The long term vision of the fund is designed to increase funding for projects that are supporting people and places across the UK, focusing on the UK's domestic priorities, growing local economies, and breathing new life into communities.
- 2.15 As a pre-cursor to the Shared Prosperity Fund, the UK Community Renewal Fund is being provided for 2021-22 only. This Fund aims to support communities to pilot programmes and new approaches, aligning national and local provision. The UK Community Renewal Fund aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK, creating opportunities to trial new approaches and innovative ideas at the local level preparing them to take full advantage of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund when it launches in 2022.
- 2.16 Projects should align with one or more of the following investment priorities:
- Investment in skills
 - Investment for local business
 - Investment in communities and place
 - Supporting people into employment
- 2.17 Further details on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will be published as part of a UK-wide Investment Framework later in 2022. The UK Government will engage with Devolved Administrations and local partners as they develop the UK Shared Prosperity Fund's Investment Framework. The UK Community Renewal Fund will help inform the design of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Level of Funding

- 2.18 As noted the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will on average reach around £1.5 billion a year. In addition, to this investment is £220m for the UK Community Renewal Fund. 90% of funding available through the UK Community Renewal Fund is revenue funding.
- 2.19 There is no specific amount earmarked for Scotland however Scottish projects were awarded c£18.4m from the UK Community Renewal Fund when awards were announced in November 2021.

Eligibility

- 2.20 In Scotland, bids must be submitted by local authorities. Priority places have been identified below but bidding is open to all local authorities.

Application Process

- 2.21 The UK Community Renewal Fund was a competitive process and prioritised projects that target investment at communities in need, particularly in the identified 100 priority places based on an index of economic resilience. Those places in Scotland which featured in the top 100 are identified below.

Argyll & Bute	Dumfries & Galloway	East Ayrshire	Falkirk
Glasgow City	Inverclyde	North Ayrshire	North Lanarkshire
Scottish Borders	South Ayrshire	South Lanarkshire	West Dunbartonshire

Example

A Re-use Hub for New Cumnock, East Ayrshire

The UK Community Renewal Fund awarded £75,337 to East Ayrshire Council for the re-use hub in New Cumnock. The New Cumnock Development Trust is seeking to restore the vacant Trotters Building which occupies a prominent position in the town and breathe new life in it with their proposals. The site will be a focal point for both local people and visitors. It is envisaged that the hub will be a place to refurbish and re-use unwanted equipment and a place to learn and develop practical skills. This delivers on several themes of the local Regeneration Masterplan.



COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP FUND

Aim of Fund

- 2.22 The Community Ownership Fund is for communities across the UK. It has been set up to help communities take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of closure or of being lost to the community.
- 2.23 Community ownership of assets can be a catalyst for bringing people together and helping communities to flourish. But there is a long-term trend of communities losing amenities that foster a sense of community pride and bring people together. This has a knock-on impact on people's satisfaction with the place they live, and the strength of local communities.
- 2.24 The Fund has 4 strategic objectives:
- Provide targeted investment for communities to save community assets that would otherwise be lost
 - Strengthen capacity and capability in communities to support them to shape their places and develop sustainable community businesses
 - Empower communities in left behind places to level up
 - Strengthen direct links between places across the UK and the UK government

Level of Funding

- 2.25 The fund is worth £150m over 4 years. Scotland benefits from its per capita share which means a minimum £12.3m investment.
- 2.26 Community groups are able to bid for up to £250,000 and the Fund will contribute up to 50% of the total capital required. In exceptional cases, up to £1 million matched-funding will be available to help establish a community-owned sports club or help buy a sports grounds at risk of being lost without community intervention.

Eligibility

- 2.27 The fund is open to community groups across the UK. Communities applying to the fund should have a strong vision for the long-term future of the asset, its purpose and potential in community life, and a plan for how the asset can thrive under community ownership.
- 2.28 The legal structures of organisations across the UK which are expected to apply include the following:
- A charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
 - Scottish charitable incorporated organisation (SCIO)
 - Co-operatives including Community Benefit Societies
 - Community Interest Company (CiC)

- Not-for-profit company limited by guarantee

- 2.29 To be eligible for funding, applicants will also have to demonstrate they are accountable to the local place and/or community they represent, how they will operate for the benefit of the wider community in tangible ways, and how they will use the asset to deliver community impact. Profits from the community asset and businesses should be reinvested in the asset to deliver community benefit.
- 2.30 Local authorities and town, parish and community councils are not eligible to apply. However, it is hoped that councils across the UK will play an active role in supporting their local community groups to apply.
- 2.31 The Fund will not fund unincorporated organisations or private individuals.
- 2.32 For the purposes of this Fund, community ownership refers to the ownership and management of local community assets or amenities by a community organisation in order to deliver benefits for the community and place. To be eligible for investment from the Fund, the terms of community ownership must be either the ownership of the freehold or a long-term leasehold of at least 25 years minimum (with no break clauses).

Application Process

- 2.33 The Fund recognises that communities across the UK who are interested in this fund will be at different stages. The Fund will run at least 8 bidding rounds, to give all communities the chance to submit a bid at the right time for them.
- 2.34 The priorities for the first round are to invest in projects which are ready to access capital funding and complete their projects within 6 months. All round 1 bids were to have been submitted by 13 August 2021.
- 2.35 Round 1 was undertaken in August 2021 and Round 2 in December 2021. Round 3 will take place in May 2022.
- 2.36 The application form can be found on the UK Government website along with the Fund Prospectus.

Example

Callandar Visitor Information Centre, Stirling

Callandar Visitor Information Centre – run and operated by Callandar Community Development Trust received a grant of £124,843 from the first round of the Community Ownership Fund. The cash injection will go towards the Trust's purchase of the former RBS bank branch in Main Street which has lain vacant for many years. The purchase will allow the Trust to re-establish the visitor information centre, invest in the high street and support the tourism industry and wider regeneration of the area.



03

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

REGENERATION

PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PBIP)

Aim of Fund

- 3.1.1 Announced in February 2021, the PBIP is being used to link and align place-based funding initiatives within the Scottish Government. Its aim is to ensure that all place based investments are shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities and accelerate Scottish Government ambitions for place, 20-minute neighbourhoods, town centre action, community led regeneration and community wealth building. It includes the continued delivery of the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund as well as Place Based Investment Programme funding to local government, and the ongoing sponsorship of Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company.
- 3.1.2 The Place Principle, which underpins this approach, was adopted by Scottish Government and COSLA as a basis for collaborative working to ensure that future local investment is relevant to local communities for the benefit of local people. Bringing relevant services, enterprise, and communities together to make towns, villages, and neighbourhoods more viable. The PBIP alongside the developing Place Framework are designed to make the Place Principle real.
- 3.1.3 A coherent programme approach to place based investment will provide the structure to challenge, coordinate and target efforts in any particular geography. It is designed to make sure that all place based investments understand the place in which they are made, how their contribution will help deliver the changes needed, and how local communities shape their future.
- 3.1.4 The main objectives of the programme are:
- Link and align place-based initiatives and establish a coherent local framework to implement the Place Principle
 - Support place policy ambitions such as town centre revitalisation, community led regeneration, 20-minute neighbourhoods and Community Wealth Building
 - Ensure that all place-based investments are shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities
 - Accelerate ambitions for net zero, wellbeing and inclusive economic development, tackling inequality and disadvantage, community involvement and ownership

Level of Funding

- 3.1.5 The PBIP is supported by an initial £325m capital over 5 years (commencing 2021/22) with funds being allocated to local authorities by the Scottish Government. Allocations are based on a weighted formula based on the number of towns and population in a local authority area and deprivation indices. This is similar to how the 2019 and 2020 Town Centre Fund was allocated.

Eligibility

- 3.1.6 The PBIP aims to invest in centres or neighbourhoods connected with 2 categories of settlement:
- i. Rural settings with smaller populations, dependent on larger geographical areas for support, for example:

- Small Towns with a limited range of non-specialised facilities
 - Villages with very limited, or non-existent, access to facilities
- ii. Urban settings with sizeable populations, for example:
- Regional Capitals with extensive provision supporting a wide geographical area
 - Larger Towns with a comprehensive range of dedicated services and facilities.
 - Individual Neighbourhoods with limited access to relevant local provision.

3.1.7 The fund therefore has wider eligibility than the previous Town Centre Fund.

Application Process

3.1.8 Local authorities can use this funding for existing projects along with emerging projects from its communities. Many local authorities have adopted a bidding process to enable this.

Example

The Corner, Darvel

East Ayrshire Council has provided £120,000 from its PBIP allocation to the Corner, Darvel. This project is being managed by the Darvel & Area Regeneration Team, a non-profit charity, which seeks to repurpose a former derelict brownfield site on the main road to create a garden and market place for use by the community and local businesses. The development will replace the old Co-op building – a once fine and handsome structure which deteriorated and became a dispiriting eyesore in the centre of the village. The building was demolished in 2019 and construction is underway on site.



VACANT AND DERELICT LAND INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (VDLIP)

Aim of Fund

3.1.9 The VDLIP is a Scottish Government capital programme scheduled across five years to help with tackling persistent VDL and supporting place based approaches to delivering regeneration and sustainable inclusive growth, as part of a 'just transition' to net-zero by 2045. It is being established in the context of Scotland's economic recovery being a green recovery, i.e. tackling climate change and providing opportunities for new work and growth in today's challenging global market.

3.1.10 The VDLIP has been established in the above context and with four pillars of action:

- Sustained place-based approaches
- Urban Green spaces
- Community-led regeneration
- Low carbon developments and renewables

3.1.11 This fund was set up following a series of recommendations from the VDL Taskforce, established by the Scottish Land Commission and SEPA, which aims to transform Scotland's approach to tackling the legacy of VDL.

Level of Funding

3.1.12 The total level of funding over the 5 years is £50 million. This has been indicatively divided up across the 5 years as shown overleaf.

FY 2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
£5m	£5m	£10m	£15m	£15m

Source: Scottish Government

- 3.1.13 The budget forward plan allows for multiyear project delivery, where appropriate and justified in project proposals, recognising that some sites are more complex than others to tackle and take more time.

Eligibility

- 3.1.14 The VDLIP is available to all 32 Scottish Local Authorities and Clyde Gateway URC. Applications are not sought directly from community or other organisations, recognising the important strategic role that local authorities play in registering VDL and taking forward the necessary activities to be able to tackle it. Proposals should align with the high level criteria agreed with COSLA for the Place Based Investment Programme, including net zero, wellbeing and inclusive economic development, the place principle, tackling inequality and disadvantage, community involvement and ownership, as well as support for town centre revitalisation, better places, and 20 minute neighbourhoods.
- 3.1.15 Multiyear project proposals will be accepted, where appropriate and justified, recognising that the process of tackling VDL is often complex and takes time.
- 3.1.16 There is the expectation that proposals for funding are brought forward with involvement and support of the involved or impacted communities as well as third sector and private partners where applicable.
- 3.1.17 Grants are for capital works with the fund specifically targeting 'long term' (15 years+) VDL. Where a site has obvious potential to become long term vacant and derelict by that definition, a project proposal may be able to justify bringing forward investment to unblock its reuse.
- 3.1.18 It is to be noted that the Investment Panel may prioritise proposals that involve DUSTE (Derelict and Urban Sites unused since Two Thousand or Earlier) sites, as identified by the VDL Taskforce. Essentially these are Scotland's 'stuck sites'. Many DUSTE sites have been on the Scottish VDL Register for decades and are located in areas of multiple deprivation, which are negatively impacting the area and wellbeing of residents. These sites are captured on the [Scottish Land Commission's DUSTE map](#). There are however many sites that meet the DUSTE criteria but because of their size (>0.1 ha) have never been formally recorded on the register. Proposals for both registered and unregistered DUSTE sites are welcome.
- 3.1.19 With regard to onward management of the treated site, evidence should be provided in terms of how it will be managed and maintained to attract further investment (community or development) to secure and sustain its productive future use.

Application Process

- 3.1.20 The VDLIP is being delivered on a competitive basis, with project proposals invited over two stages from eligible applicants across Scotland. There is no limit set for the number of applications that an organisation can submit however with a budget pre-set each year and a wide geographic remit, project proposals will need to be prioritised each year.
- 3.1.21 The application process is supported by an Investment Panel which at Stage 1 establishes which project proposals are sufficiently developed to meet the aims and objectives of the fund and make recommendations to Scottish Ministers on which project proposals should progress to Stage 2 and, ultimately, which should receive an offer of grant. At Stage 2, further detail will be requested on the proposals.
- 3.1.22 The deadline for 2021/22 and 2022/23 funding is now closed with these two rounds of funding for being managed concurrently. This was because the fund was only first opened to applications in April 2021. Projects which have been awarded funding as part of these funding rounds will be announced in April 2022. For 2023/24 funding and thereafter the applications process will commence annually from the Spring.

Example

New River Bed and Greenspace in Barrhead

In September 2021, the first round of funding from the VDLIP was announced with East Renfrewshire Council successfully being awarded £1.1m to transform derelict land into greenspace in Barrhead. The former depot site at Walton Street had been empty for over 20 years, as a previous flood risk meant the land could not be developed. It is now intended to transform the land into a new green space, with re-wilding of the Levern Water at its centerpiece. The river will be widened and rechanneled to create an accessible and attractive waterfront that can absorb increased heavy rainfall caused by climate change. Local residents will also be able to enjoy new paths, river bank seating, wild flower meadows and woodland. The local primary school are involved in surveying the river's biodiversity. Work is due to start early 2022 subject to planning consent.



VACANT AND DERELICT LAND FUND (VDLF)

Aim of Fund

3.1.23 The VDLF aims to tackle long-term VDL in Scotland. Its objectives are:

- To stimulate economic growth
- Create jobs
- Promote environmental justice and improved quality of life
- To support communities to flourish and tackle inequalities

3.1.24 It is an element of the local government budget settlement, as agreed with Scottish Government. The fund has been operational since 2004.

3.1.25 It focuses on projects that promote innovation in both temporary and longer term greening techniques for VDL sites.

Level of Funding

3.1.26 For 2021/22, five local authorities received a share of £7.605m. The budget for 2022/23 is £7.6m¹.

Eligibility

3.1.27 This fund is available to five local authorities and reflects the extent of VDL in these areas and levels of deprivation. Allocations made in 2021/22 were as follows:

Local Authority	Share of VDLF	2021-22 Allocation
Fife Council	19.08%	£1.451m
Glasgow City Council	28.39%	£2.159m
North Ayrshire Council	17.36%	£1.320m
North Lanarkshire Council	25.48%	£1.938m
South Lanarkshire Council	09.70%	£0.737
Total	100%	£7.605m

¹ Scottish Budget 2022-23, Table 5.12 Central Government Grants to Local Authorities Spending Plans (Level 3)

- 3.1.28 The local authorities listed are not fixed and can vary based on each local authority's returns to the annual Scottish VDL Survey. The statistics gained from this survey, allow the Scottish Government to allocate and monitor the impact of the VDLF.
- 3.1.29 The fund can be used to cover a range of costs associated with the remediation of VDL, e.g. feasibility costs, professional fees, acquisition costs, maintenance costs and demolition costs. While purchasing costs are eligible they should not represent 100% of a project's requested funding (i.e. the fund must cover more than simply acquiring the land).

Application Process

- 3.1.30 The VDLF is available on an annual basis and grant levels are assessed against Council delivery plans.

Example

Ravenscraig Active Travel

As part of North Lanarkshire Council's allocation under the 2021/22 VDLF, £500,000 will be used to create a new active travel route between Craigneuk and Ravenscraig Park/Sports Centre. This will provide a direct, off-road route for cycling, walking and wheeling from the south of Ravenscraig to the facilities within it. The proposed links will connect with a wider network of existing and proposed routes to enable active travel through Ravenscraig to Motherwell, Wishaw and Carfin.

As well as monies received from the VDLF, funding has also been provided by the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme and Strathclyde Passenger Transport.

The planning application was approved in June 2021. Work has now commenced on site and will continue through to Spring 2022.

REGENERATION CAPITAL GRANT FUND (RCGF)

Aim of Fund

- 3.1.31 The RCGF is part of the Scottish Government's Capital Investment Fund and is delivered in partnership with COSLA and local government. The fund aims to support projects that:
- Focus primarily on areas that suffer from high levels of deprivation and disadvantage
 - Demonstrate clear community involvement
 - Deliver large scale transformational change with strong regeneration outcomes
 - Encourage additional investment and address market failure

- 3.1.32 The fund has been operative since 2014 and has since resulted in 136 projects receiving support.

- 3.1.33 It is not a necessity for the project to be based on VDL in order to secure funding however it is an implicit priority.

Level of funding

- 3.1.34 The funding made available is c. £20m per annum and in recent years' total grant awards have been as follows:
- 2019/20 - £20.5m
 - 2020/21 - £23.3m plus additional economic recovery stimulus of £11.9m
 - 2021/2022 - £20.3m
 - 2022/23 - £27.0m

3.1.35 The 2022/23 allocations, recently announced, will provide funding for 22 different projects.

Eligibility

3.1.36 The fund is open to applications from all of Scotland's 32 Local Authorities individually or alternatively if they exercise their functions through Urban Regeneration Companies or other Special Purpose Vehicles.

3.1.37 Applications are not restricted to a geographical area, size or type of project. The application should outline and demonstrate the projects intention to match the aims and criteria of the fund and should demonstrate clear regeneration outcomes in line with the Scottish Government's strategy document 'Achieving a Sustainable Future' and local area regeneration plans.

3.1.38 Applicants are required to demonstrate the project's feasibility and practicalities.

3.1.39 Applications to the fund are invited on an annual basis and, where justified, can potentially cover more than one financial year (subject to available budget).

Application Process

3.1.40 Applications can be made by local authorities on an annual basis and, where justified, can potentially cover more than one financial year (subject to Spending Review restrictions).

3.1.41 All applications are subject to scrutiny by the independent Regeneration Capital Grant Fund Investment Panel which makes final recommendations on projects to be funded.

3.1.42 Applicants must go through a two-stage assessment. A summary of the project must be provided in Stage 1. Successful projects at this stage will be invited by the panel to then complete a full Stage 2 applications.

Example

Exchange Young People's Theatre, Renfrewshire

This project will deliver Scotland's first theatre designed for and with young people, by restoring, re-purposing and breathing new life into an historic disused building in Paisley town centre. This environmentally sustainable, community arts hub will provide much needed additional space for creative learning, a flexible 100 seat studio theatre space, an interactive sensory creative play space, workshop space, community hub and family-friendly café. Led by Paisley's PACE Theatre Company and a team of committed community partners, the hub will grow cultural provision and creative learning work with children and young people in Renfrewshire, with a particular focus on those deprived of cultural engagement or who are disadvantaged in other ways. As well as aiming to strengthen the skills and outcomes of young people with most to gain, this project represents an important strategic element in the regeneration of the wider cultural life of Paisley and Renfrewshire. The project received £800,000 from the RGCF as part of the 2022/23 funding round. The application was submitted by Renfrewshire Council on PACE's behalf.



COMMUNITY

INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES FUND (ICF)

Aim of Fund

3.2.1 The ICF is a community focused fund supporting organisations based in the places they serve delivering activity across the following 4 areas for action:

- Tackling poverty and inequality, including child poverty
- Developing and sustaining place based approaches
- Community-led regeneration
- Ensuring a just transition to net zero

The funding prioritises those places where support is needed most, for disadvantaged, rural and fragile communities across Scotland. All successful projects will deliver work that achieves the following outcomes:

- Reducing poverty and inequality – fewer people experience poverty and inequality, with a focus on ending child poverty; with improved life chances and opportunities; and live healthier lives;
- Sustaining place based approaches – communities are more resilient, equal and work in partnership to achieve shared ambitions for their place;
- Community-led regeneration – communities are more sustainable and able to shape their own futures by strengthening the role and offering of locally controlled enterprising community (anchor) organisations, where local people are enabled to identify for themselves the challenges and priorities for their areas and make decisions on what solutions are needed;
- Ensuring a just transition to net zero – communities are more climate aware, are better equipped to support behaviour change and able to contribute positively to taking action on climate change.

3.2.2 The ICF complements the new Place Based Investment Programme.

3.2.3 Round 1 of the ICF was open from 2019/20 – 2022/23 which included an extension year as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is now closed. Round 2 will run from 2023-2026. Applications for Round 2 are anticipated to open towards the end of March or early April 2022.

3.2.4 This funding could potentially enable communities, through capacity building, to undertake community projects which could potentially impact on local VDL.

Level of Funding

3.2.5 Round 2 of the ICF will operate over 3 years with an allocation of c. £10m per annum. It is a revenue fund which also includes a small capital budget.

3.2.6 The maximum which can be applied for across the 3 consecutive financial years is £350,000 (including up to £20,000 per application for small-scale capital costs, if required). In one financial year, the maximum that can be applied for is £150,000 and the minimum is £5,000.

Eligibility

3.2.7 Eligible applicant organisations that will be considered for support from the ICF are:

- Charity / community / voluntary organisation
- housing association / housing co-operative / registered social landlord (RSL)
- Community Council
- not-for-profit company/social enterprise / Community Interest Company (CIC)

3.2.8 Applicants must also:

- Be incorporated - registered as a SCIO with OSCR, or a company limited by guarantee with Companies House or;
- Community benefit society regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) or;
- Community Council with a scheme of establishment with the local authority and a written constitution
- Have a governing body such as a board or committee and a governing document
- Meaningfully involves local people in its decision making processes
- Be solvent, and hold a UK bank account
- Have annual accounts

3.2.9 The fund supports the revenue costs associated with community consultation activities, feasibility work, and the design and/or delivery of local community-identified and community-led projects and services that will address local circumstances, priorities and needs.

Application Process

3.2.10 The fund will open at the end of March/early April 2022 and will close to applications 6 weeks later. Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel and all grant letters will be issued no later than March 2023.

3.2.11 Applications should be submitted by an eligible organisation as described above.

3.2.12 The application form can be located on the Scottish Government website.

Example

Mid Steeple Quarter, Dumfries

Midsteeple Quarter is a community benefit society breathing new life into Dumfries town centre by redeveloping empty High Street properties to create a new neighbourhood with a mix of uses built on principles of local prosperity and wellbeing. Midsteeple Quarter has bought five prominent buildings in the area and is working to bring them back into use creating new business opportunities and homes. The first building, 111 High Street, was let to a creative enterprise and food photography business and opened just before Christmas 2021. Following detailed site assessment and archaeological work undertaken in 2021, full construction on the other buildings will commence in 2022. Phase 1 which will concentrate on the site of 135-139 High Street will see the building transformed and extended, creating enterprise space at ground level and part of the first floor as well as 7 flats on its upper floors. The creative enterprise area will include space for pop-up projects, one-off events, long-term units for hire, a retail unit and co-working space. The homes, to be owned by Midsteeple Quarter Community Benefit Society, will be available to rent at an affordable-to-mid-market rate. The ICF has provided 3-year revenue funding for a project manager post.



COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING

3.2.13 Community wealth building (CWB) is a people-centred approach to local economic development, which redirects wealth back into the local economy, and places control and benefits into the hands of local people. Developed initially by the Democracy Collaborative in the United States, and championed in the UK by the progressive economics think tank Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES), CWB aims to ensure the economic system builds wealth and prosperity for everyone.

3.2.14 There are five core principles to CWB:

- Progressive procurement – developing local supply chains of businesses likely to support local employment and keep wealth within communities

- Fair employment and just labour markets – using anchor institutions to improve prospects of local people
- Shared ownership of the local economy – supporting and growing business models that are more financially generative for the local economy
- Socially just use of land and property – developing the function and ownership of local assets held by anchor organisations, so local communities benefit from financial and social gain
- Making financial power work for local places – increase flows of investment within local economies by harnessing and recirculating the wealth that exists

3.2.15 Anchor organisations are large employers with a strong local presence in an area. They can exert sizable influence through their commissioning and purchasing of goods and services, through their workforce and employment capacity, and by creative use of their facilities and land assets. Positive use of these aspects can affect social, economic and environmental change in an area. Anchors can be the local council, university, college, housing association, NHS health board or large local private sector employer.

3.2.16 The Scottish Government is exploring the potential for community wealth building as an approach to delivering inclusive growth across Scotland, with six local authorities being supported. These are North Ayrshire, Tay Cities (Fife), South of Scotland, Clackmannanshire, Glasgow City Region and Western Isles. These actions plans are at various stages, with most focusing on all five principles and Glasgow City focusing on two (sustainable procurement and land, property and assets). There are also now a number of other local authorities out-with the pilot areas that are exploring Community Wealth Building, such as Argyll and Bute, Dundee and South Lanarkshire Councils.

3.2.17 Examples of capital projects being delivered in these other areas to deliver CWB include: projects to tackle under-utilised and derelict land and buildings; using land and property assets to help develop low carbon and renewable energy schemes and networks; unlocking assets to develop community enterprise hubs for small businesses and social enterprises; developing progressive and productive use of land and property.

3.2.18 The Scottish Land Commission is developing guidance on CWB focused on the land and assets pillar.

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUY

3.2.19 Community Right to Buy allows communities in Scotland to apply to register an interest in land and the opportunity to buy that land when it comes up for sale.

3.2.20 In addition, in 2018, the community right to buy abandoned, neglected or detrimental land came into force. It gives community bodies a right to compulsorily purchase land (including not just land but bridges and other structures built on or over land, inland waters, canals etc) which is wholly or mainly, abandoned or neglected or the use or management of the land is causing harm to the environmental wellbeing of the community.

3.2.21 In order to submit an application, a compliant community body must be formed. There are templates and guidance on how to do this on the Scottish Government Website.

3.2.22 A community body wishing to apply to register an interest under Community Right to Buy is required to complete a community right to buy application form. Once an application has been submitted to Scottish Ministers, a temporary Prohibition is placed on the landowner preventing them from disposing or transferring the land.

3.2.23 Communities can obtain grant funding for such projects from the Scottish Land Fund (see page 40) which is funded by the Scottish Government.

ECONOMIC

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

Aim of Fund

- 3.3.1 A Business Improvement District (BID) is part of a town, tourism and visitor area, commercial district, or specific theme (such as food and drink), in which businesses work together to invest in local improvements. By working together businesses can reduce costs, share risks by agreeing to work collectively in projects, initiatives and services that the businesses consider will improve their trading environment. The BIDs model is designed to help local businesses to improve their communities.
- 3.3.2 There are 37 BIDs in Scotland. They operate for up to five years (unless another vote takes place) and are developed, managed and paid for by businesses through a compulsory BID charge. Recently there has become more emphasis on future BIDs which are more strategic and sustainable through wider public, private, third sector and community partnerships.
- 3.3.3 The Scottish Government supports the implementation of BIDs and award grants for BID development. Again, this is not a specific scheme for VDL but often businesses work together to see fewer vacant units or to see less derelict buildings, alongside other local objectives. Grants are often made available from the BIDs themselves for shop front improvements etc.

Level of Funding

- 3.3.4 The Scottish Government funds Scotland's Towns Partnership to provide a national support service for developing and established BIDs. The Scottish Government launched a new national hub through Scotland's Towns Partnership called [Scotland's Improvement Districts](#) in September 2018.
- 3.3.5 The BIDs themselves are funded by business – occupiers and, where agreed, property owners – through a levy based on the cost of the business plan and apportioned across all eligible levy payers.

Eligibility

- 3.3.6 BIDs can only exist if they get support from a clear majority of local businesses in a vote.

Application Process

- 3.3.7 For advice and an application form contact should be made with Scotland's Improvement Districts. For grants available from BIDs, contact should be made with them direct.

Example

Enterprising Bathgate, West Lothian

In 2008, businesses in Bathgate town centre voted to become Scotland's first BID. Local businesses saw the need for the town centre to adapt to meet the needs of the Bathgate community and confront the challenges of the 21st Century, such as on-line shopping and out-of-town retail parks. As a result of its success, in 2018, the BID received support for a third term and it has received c. £800,000 via levy contributions since 2008. One of the BID's projects is its Premises Improvement Scheme which is open to all levy payers and has seen a very high level of participation. In a typical year more than 80 grants are paid out amounting to £40,000. By the end of 2018 more than 700 grants with a value in excess of £400,000 had been awarded. Specific buildings have included former Council properties which were vacated with the opening of a new Partnership Centre and have since been converted to retail units, day nurseries or modern office accommodation, all benefitting from the Premises Improvement Scheme. Overall, the scheme has helped to keep the percentage of vacant units in Bathgate well below the national average. It has also been an invaluable help to



new businesses by making a significant contribution to set up costs.

SCOTLAND LOVES LOCAL FUND

Aim of Fund

- 3.3.8 The aim of the Scotland Loves Local Fund is to build the wealth of local communities, revitalise local places, town centres or 20 minute neighbourhoods, increasing footfall and activity by encouraging communities to 'think, choose and love local' improving, supporting and promoting local places and communities. This can include making small-scale local place based improvements, recognising the importance and actively engaging and developing local areas.
- 3.3.9 The fund is part of the Scottish Government's Scotland Loves Local Programme. It is a multi-year combined capital / revenue fund.
- 3.3.10 This fund is administered by Scotland's Towns Partnership, the national body for towns, on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Level of Funding

- 3.3.11 This fund is a £10m five-year programme. The first round of grants was announced in November 2021 with more than 100 organisations sharing a £1.5m funding boost. The first round of grants are worth £14,000 on average.
- 3.3.12 The Fund provides 50% match funding for local projects between £5,000 and £25,000 and targets funding towards local economies that have been impacted most due to the pandemic, including those in areas with pre-existing inequality.

Eligibility

- 3.3.13 The seeks to target projects run by groups such as town centre partnerships, chambers of commerce, community and charity trusts.

Application Process

- 3.3.14 As noted above, the fund is administered by Scotland's Towns Partnership. Details of the application process will be announced with details of the next funding round when available.

Example

Walk-up Avenue Project, Craigmillar, Edinburgh

£25,000 was awarded to the Walk-up Avenue project which seeks to deliver a multi-use community public space that will provide commercial opportunities for local small businesses alongside a place for people to meet and spend time outside in the town centre. Walk-up Avenue will transform a vacant/derelict site in Craigmillar town centre into a place that both local people and visitors to the community will enjoy. The Walk-Up Avenue Team will be working to change the (approx 2000sqm) area on Wauchope Avenue and activity will be focussed to the south of the site. There will be a sculptural entranceway, greenspace and planting, seating, flexible events space and 1 - 2 commercial spaces.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL INVESTMENT BANK (SNIB)

Aim of Fund

- 3.3.15 The Scottish National Investment Bank (SNIB) is a development investment bank, established and funded by Scottish Ministers on behalf of the people of Scotland. SNIB has been established to operate

commercially, and is operationally dependent from the Scottish Government. It invests in Scottish business, projects and communities to deliver environmental, social and financial returns. Investments in debt and equity are made on commercial terms and all investments must support at least one of SNIB's missions. These are:

- Achieving a just transition to net zero by 2045 – rebalancing the economy towards leadership in sustainable technology, services and industry
- Extending equality of opportunity through improving places by 2040 – invest in places and regeneration to reduce inequalities and improve opportunities and outcomes for people and communities
- Harnessing innovation to allow Scotland's people to flourish by 2040 – invest in innovation and industries of the future for a healthier, more resilient and productive population

3.3.16 These Missions are set by the Scottish Government.

3.3.17 SNIB provides patient (long term) capital to businesses and projects throughout Scotland to support the development of a fairer, more sustainable economy.

3.3.18 The Bank has an ambition to not only invest its allocated public capital, but to encourage additional private capital to invest alongside it, to support the delivery of the missions.

Level of Funding

3.3.19 SNIB launched in November 2020 and since then has been allocated £275m of public capital to invest. The total investment committed since launch is £191.4m

3.3.20 Typically, the Bank will invest in businesses and projects seeking more than £1m in investment support (debt or equity). The maximum level for projects is £50m.

3.3.21 The Bank does not provide grants and is unable to offer investment on sub-commercial terms.

Eligibility

3.3.22 The Bank invests in businesses based in Scotland, projects based in Scotland, or businesses seeking to move to Scotland. It can invest in all stages and sizes of business but expects to focus its business investment activity on those businesses that are in the scale-up phase, demonstrating commercial progress. SNIB's particular focus will be on small and medium sized Enterprises (SMEs).

3.3.23 The Bank may also undertake project investment which is distinct from business investment as it typically brings together a number of parties to deliver a project. Project finance is typically associated with infrastructure and energy investment.

3.3.24 The Bank will also support investment in communities and the third sector, e.g. charitable businesses, clean energy projects, local affordable housing developments, local regeneration projects.

3.3.25 SNIB will also support the Scottish tertiary education sector with investment in specific capital projects in Scottish universities and colleges to ensure they maintain their reputations as internationally leading tertiary education and research providers; and, in supporting the development of university developed and incubated innovative businesses and projects.

Application Process

3.3.26 Enquiries about potential investment should be made directly with the Bank and initially organisations are asked to provide the following information:

- Which of the Bank's missions your business or project supports

- The amount of investment you are looking for, and whether this is equity or debt
- A summary of the opportunity, ideally including:
 - Background: overview of the business or project
 - Market Potential: overview of the market and competitive landscape
 - Management: background and experience of key management team
 - Financials: summary of historic and projected financial performance
 - Investment: current capital structure, investment opportunity and proposed involvement of the Bank

Example

Station Wynd, Nitshill, Glasgow

SNIB made a £3m investment in Strathcarron Homes development of 25 high quality family homes to be sold to local social housing tenants and first-time buyers. The Station Wynd site, immediately adjacent to Nitshill train station, is a brownfield site currently part of the Glasgow VDL register. The development will transform this derelict site to a modern housing development of desirable and liveable family homes built to high design specifications.



The homes facilitated by the Bank's loan are being developed under a development agreement between Strathcarron Developments Limited and Glasgow City Council, with the site part of the council's Nitshill Regeneration Framework. The Bank's loan will be repaid by the developer from sales proceeds of the housing. The developer was unable to find finance from the high street banks or other private sector finance to support this development.

CROWN ESTATE SCOTLAND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS FUND

Aim of Fund

- 3.3.27 The Crown Estate belongs to the reigning monarch but it is not their private property – it cannot be sold by the monarch, nor do revenues belong to the monarch. The Scottish Government also does not own Crown Estate Scotland. It is managed by an independent organisation and surplus revenue from the estate is paid each year to the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government then allocates a portion of the funds to Councils across Scotland to support projects in their areas.
- 3.3.28 The Crown Estate operates the Local Partnerships Fund which seeks to support and develop local communities through commercial investment of capital, particularly where they complement existing or planned interventions that deliver place-based projects on the ground.
- 3.3.29 The Crown Estate is seeking to identify investment opportunities to grow revenue and capital value, whilst delivering benefits to coastal and rural communities linked to the Scottish Crown Estate through projects that involve local partnerships.

Level of Funding

- 3.3.30 Applications for capital investments between £150,000 and £750,000 were invited at the most recent funding round, ideally in partnership with other private or public funders or who can demonstrate they meet the fund criteria in other ways.
- 3.3.31 Crown Estate Scotland investment funds are not grant funds; they are capital investment. In line with statutory requirements the Crown Estate Scotland will be mindful of the financial value of the assets which are the subject of investment over time, as well as the financial return and wider value the investment generates.
- 3.3.32 Applicants should note that the Crown Estate Scotland leases its assets to generate revenue from rent (our profit is surrendered to Scottish Government) and projects which are the subject of this investment will ultimately require a commercial lease arrangement with the applicant or another relevant body. The exact

terms of this lease will be determined at the final stage of the process set out below.

Eligibility

3.3.33 To be eligible to apply for Local Partnerships funds, organisations must be:

- A UK registered business, statutory body, or other legally constituted organisation; and
- Providing (or proposing to provide) opportunities for the sustainable development and regeneration of coastal and rural communities within 5 miles of the Scottish Crown Estate.

3.3.34 To qualify, you must present an investment opportunity which meets some key criteria:

- It must form part of the Scottish Crown Estate. This means it must involve Scottish Crown Estate land, property or other assets; or the purchase of new assets to become part of the Estate.
- It must deliver benefits to Scotland which can be defined, are sustainable, and will contribute to achieving our corporate objectives.
- It must deliver Financial value, and should have a credible business plan for maintaining the value of the investment and delivering a positive return for the Crown Estate.
- It must not result in unfair competition, or breach regulations on competition or state aid.
- It must demonstrate stakeholder support, through community consultation, engagement with a planning authority, financial commitments from other funding bodies, etc.

3.3.35 For this Local Partnerships challenge fund, project aims should relate to sustainable development, diversification and regeneration of communities

Application Process

3.3.36 The most recent funding round closed in December 2021.

Example

3.3.37 Awards not yet announced.

ENVIRONMENT

CENTRAL SCOTLAND GREEN NETWORK GROWING FOOD TOGETHER FUND

Aim of Fund

- 3.4.1 The Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) is one of the largest environmental projects of its kind in Europe. More than just a 'Green' initiative, it is designed to support, link up and build on existing partnerships and programmes with the objective of improving the social, physical, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of central Scotland. The network is made up of quality environments where people live and work; network connections for people and wildlife; and nature-based solutions that contribute to net zero and climate resilience.
- 3.4.2 The CSGN previously offered the Development Fund which was a combined pot of money from several Scottish Government departments and agencies that had a vested interest in CSGN themes being delivered. However, many of these funders have now set up their own direct targeted funds and therefore the Development Fund has evolved into the Growing Food Together Fund, focussing specifically on community food growing. The fund aims to foster community engagement in growing and learning about food and promote healthy eating and outdoor exercise.
- 3.4.3 Additional CSGN priorities which have links to community growing activities include VDL (greening and temporary greening) and disadvantaged communities. Projects which meet the Community Growing priority plus the addition of any of these two priorities may be viewed more favourably.
- 3.4.4 The Green Action Trust manage the fund as part of its work to drive forward the delivery of the CSGN. The funding is provided by the Scottish Government and VDL is part of the criteria of assessing the applications for this fund.

Level of Funding

- 3.4.5 The total value of the Fund's 2021/22 latest round was £100,000. This was split between 13 projects.
- 3.4.6 The fund is open to third and public sector organisations.

Eligibility

- 3.4.7 Previously all projects funded under this programme had to be in the CSGN activity area. This is now not the case and applications are welcome from throughout Scotland.

Application Process

- 3.4.8 Funding for 2021/22 is now closed however applications for the 2022/23 funding round will become available towards the latter half of 2022. Once opened, application forms will can be downloaded from the website and submitted via email.

Example

Compass Project, Aberdeen

The Camphill Wellbeing Trust is currently seeking to sustainably refurbish and revitalise a vacant and derelict 7.7-acre site, with five dilapidated buildings, into an innovative, fully-integrated, exemplar place-based hub which will provide 20-minute local access to enable healthy, sustainable, green lifestyles. The Growing Food Together Fund is assisting the establishment of an organic no-dig community food growing and orchard spaces as part of the community hub.



NATURESCOT

Aim of Fund

- 3.4.9 NatureScot are Scotland's nature agency and work to improve the natural environment in Scotland and inspire people to care more about it. It is funded mainly by the Scottish Government. At the present time, NatureScot operates the Nature Restoration Fund which can help facilitate green solutions for VDL. This Fund focuses on projects that restore wildlife and habitats on land and sea and address the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change
- 3.4.10 In addition, while it is not a fund as such, NatureScot is also working with Earthwatch to develop and deliver the Scottish Wee Forests Programme. A Wee Forest is a tennis court-sized, densely planted and fast growing, native species rich woodland in urban Scotland which combines the specific Tiny Forest planting method with long term citizen science. The NatureScot Wee Forest Demonstration Project is training Scottish Local Delivery Partners (LDPs) in the Wee Forest method and 20 Wee Forests will be planted from Ayrshire to Aberdeen in the winter of 2021/22. The first Demonstration Wee Forest was planted at West Pilton Park in Edinburgh in October 2021. There are more in the pipeline. Again, this is another possible solution for greening VDL.

Level of Funding

- 3.4.11 Launched in 2021, the Scottish Government Nature Restoration Fund has a budget of £55m over the next 4 years, with at least £12.5m available annually. It is largely a capital fund. The Fund is currently open for projects requiring a grant of £25,000-£250,000 to be delivered over a maximum of 2 years. There is a maximum intervention rate of 90% of project costs. A Fund for projects requesting a grant of over £250,000 that can be delivered over 3-5 years will be launched later in 2022.

Eligibility

- 3.4.12 There are no geographical restrictions or target areas for either fund and applications are invited from:
- Constituted organisations, e.g. registered charities and trusts, communities
 - Private individuals and companies – where public benefit can be demonstrated
 - Partnerships and organisations working collaboratively with others
- 3.4.13 Public Bodies may not apply to the funds in their own right but can be a funding contributor of a wider partnership bid.
- 3.4.14 Confirmation of landowner permission will be required.

Application Process

3.4.15 The first stage is generally the submission of an expression of interest followed by discussion with a NatureScot advisor. Application forms will be supplied where projects are assessed to meet each fund's priorities.

Example

3.4.16 There are no relevant examples from the last round of grant funding. VDL could be eligible for this fund provided it meets the scheme priorities and nature outcomes.

SCOTTISH FORESTRY GRANT SCHEME

Aim of Fund

3.4.17 Scottish Forestry is the Scottish Government agency responsible for forestry policy, support and regulations. They operate the Forestry Grant Scheme which offers financial support for the creation of new woodland and the sustainable management of existing woodland.

3.4.18 Again, for sites where there is no or limited market demand, grants are available to potentially transform VDL (as well as other sites) into woodlands to create environmental and community (and other) benefits.

Level of Funding

3.4.19 During the Scottish Rural Development Programme 2014–2020, £252m will be available through this scheme. The budget for 2019/20 is £46m – this is divided into £40m for woodland creation and £6.4m for woodland management grants. As at April 2019, approximately 80% of this budget was committed.

Eligibility

3.4.20 Organisations can apply for support under these headings:

- Woodland creation – contributing towards the Scottish Government target of 10,000 hectares of new woodlands per year
- Woodland improvement and sustainable management of forests

3.4.21 In terms of woodland creation (the category of most relevance to VDL) [nine woodland options](#) are eligible for funding.

3.4.22 There is an initial planting payment and an annual maintenance payment for five years. There are also a range of capital grants available for operations such as fencing and tree protection.

3.4.23 The scheme is targeted towards private owners.

Application Process

3.4.24 Applications can be made online at any time of the year.

Example

Scottish Forestry was unable to provide a successful example of woodland creation on VDL which had been funded by the Forestry Grant Scheme. Although it is an area which is encouraged through the scheme it often fails to come to fruition as although the grant scheme funds the woodland creation it does not fund any remediation costs which are often prohibitive for private owners on this type of site.

Scottish Forestry's sister agency, Forestry and Land Scotland (managers of Scotland's forests) are being funded directly by the Scottish Government to create new community woodland. Successful projects included Cuningar Loop (see page 43) and Old Mine Nature Park in South Lanarkshire (pictured). Old Mine Nature Park is a former industrial site which has previously been farmed on, built on, mined, quarried, dug for clay and used as a landfill site and a railway siding. Forestry and Land Scotland is currently looking at projects on former open cast coal sites. This includes the recently planted Thornton Wood in Fife. Although these projects were not funded by the Scottish Forestry's Grant Scheme it demonstrates the type of project which could be successful.

HOUSING

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUPPLY PROGRAMME

Aim of Fund

- 3.5.1 The Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP) comprises a range of funding mechanisms to enable affordable housing providers to deliver homes for social rent, mid-market rent, and low cost home ownership in communities across Scotland to support local authorities' Local Housing Strategies.
- 3.5.2 The Scottish Government's aim was to deliver at least 50,000 affordable homes by 2021 however the impact of the lockdown in March 2020 meant there was a necessary pause in the delivery of affordable and social homes at a critical time within the target period. The Scottish Government is now working closely with partners to deliver the remaining homes as soon as possible.
- 3.5.3 Again, whilst this fund is not specific to VDL it can be using for housing developments on such sites. The scale of this fund means its impact on VDL could be substantial.

Level of Funding

- 3.5.4 Council areas across Scotland are to share more than £3.2 billion in grant funding over five years to deliver more affordable homes. The Scottish Government has allocated Resource Planning Assumptions for the full five-year period of this current parliament to provide certainty and assurance to the housing sector so it can plan to deliver the ambitious affordable homes target set out in Housing to 2040.
- 3.5.5 The Resource Planning Assumptions are set out overleaf.

Council	2021-22 £m	2022-23 £m	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m	2025-26 £m	5 year RPAs £m
Aberdeen (City of)	20.658	16.026	15.981	16.037	16.302	85.004
Aberdeenshire	32.626	27.675	27.596	27.693	28.152	143.742
Angus	10.491	9.043	9.017	9.049	9.199	46.799
Argyll & Bute	21.250	18.317	18.264	18.328	18.632	94.791
Clackmannanshire	6.666	5.746	5.730	5.750	5.845	29.737
Dumfries & Galloway	23.796	20.511	20.453	20.524	20.864	106.148
Dundee (City of)	19.977	17.219	17.170	17.230	17.516	89.112
East Ayrshire	14.910	12.852	12.815	12.860	13.073	66.510
East Dunbartonshire	10.082	8.690	8.665	8.696	8.840	44.973
East Lothian	13.651	11.767	11.733	11.774	11.969	60.894
East Renfrewshire	8.406	7.246	7.225	7.250	7.370	37.497
Edinburgh (City of)	52.418	45.182	45.053	45.211	45.960	233.824
Eilean Siar	9.709	8.367	8.343	8.372	8.511	43.302
Falkirk	14.601	12.586	12.550	12.594	12.802	65.133
Fife	40.205	34.655	34.556	34.677	35.252	179.345
Glasgow (City of)	120.578	103.934	103.638	104.001	105.724	537.875
Highland	53.828	46.398	46.266	46.428	47.197	240.117
Inverclyde	11.428	9.623	9.595	9.629	9.789	50.064
Midlothian	12.256	10.564	10.534	10.571	10.746	54.671
Moray	10.357	8.927	8.902	8.933	9.081	46.200
North Ayrshire	18.205	15.692	15.648	15.702	15.963	81.210
North Lanarkshire	38.246	32.967	32.873	32.988	33.534	170.608
Orkney Islands	3.980	3.431	3.421	3.433	3.490	17.755
Perth & Kinross	19.298	16.634	16.587	16.645	16.921	86.085
Renfrewshire	19.942	17.189	17.140	17.200	17.485	88.956
Scottish Borders	18.562	16.000	15.954	16.010	16.275	82.801
Shetland Islands	5.987	5.160	5.146	5.164	5.249	26.706
South Ayrshire	14.793	12.751	12.715	12.760	12.971	65.990
South Lanarkshire	34.990	30.160	30.074	30.180	30.680	156.084
Stirling	11.968	10.316	10.287	10.323	10.494	53.388
West Dunbartonshire	12.515	10.788	10.757	10.795	10.974	55.829
West Lothian	17.889	15.420	15.376	15.430	15.685	79.800
Total	724.268	621.836	620.064	622.237	632.545	3220.950

Eligibility

- 3.5.6 It is expected that the majority of homes delivered through the Programme will be new build units that are delivered directly by grant applicants or through 'off the shelf' purchases from developers. However, where it can be demonstrated that the use of grant to acquire 'second hand' stock that is for sale on the open market is the most appropriate method of meeting housing need in a particular area subsidy may be available to fund this. Funding may also be made available to remodel/ rehabilitate existing properties where this is considered a strategic priority.
- 3.5.7 With the exception of the acquisition of 'off the shelf' units from developers, new build homes which are delivered directly by grant applicants should:

- As a minimum, be two person, two apartment units (unless otherwise agreed)
- Comply with all approved applicable building regulations as required by law
- Be sufficiently flexible to meet people’s varying needs
- Meet – as a minimum – the design criteria indicated as a ‘basic’ requirement as outlined in Housing for Varying Needs

3.5.8 ‘Off the shelf’ purchases of new build stock from developers should (a) as a minimum, be two person, two apartment units (unless otherwise agreed) and (b) achieve all current building standards. In addition, projects using existing properties (not new build) should maximise energy efficiency and accessibility, as far as is practicable.

3.5.9 Wherever possible, all homes delivered should include ducting to help future-proof people’s access to internet and broadband services.

3.5.10 More generally, it is recognised that housing has important impacts on communities beyond providing accommodation. Issues such as public health, community safety, empowerment and sense of identity are all influenced by the quality of housing design in an area. It is important therefore that projects are designed with reference to the Scottish Government’s design and placemaking policies included in Scottish Planning Policy, Designing Streets and Creating Places. Projects should also be designed with reference to the Place Standard tool. In addition, grant applicants should consider Delivering Better Places in Scotland: A guide to learning from broader experience when developing project proposals, as well as Scottish Natural Heritage’s report on maximising the benefits of green infrastructure in social housing.

Application Process

3.5.11 Strategic Housing Investment Plans are prepared by local authorities and set out the strategic investment priorities for affordable housing over a five-year period to achieve the outcomes set out in their Local Housing Strategies. Based on these plans, local authorities and RSLs can submit their funding applications through the Scottish Government’s online system. All applications need to take cognisance of grant subsidy benchmarks designed to reflect differentials between geographical location, tenures and energy efficiency standards.

Example

Academy Place, Lockerbie

The site of the former Lockerbie Academy was previously on the Dumfries & Galloway VDL Register. In 2018 the site was purchased by Cunninghame Housing Association to deliver 45 new houses and flats for rent. The new homes include 3 wheelchair adapted properties and 9 amenity flats. The development of the site has provided a key gateway into the town of Lockerbie, completing gaps in the previously fragmented urban edge of Glasgow Road. Prior to this development, no new social housing or housing for varying needs had been built in Lockerbie since the 1980s. Works commenced in 2020 and completed at the end of 2021.



HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (HIF)

Aim of Fund

3.5.12 As part of the Housing to 2040 strategy, Scottish Ministers approved the continuation of the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) in the current Parliamentary period (to March 2026). HIF was originally launched in 2016 with the first round ending in March 2021.

3.5.13 The focus of the new HIF programme will include:

- Providing registered social landlords (RSLs) and local authorities with grant support for the unlocking of sites that will deliver affordable homes in support of the Affordable Housing Supply Programme and as in line with local authority strategic priorities.
- Prioritising funding applications that will help deliver completed affordable housing as part of the delivery targets set out in the Housing to 2040 strategy;
- Ensuring that grant support is targeting projects which have been blocked or not able to proceed due to the extent and costs of infrastructure works being exceptional and above the level which could be approved using the grant threshold flexibility available through the Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP);
- Prioritising applications where grant support is less than 100% of infrastructure costs and approved grant will reflect, where appropriate, any funding contributions which applicants can bring to the project which will result in lower levels of grant. 100% funding applications can still be made, but will require strong evidence to secure grant support;
- That applications contribute to strong place-based investment, and where applicable this could include supporting town centre regeneration, sustainable communities and the creation of 20 minute neighbourhoods. More information on the Place Principle.
- Any HIF grant awarded (full or in part) will count towards the total development costs of the resultant affordable housing development to reflect true development costs and the assessed VFM of the project; and
- Ensuring that Value for Money (VFM) is secured for all applications by the use of appropriate tendering processes and evidenced in the application process.

Level of Funding

- 3.5.14 HIF has currently invested nearly £50 million in loan and grant across urban and rural areas to fund infrastructure that will help unlock delivery of over 12,600 homes, of which approximately 3,600 will be affordable. It is anticipated a similar level of funding investment will be available to the end of this parliamentary period.
- 3.5.15 The focus of the new HIF programme will include providing RSLs and local authorities with grant support for the unlocking of sites where the scale and nature of infrastructure costs would prevent it from being supported through the Affordable Housing Supply Programme and will deliver affordable homes in line with Council strategic priorities as stated in their Strategic Housing Development Plans.
- 3.5.16 One change under the new HIF programme is the pausing of loan funding due to budgetary constraints. It will be kept under review but this will mean that loans to deliver housing infrastructure (at commercial rates) will not be available to private sector developers.
- 3.5.17 Match funding is generally required. 100% funding applications can still be made, but will require strong evidence to secure grant support.

Eligibility

- 3.5.18 A key element of the eligibility criteria is that HIF aims to help key strategic housing projects which have been blocked or unable to proceed due to the extent and cost/financing of infrastructure works involved. It cannot be used for standard on-site infrastructure works required to develop affordable housing. In addition, the following will not be funded:
- High cost schemes solely to keep the housing element within grant funding benchmarks.
 - Section 75 contributions which are not directly related to housing enabling infrastructure costs.
 - Section 75 contributions which are to be met by Developer contributions towards affordable housing provision in a timely manner.
 - Replacing other public sector contributions (e.g. Scottish Water/Transport Scotland) for major infrastructure which these bodies would be expected to fund directly.
 - Works or other items which local authorities/RSLs would normally fund from their own resources including for example, general land acquisitions or acquisitions of property and land made under Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs).

- Major roadworks such as upgrading /realignment of trunk roads which will not directly support housing delivery.
- Demolition costs associated with site development.
- Costs associated with land remediation as a consequence of demolition.

Application Process

3.5.19 Applicants should initially discuss funding requirements with the Scottish Government More Homes Division Area Teams prior to submitting an application and where necessary, potential enquiries will be discussed with the HIF Programme Team to confirm eligibility.

3.5.20 Following discussions, applicants are asked to complete the HIF application form on the Scottish Government website. On receipt of a completed application, proposals will be subject to a prioritisation and eligibility check against HIF funding criteria, as well as technical assessment of works costs.

Example

Hamiltonhill, Glasgow

As part of their SHIP, Glasgow City Council has identified its Hamiltonhill regeneration project as eligible for the Housing Infrastructure Fund. Most of the housing in Hamiltonhill was built in the 1930s and 1960s but many of the tenements from that period have been demolished, along with local schools, leaving large areas undeveloped. Housing Infrastructure funding will provide an off-site solution to the surface water management of the site creating infrastructure that will allow the surface water from all the sites to outfall into the Forth and Clyde Canal. This infrastructure will allow the development of 328 affordable homes to be delivered. Without this solution, the planning application would not receive approval.



ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR HOUSING

3.5.21 Following the More Homes Scotland approach, the Scottish Government is also increasing the supply of affordable homes through:

- The Rural and Islands Housing Fund – aim to increase supply in rural Scotland
- Innovative financing models such as Build-to-Rent and National Housing Trust
- Empty Homes Partnership – advice to home owners and working with Councils to develop empty homes services to help bring these homes back into use
- Partnership support for Regeneration – funding for private developers for projects which meant specific criteria, i.e. regenerating older urban communities or contributing to tenure diversification

3.5.22 All of these sources could potentially be used to reduce the amount of VDL and buildings.

HOUSING DELIVERY

3.5.23 In the main, the above funding is channelled through local authorities and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to deliver new affordable housing for Scotland. In many areas, regeneration masterplans are delivering widespread stock renewal on VDL (e.g. 21st Century Homes in Edinburgh and Transformational Regeneration Areas in Glasgow). Whilst these are active investors of public money they would not fund a third party project.

04

REGIONAL AND LOCAL PUBLIC SECTOR FUNDING

CITY REGION AND REGIONAL GROWTH DEALS

Aim of Fund

- 4.1 City Region and Regional Growth Deals are bespoke packages of funding and decision making powers negotiated between the Scottish Government, the UK Government and local government designed to bring about long-term strategic approaches to improving regional economies. They are implemented by regional partners and overseen by the Scottish City Region and Growth Deal Delivery Board.
- 4.2 Each of the Deals agreed in Scotland is tailored to its region, reflecting its individual economic strengths and weaknesses, and comprises a programme of interventions to support positive, transformative change.
- 4.3 Whilst City Region and Regional Growth Deals do not specifically focus on VDL, a number are targeting particular regeneration or infrastructure plans which will in turn have an impact in this area. These impacts are likely to be of substantial scale given the ambitions of the Deals. There are 6 City Region and 6 Regional Growth Deals in Scotland which provide 100% coverage of Scotland.

Level of Funding

GLASGOW CITY REGION

- 4.4 The UK and Scottish Governments have provided £500m each to the £1.2bn Glasgow City Region Deal, which also includes commitments from 8 local neighbouring authorities across Glasgow and Clyde Valley.
- 4.5 Signed in 2014, the Deal supports the region to achieve its long term vision for the local economy, through projects focusing on infrastructure, skills and employment and business growth and innovation. The regional partners estimate that the overall investment of £1.13bn will deliver around 29,000 jobs in the region and attract around £3.3bn of private sector investment.
- 4.6 Considerable progress has been made since the Glasgow City Region deal was signed in 2014. Several projects have been completed, including 3 innovation and business hub projects at MediCity (Eurocentral), Tontine (Glasgow's Merchant City) and the Imaging Centre of Excellence at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital. Over £239m has been spent on infrastructure to date which will support a new manufacturing district in Renfrewshire, plans for Motherwell Town Centre and the Living Lab game-changer at the new Glasgow Riverside Innovation District.

ABERDEEN CITY REGION DEAL

- 4.7 The £826m Aberdeen City Region Deal was signed in 2016 and paves the way for innovation, internationalisation, digital connectivity, and infrastructure across the region over a 10 year period. Since 2016, the deal has grown in value through additional private sector and Scottish Enterprise investment and is now worth £936m.
- 4.8 As part of the Deal, Aberdeen is well on its way to becoming a Gigabit City having made marked digital progress. Work has started on site for the creation of the BioHub, which is an investment to provide incubator space, laboratories and accommodation, and business growth support for up to 400 scientific entrepreneurs, spinouts and start-ups, and scaling businesses.
- 4.9 The year ahead looks optimistic, with planning permission for SeedPod, a digital business case addressing the gaps in infrastructure in the region, the opening of National Subsea Centre and the phased opening of Aberdeen South Harbour in 2022.

INVERNESS AND HIGHLAND CITY REGION DEAL

- 4.10 The Scottish Government committed up to £135m to the Inverness and Highland City Region Deal. The UK Government has committed up to £53m, supplemented by up to £127m from the Highland Council and regional partners over 10 years. Regional partners estimate that this £315m package could attract an additional £800m of investment by the private sector. The deal will support improvements to the region's digital connectivity, digital healthcare, skills, innovation and infrastructure, with the aim of stimulating long-term productivity and economic growth.
- 4.11 Investments include £15m for the redevelopment of Inverness Castle into a 'must see' visitor attraction as well as targeted affordable housing projects and wifi improvements across the region. The Deal also includes land reclamation at Longman in order to improve the supply of land for small and medium sized businesses.

STIRLING AND CLACKMANNANSHIRE CITY REGION DEAL

- 4.12 The Scottish Government and the UK Government have committed up to £45.1m each towards the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal. Regional partners will match this investment with up to £123.8m, resulting in a deal worth over £214m. Regional partners estimate that over the next 10 to 15 years these interventions will unlock private investment worth in excess of £640m, delivering over 5,000 new jobs across a wide range of sectors in the City Region.
- 4.13 Signed in 2020, the Deal aims to create higher value jobs, investing in the creation of green innovations, digital entrepreneurship and cultural opportunities to deliver a more diverse regional economy, whilst widening access to opportunity and supporting inclusion.
- 4.14 The Scottish Government has also committed a further £5m investment into the region, which will support the delivery of enabling infrastructure for Phase One of a new Business Park at Kildean and support the next stage of development of proposed new enabling infrastructure at Callander.

EDINBURGH AND SOUTH EAST SCOTLAND CITY REGION DEAL

- 4.15 The Scottish and the UK Government have each committed £300m to the deal over 15 years. Regional partners - including local authorities, universities and colleges, and the private and third sectors – have also committed to invest, resulting in an overall deal package worth more than £1.3bn. This will deliver inclusive economic growth across the region through housing, innovation, transport, skills and culture. The investment will contribute towards 41,000 new homes, 21,000 jobs, and improving the skills of an estimated 14,700 people.

TAY CITIES DEAL

- 4.16 The Scottish Government and the UK Government have each committed up to £150m over 10 to 15 years towards the Tay Cities Deal. Together with regional partners' contribution, this deal has the potential to secure more than 6,000 jobs and attract £400m of investment. The overall deal seeks to transform the region by focusing on inclusion, innovation, internationalisation, connectivity and empowerment.
- 4.17 Signed in 2020, the Deal's investments will include a skills and employability programme, growing the region's biomedical sector and supporting the region's culture and tourism offerings.

AYRSHIRE GROWTH DEAL

- 4.18 The Scottish Government and the UK Government have each committed £103m over 10-15 years to deliver inclusive growth across Ayrshire. Together with partner's contributions the total deal is worth £251.5m. The investment includes funding for innovative projects around engineering, manufacturing and digital automation, an aerospace and space programme, tourism and regeneration and regional projects around

skills, community wealth building and digital infrastructure.

BORDERLANDS GROWTH DEAL

- 4.19 The Borderlands Partnership promotes inclusive economic growth in the South of Scotland and North of England. It involves five local authorities working together which are Dumfries & Galloway, Scottish Borders, Carlisle City, Cumbria and Northumberland.
- 4.20 The Borderlands Growth Deal aims to boost economic growth across the region through an integrated collection of projects and programmes designed around local needs and priorities. The Deal's priority themes are enabling infrastructure, improving places, supporting business, innovation and skills and encouraging green growth.
- 4.21 Jointly funded by UK and Scottish Governments the Deal will provide up to £350m in investment for the region over 10 - 15 years. Together with local partner investment of £100 million the total value of deal investment will be £450 million. The Deal was signed in March 2021.

MORAY GROWTH DEAL

- 4.22 The Moray Growth Deal was signed in December 2021 and includes the contribution of £32.5 million by each of the Scottish and UK Governments as well as a further £35.8 million from regional partners seeking to deliver an investment into inclusive economic growth worth £100, over 10 years.
- 4.23 The deal seeks to attract and retain young people and families in Moray, create high-quality jobs in existing sectors and support diversification into new high-value areas, generate opportunities for future community prosperity, and address inequalities such as the gender pay gap.
- 4.24 Projects include boosting the region's tourism offer and improving its cultural facilities, more efficient and accessible green bus services tailored to rural needs, a new centre for manufacturing and innovation that will enable businesses in sectors like space and aerospace, food and drink and other manufacturing areas to improve production. In addition, the Deal will create a minimum of 300 affordable homes and encourage more young people to forge future careers in STEAM area.

ARGYLL AND BUTE GROWTH DEAL

- 4.25 In October 2019 the Scottish and UK Governments each committed investment of up to £25m in the Argyll and Bute Rural Growth Deal. This investment will support a range of projects designed to drive inclusive and sustainable economic growth throughout Argyll and Bute over a ten year period. Priority themes include aquaculture, marine tourism, housing, skills, energy, digital connectivity, and innovation.
- 4.26 Deal investment will focus on connecting Argyll and Bute's high value business sectors to national and international business markets. This will attract additional skills, residents, visitors and businesses and grow benefit from the area's natural assets.
- 4.27 Heads of Terms were signed in February 2021. Argyll and Bute Council and partners have committed to a minimum of £20 million, bringing the total investment package to £70 million.

FALKIRK GROWTH DEAL

- 4.28 The Falkirk Growth Deal was signed in December 2021 and includes Scottish and UK Government investment totalling £80m and a contribution of £50.8m from the local partners to result in a Growth Deal package worth up to £130.8m for the region.
- 4.29 The Falkirk Growth Deal seeks to develop Falkirk's ambitions for inclusive economic growth, including the opportunities unlocked from Grangemouth's national significance as Scotland's largest industrial site.

ISLANDS GROWTH DEAL

- 4.30 Signed in March 2021, the Islands Growth Deal includes £100m of investment from the UK and Scottish Government over a 10-year period. The three island authorities and their regional partners have committed a further £235 million to the deal, bringing the total investment package to £335 million.
- 4.31 The Deal seeks to drive inclusive and sustainable growth across Orkney, Shetland and the Outer Hebrides and will support the priority themes of leading the way to a low carbon future, supporting growth and future industries and creating thriving, sustainable communities. The Deal will invest in a number of single island authority projects including Shetland's Ultra Deep Water Port at Dales Voe, Orkney's World Heritage Gateway project, and the Outer Hebrides' Food and Drink Programme. The Deal is also investing in joint-island innovation-focused proposals in the areas of low carbon technologies; creative industries and wellbeing, and skills and talent attraction. These projects will undertake activity across all three island authorities and deliver benefits across all communities.
- 4.32 Partners forecast the Islands Growth Deal will create over 1,300 sustainable jobs across the three island authorities.
- 4.33 Given the scale of the City and Growth Deals it may be worthwhile undertaking a mapping exercise which cross references VDL on the register with Deal projects occurring on VDL (e.g. Edinburgh Waterfront, Sighthill TRA Glasgow etc.).

Eligibility

- 4.34 City deals (and growth deals) are bespoke packages of funding and decision making powers negotiated between central government and/or Local Enterprise Partnerships and other local bodies. Eligible projects will be those which met the individual priorities and objectives of each Deal.

Application Process

- 4.35 The Deals and constituent projects have already been agreed.

Example

Eden Campus, Guardbridge, St Andrews

The Eden Campus project is part of the Tay Cities Deal and is the University of St Andrews innovation centre designed to help shape a sustainable future. The Campus is located 4 miles west of the town of St Andrews on the banks of the Eden estuary in the village of Guardbridge. Following significant investment as part of the Deal, the former paper mill site is being transformed into a location where industry and academia can come together. The Campus is home to an award-winning biomass energy centre providing heat to 43 buildings in St Andrews as well as over 2,500 student rooms. A solar PV project went live in the summer of 2021 delivering electricity to the Campus buildings. A fabrication and prototyping facility has also opened along with a centre for energy storage and conversion and, a first of its kind in Scotland, a centre for battery development, incorporating a state-of-the-art dry laboratory. Further projects are planned as the Campus aims to drive forward the University's plans to be carbon net-zero by 2035. In addition to generating heat and electricity, the Campus aims to capture carbon and convert it into a range of valuable fuels and products. In early 2022, the Campus will become home to several spin-out companies working at the frontiers of science and technology – companies producing sustainable antibiotics, new fuel cells, synthetic proteins and new forms of batteries.



OTHER REGIONAL FUNDERS

CLYDE GATEWAY URC

- 4.36 Clyde Gateway is an urban regeneration company which exists to drive inward investment and improvement for the people and communities across the east end of Glasgow and South Lanarkshire. Covering the communities of Bridgeton, Dalmarnock and Rutherglen, Clyde Gateway is a partnership of Glasgow City Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Enterprise, with financial backing from the Scottish Government. Clyde Gateway has been identified within the National Planning Framework as Scotland's top regeneration priority.
- 4.37 One of Clyde Gateway's key strategic goals is Sustainable Place Transformation. In other words, Clyde Gateway has the task of making its communities much more attractive as places that people will want to live and work.
- 4.38 Back in 2007, it was estimated that 350 hectares of land, which added up to more than 40% of its entire area, could be officially classified as vacant, derelict, polluted or in need of substantial infrastructure investment.
- 4.39 Almost all of these issues were historical and stemmed from the clearance of former industrial sites and the demolition of largely Victorian era tenemental housing going back more than half a century. The investment required to resolve these issues was immense with Clyde Gateway spending £108 million, which equated to 68% of its budget during our first seven years, on Sustainable Place Transformation.
- 4.40 The physical transformation has been remarkable and by 31 March 2021, 248 hectares of land had been remediated, over 70% of Clyde Gateway's target over the 20-year period, with what had previously been vast tracts of open space replaced by new housing, offices, factories, roads, sports and community facilities or simply tidied up and improved in accordance with local wishes.
- 4.41 The Clyde Gateway area has benefited from £1.5bn investment to date.
- 4.42 Individual projects are agreed by the urban regeneration company and its partners.

Example

Malls Mire, Toryglen

A recent project for Clyde Gateway is Malls Mire where construction work commenced in 2020 to transform 16 hectares of VDL at Toryglen into a woodland retreat which will be a haven for activities, learning and wellbeing. The project will create a mixed-use community park with play areas, a wetland area and a network of paths for walkers and cyclists, further enhancing the Malls Mire Community Woodland local nature reserve. It will surround the community in the Prospecthill Circus area putting in place a key part of the masterplan for the residents and visitors to enjoy. The park area will boast an outdoor gym, two play areas, open recreational space and a bike pump track. The wetland area, which lies in the centre of the development, will feature a three-metre wide lit path to greatly improve the quality and usability of the path network for cyclists and walkers. The nature reserve area, set within the Malls Mire woods will include an art trail and spaces for outdoor events, learning and performances.



CLYDE MISSION

- 4.43 The Clyde has a distinct place in Scotland's economic and social history and a strong sense of identity and place. It played a key role in the industrial development of Glasgow and Scotland and now has the potential to play a key role in Scotland's economic future and the transition to net zero.
- 4.44 Public and private investments such as those in the Barclays Glasgow Campus, the expansion of the

Scottish Events Campus (SEC), the Glasgow Riverside Innovation District, along with the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District and Queens Quay, are bringing new economic life and vibrancy to the Clyde. At the same time, the area's industrial past has left a legacy of VDL and some of the communities close to river are among the most disadvantaged in Scotland.

- 4.45 The Clyde Mission seeks to address these challenges by ensuring the collective impact of public and private investment is optimised; by attracting further investment and by bringing VDL back in to productive use. It also seeks to address the potential risk that tidal flooding presents to communities, businesses and the city.
- 4.46 The Mission will also consider it can improve and open up the river for visitors, local people and communities and ensure it is climate ready - adaptable and resilient to climate change. The Mission will also examine the use of the river as a source of heat and energy for businesses and communities.
- 4.47 The Clyde Mission Fund provided £10 million of funding in 2020-21 to support capital projects in the area.

ENTERPRISE AGENCIES

- 4.48 Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and South of Scotland Enterprise fit together as the 3 enterprise agencies providing 100% coverage of Scotland.
- 4.49 Scottish Enterprise is Scotland's national economic development agency and a non-departmental public body of the Scottish Government. To deliver a significant, lasting effect on the Scottish economy, the agency works with partners in the public and private sectors to find and exploit the best opportunities. Net zero is at the heart of everything the agency does and it is keen to create an increased amount of better and greener jobs that nurture shared wealth and collective wellbeing, delivering a sustainable, inclusive and fair future.
- 4.50 Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) promotes the economic development of the Highlands and Islands region. It supports businesses, communities and social enterprises across the region and is focused on building resilience, supporting recovery from the pandemic and Brexit and creating growth opportunities.
- 4.51 South of Scotland Enterprise (also known as SOSE) launched officially on 1 April 2020 as the economic and community development agency for Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders. It was established by the Scottish Government in recognition of the unique circumstances of the South of Scotland, and the need for a fresh approach to drive inclusive growth across the area.
- 4.52 SOSE can provide funding support to projects in the area which meet with its twin aims of "furthering the sustainable economic and social development of the South of Scotland" and "improving the amenity and environment of the south of Scotland". Given the immediacy of support required to businesses because of the pandemic, when the Agency was launched it deferred the production of its Action Plan to March 2022. This will determine SOSE's longer term priorities over the next 4-5 years.
- 4.53 All three agencies may support VDL remediation through their project work. The agencies are often heavily involved in the Growth Deals providing support for businesses and innovation as well as specific joint projects.

Example

Highlands and Islands Enterprise are working in conjunction with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar on a number of major infrastructure projects which have also been aided by the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund. The projects include:

- Knock School – transformation of the former school into a vibrant community hub providing services, employment, and volunteering opportunities
- Solar na Mara - refurbishment of the community centre and former schoolhouse, the creation of a community kitchen, sports changing-room facilities, office accommodation and refurbishment of the annex building into a community shop and laundry
- Great Bernera Marina Hub – transform the neglected and underused harbour at Kirkibost through remediation work and development of shoreline areas
- Stornoway Regeneration Programme - enabling works to transform VDL in the Newton Industrial area of Stornoway, facilitating further private sector investment and small and medium business growth, and delivering on a 'Commercial Corridor' in the Town.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

4.54 All local authorities will interact with VDL in many ways, including keeping the register, managing projects and occasionally providing specific funding pots where priorities have been identified.

Examples

North Ayrshire Repurposing Property Grant Fund

One such example is the North Ayrshire Repurposing Property Grant Fund which was launched in 2021 to help support landowners and community groups to bring back vacant land and properties to use. It is a strand of the Council's Community Wealth Building Strategy and Regeneration Delivery Plan – where the Council aims to work more closely than ever with community groups to make the most of local assets – and long-term plans to regenerate the area. Stage 1 of the Fund is worth £200,000 and will allow property owners or community groups to carry out feasibility studies to identify potential options for the sites and their viability. The potential for further stages of the Fund to support project delivery following the feasibility stage will be informed by the outcome of Stage 1. A maximum of £10,000 is available for sites under one hectare and a maximum of £25,000 for larger sites. Awards from Stage 1 have yet to be announced.

West Lothian Place Based Investment Capital Grant

West Lothian Council is using its funding from the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme to focus in particular on delivering the community wealth building approach (see page 17). West Lothian's allocation from the Place Based Investment Programme is £4.5m over five years. £1.3m was available for funding in 2021/22. Grants are for capital expenditure. The application process is open to local community organisations, public sector (including council services), other community planning partner organisations and private sector.

In the 2021/22 funding round, the West Lothian Foodbank was awarded £188,697 from West Lothian Council's Place Based Investment Capital Grant to allow them to create a market garden which will benefit the foodbank network across West Lothian and allow the employment of a local young person and provide work placements for college students. The market garden will be created on derelict areas around the Foodbank's new base in Blackburn upgrading the site substantially to include 350 raised beds, an orchard and 3 polytunnels for growing fruit and vegetables for the foodbank and upgrading the car park.

05

NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDING

- 5.1 Money raised by national lottery players is donated to good causes through 12 distributors. Six of these are operational in Scotland however UK Sport and the British Film Institute are not covered in this section as they are not relevant to VDL.
- 5.2 Each fund operates with relative autonomy and like other funders many are now in the process of reviewing their future priorities following the pandemic. It is likely that funding will become much more targeted in line with each fund's specific objectives.

COMMUNITY FUND

Aim of Fund

- 5.3 The National Lottery Community Fund distributes over £600m a year to communities across the UK, raised by players of the National Lottery. Its currently open funds which could indirectly benefit VDL include:
- Scottish Land Fund - offers grants to help communities take ownership of the land and buildings within their local area and to provide practical support to develop their aspirations into viable projects. £5,000 to £1m.
 - National Lottery Awards for All Scotland – small grants which can be used to strengthen communities, improve spaces and places and help more people reach their potential. £300 - £10,000
 - Community led – funding to support community-led activity and wellbeing. £10,001 - £150,000.
 - Bringing People Together – supporting projects that will build stronger connections across communities, and improve the infrastructure and conditions that are needed to strengthen these connections. Up to £300,000 in total for up to 2 years.

Level of Funding

- 5.4 In 2020/21 £54m was awarded across 1,532 grants in Scotland. In terms of individual grants from the funds identified above grants can vary from a minimum of £300 to a maximum of £1m. Match funding is welcomed.

Eligibility

- 5.5 The Community Fund is generally targeted towards voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, social enterprises, community councils etc. However, public sector organisations are also eligible for the Scottish Land Fund.

Application Process

- 5.6 The Application process for the above funds is ongoing and further information is available on the Community Fund's website.

Example

Crossroads Community Hub, East Ayrshire

The group purchased the vacant site of the former Primary School at Crossroads, East Ayrshire, to develop a new community hub. This incorporates a community-led farm shop, coffee shop with teaching kitchen meeting/workshop space and a social/learning hub. The award from the Scottish Land Fund was £30,517.

HERITAGE FUND

Aim of Fund

- 5.7 The National Lottery Heritage Fund covers the full breadth of natural, cultural and intangible heritage across the UK. Since 1994, the Heritage Fund has awarded over £8bn to more than 44,000 projects across the UK. In Scotland, this figure is £880m to more than 4,700 projects.
- 5.8 The Covid-19 pandemic has put the heritage and visitor economy in crisis and during 2020/21 the Heritage Fund was focussed on supporting heritage across the UK to adapt to and respond to the immediate impact of the crisis. The Fund's focus moving forward is to support the heritage sector to strengthen its recovery and to build back positive change across the UK's heritage.
- 5.9 The Funds priorities for heritage are landscapes and nature, community heritage and heritage at risk.
- 5.10 Heritage projects which meet at least one of the following outcomes will be prioritised:
- Inclusion (mandatory outcome)
 - Economy including job creation
 - Wellbeing
 - Local areas
 - Skills
 - Organisational Resilience
- 5.11 Less of a priority will be the following outcomes:
- Heritage will be in better condition
 - Heritage will be identified and explained better
 - People will have learnt about heritage, leading the change in ideas and actions
- 5.12 Vacant and derelict buildings can also have significant heritage merit and therefore this fund can help bring these properties back into constructive re-use for the benefit of the community.

Level of Funding

- 5.13 Grants are available for between £3,000 to £5m for project funding and are split into the following grant categories:
- £3,000 - £10,000 for 1 year projects
 - £10,000 - £250,000 for projects up to 5 years
 - £250,000 - £5m for projects up to 5 years
 - Heritage enterprise – seeks to achieve economic growth by investing in heritage. It is primarily for enterprising community organisations and partnerships between commercial organisations and community organisations, to help them rescue neglected historic buildings and sites and return them to a viable productive use. Grants will be available for the 'conservation deficit'.

Eligibility

- 5.14 Grants are targeted at not-for-profit organisations or a private owners of heritage.

Application Process

- 5.15 Each application process is dependent on the level of grant required. More information is available on the Heritage Fund's website. Funds are generally open year round.

Example

Black Bull Close, Dunbar

In 2021, the Ridge (Scotland) was successfully awarded £250,000 (34% match funding) to repair 3 derelict buildings at the B-listed Black Bull Close in Dunbar. The Ridge will also create a new centre for their services, providing traditional skills and food-related training for people in Dunbar recovering from addiction or with mental health conditions.

SPORT SCOTLAND SPORT FACILITIES FUND (SFF)

Aim of Fund

- 5.16 The aim of the Sports Facilities Fund is to support capital projects that create or improve places where people take part in sport or physical activity.
- 5.17 The fund aims to target the resources at the development of projects that have large impacts on participation and progression.
- 5.18 Within clubs and communities, the fund wants to support:
- New, upgraded or extended sports facilities
 - Inclusive changing facilities
 - Facilities that provide or improve access for outdoor sport and adventure activities
 - Major items of equipment
 - Floodlights that increase capacity at appropriate sports facilities
- 5.19 In schools and education facilities, the fund wants to support:
- Projects that increase the range of physical activity & sporting activities available for community use within a school or education site
 - New outdoor learning spaces for sport that provide community use
- 5.20 In performance environments, the fund wants to support:
- Facilities identified by Scottish Governing bodies of sport as part of their physical strategies for international, national or regional competing or training
 - Facilities that support a sportscotland institute of sport or UK sport performance programme
 - Major items of performance sports equipment to support training and development of athletes

Level of Funding

- 5.21 Awards of up to £100,000 are available for sports facility projects within club and communities, school and education or performance sport environments.
- 5.22 The maximum award available is 50% of the eligible project cost up to £100,000 unless the eligible project serves the most deprived 20% SIMD in which case up to 75% funding can be provided.

Eligibility

- 5.23 The fund is open to any non-profit distributing, constituted organisations whose membership is open to all sections of society. Examples of these include:
- Sports clubs, unincorporated organisations
 - Social enterprises such as leisure trusts
 - Universities, colleges and schools
 - Charitable trusts

Application Process

- 5.24 There are two different application processes depending on the value of the project. Small projects with a total project value of £20,000 - £250,000 (including VAT) require a single stage application online. Larger projects with a total project value over £250,000 (including VAT) require a two stage online application process. The first stage is through an application form followed by an invitation to submit a stage two application form.
- 5.25 The application forms can be found on the SportScotland website.
- 5.26 The application dates for small projects are the First of April or the First of September each year. For large projects the first stage application date is the First of any month with Stage two being the First of April or First of September.
- 5.27 The application assessment process for small projects will take three months and for large projects, stage one will take one month with stage two taking three months. Applicants will be notified by letter and through the online system – ‘MySport’. Unsuccessful applications may not be re-submitted within two years of the decision date however applicants can reapply if the new proposal is significantly different.

Example

Cuningar Loop, Rutherglen

Cuningar Loop is a £5.7m project which has transformed 15 hectares of derelict land on the banks of the River Clyde into an attractive woodland park. It was developed as part of the 2014 Commonwealth Games legacy and is across the river from the Athletes Village at Dalmarnock. Having previously been used as a quarry, an illegal mine and for landfill considerable remediation was part of the challenge of the site. Sportscotland funding allowed for an adventure play area, bike skills and pump track as well as Scotland’s first bouldering park. Additional features include extensive path network, large meadow and picnic areas, an outdoor classroom and a riverside boardwalk. Opening in 2015, the woodland park now provides a valuable urban green space for residents in the surrounding communities as well as further afield. This project was developed by Clyde Gateway, Forestry Commission Scotland (now Scottish Forestry), South Lanarkshire Council, Glasgow City Council and the Scottish Government.



CREATIVE SCOTLAND

Aim of Fund

- 5.28 Creative Scotland supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits the country. The public body enables people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. Creative Scotland distribute funding from the Scottish Government and The National Lottery.
- 5.29 The Open Fund is one of Creative Scotland’s key funding programmes, supporting the wide range of activity initiated by organisations, artists, writers, producers and other creative practitioners in Scotland. Whilst the fund does not have a direct association with VDL, the ability to provide space for the arts and creative industries can be a means of bringing vacant or derelict buildings back into use.

Level of Funding

- 5.30 The total budget for the Open Fund in the financial year 2021/22 is £13 million. There are two strands – one for individuals (£6m) and one for organisations (£7m), so the two are not in competition with each other for funds. Applications are considered at separate panels.

5.31 Grants are for between £1,000 and £100,000, for activity lasting up to 12 months.

Eligibility

5.32 The Open Fund for organisations is specifically for organisations and groups based in Scotland whose work or project involves the arts, screen and creative industries.

Application Process

5.33 There are no deadlines for this fund – you can apply year-round. Guidance documentation can be obtained on the Creative Scotland website.

Example

Castle Mill Works, Edinburgh

Edinburgh Printmakers received a grant from Creative Scotland to assist in the transformation of the former North British Rubber Company building in Fountainbridge, Edinburgh. Castle Mill Works is a £12.3m creative hub hosting a new Centre of Excellence for Printmaking and Creative Industries Hub. A focal point for the local community, the development of Castle Mill Works has allowed Edinburgh Printmakers to extend its work as a leading arts charity; bringing together artists and visitors to offer everyone a direct experience of Printmaking. The facility houses two galleries with a changing programme of contemporary visual art exhibitions. Castle Mill Works opened in 2019 prior to which the building had been vacant for over 50 years.



06

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

- 6.1 Historic Environment Scotland (HES) is the lead public body set up to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment. The body leads and enables Scotland's first historic environment strategy Our Place in Time, which sets out how the historic environment will be managed. It ensures the historic environment is cared for, valued and enhanced, both now and for future generations.
- 6.2 HES offers various grants and funding schemes. Individuals and organisations can apply for financial help with projects and works that benefit the historic environment. Grants are offered to help protect and promote the historic environment, and to train people in skills needed in this area.
- 6.3 When making grant decisions, HES also considers the extent to which a project will:
- Deliver benefits for communities
 - Promote public access
 - Promote quality
 - Develop knowledge and skills
 - Build capacity for local heritage management
- 6.4 HES's grants programme has been running for several years and the Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the sector therefore in 2021 HES carried out a review of its grants programmes. Significant public consultation was part of this process and HES has now refreshed its approach to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of applicants and aligns with current policy and priorities.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT REPAIR GRANT (TO BECOME PART OF THE NEW 'OPEN' PROGRAMME)

Aim of Fund

- 6.5 The Historic Environment Repair Grant programme supports conservation-standard repair projects across Scotland which secure the original fabric of historic buildings and ancient monuments using traditional materials and skills.
- 6.6 The Fund's outcomes are:
- Heritage & Society: The historic environment makes a real difference to people's lives
 - Heritage & the environment: The historic environment is looked after, protected and managed for the generations to come
 - Heritage & the economy: The historic environment makes a broader contribution to the economy of Scotland and its people
 - Heritage & creativity: The historic environment inspires a creative and vibrant Scotland

Level of Funding

- 6.7 Grants are available for between £10,000 - £500,000. HES grant support will form part of a wider package of partnership funding. The following intervention rates apply:
- Charities: normally a maximum of 40%
 - Local authorities: normally a maximum of 25%
 - Private owners: dependent upon financial circumstances, but normally a maximum of 33%

Eligibility

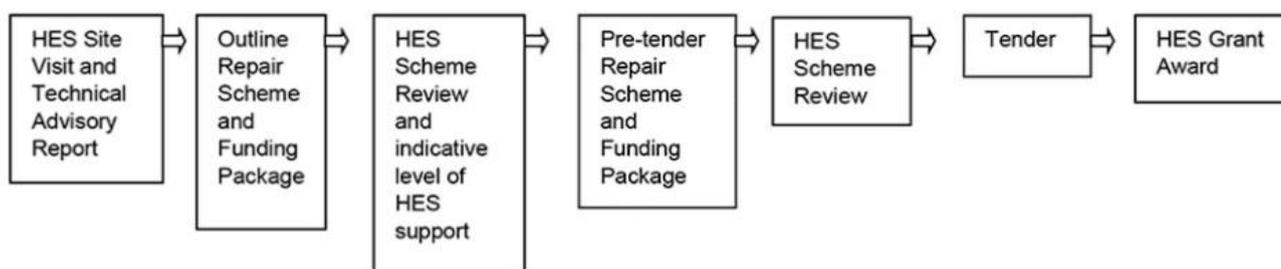
- 6.8 Under this programme HES expect to fund:

- Not-for-profit organisations such as charitable trusts, local authorities or religious bodies;
- Partnerships led by not-for-profit organisations

- 6.9 Private owners or commercial organisations are eligible to apply, but are not a priority for support under this grant programme. These applicants would need to demonstrate that wider benefits to the public significantly outweigh their private gain.
- 6.10 The applicant organisation must own the asset or hold a full repairing and insuring lease with at least 21 years to run.
- 6.11 In terms of eligible costs, grants are generally used for historic fabric repair costs, traditional skills training, conservation accredited professional advisors and evaluation and maintenance planning costs. This fund does not cover demolition, extensions/alterations, internal works, routine maintenance or minor repairs.

Application Process

- 6.12 If you are interested in applying for a grant from HES, you will need to submit an expression of interest first to receive feedback on your proposal. You can submit an expression of interest form at any time.
- 6.13 Initial applicants will be expected to have an outline project design, with an estimated funding package and programme.
- 6.14 HES will let applicants know if their application has been accepted for full assessment within three months. If a bid is accepted, HES will work with the applicant to agree appropriate conservation-standard repair works and associated traditional skills, evaluation and maintenance plans so that these can be incorporated into project design, programme and funding plans.
- 6.15 The following process is used to reach a final decision on grant awards:



- 6.16 Application is through HES's Grants Online Application System. The current round of grants closes on 31 March 2022, with a decision due by September 2022.

Example

Inverness Creative Academy

In 2020, the charity WASPS (Workshop & Artists Studio Provision Scotland Ltd) received a Historic Environment Repair Grant of £102,845 to assist in the redevelopment of two vacant category B listed buildings in the centre of Inverness into Inverness Creative Academy. The buildings were the site of the Old Inverness Royal Academy and had been vacant for 3 years prior to WASPS occupation. WASPS purchased the site in 2018 and is delivering the renovation in 2 phases. The first phase saw the 'artists and makers' wing completed in 2018 and includes 32 artist's studios which are now fully let. Phase 2 is now on site and will provide the creative industries wing which will provide 54 workspaces for creative industries, flexible co-working spaces for 26 creatives, exhibition/event/meeting space and a public café. The facility will provide a major creative hub in the City.

HERITAGE & PLACE PROGRAMME

Aim of Fund

- 6.17 The previous Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) is currently in the process of being replaced by the Heritage & Place Programme which will launch for expressions of interest in March 2022.
- 6.18 The Heritage & Place Programme is an area-based funding programme that aims to contribute to the development of vibrant and sustainable places in Scotland, through community-led regeneration of the historic environment. The programme supports the development and delivery of heritage focused schemes within conservation areas, or alternatively distinctive heritage areas with local authority recognition.
- 6.19 Successful Heritage & Place Schemes will be based upon the formation of Area Partnerships of local, regional and national interests with a shared vision for the place. Community participation should be integral in design and delivery of the Scheme. The programme supports a combination of activities, including the repair and re-use of historic environment assets, training to strengthen local traditional skills, and building capacity within communities to value and look after the historic environment in the longer term.
- 6.20 The Heritage & Place Programme builds on the success of HES's Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme. Between 2007 and 2020, HES awarded over £52m to 73 schemes in 69 conservation areas across Scotland, contributing to the repair of over 1200 historic buildings and supporting the delivery of wider outcomes relating to traditional skills training and community engagement.
- 6.21 A review of the CARS programme in 2020 has resulted in a number of important changes to the programme including:
- Introduction of a two-stage application process with a match-funded Development Phase to enable the development of more strategic, higher-quality schemes with more meaningful community involvement.
 - The removal of the requirement for schemes to be solely in conservation areas so that heritage assets in distinct historic areas can be included.
 - A strengthening of requirements for traditional skills training and materials audits so that training is better targeted to meet local needs and supports the long-term management and maintenance of historic assets.
 - Revised conditions for third-party grants to ensure that requirements are proportionate and do not present barriers to participation.
 - A stronger focus on ongoing management and maintenance on completion of the scheme through strengthened reporting and strategies.
 - The introduction of an online application process, requiring applicants to submit an Expression of Interest form to determine eligibility and suitability of applicants to be invited to apply for funding, thus allowing greater opportunities for feedback and support from HES.
 - Amendments in timetabling and design of the area grants programme to allow for the increased potential for development and delivery in conjunction with other place-based funding programmes such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund's Area Based Scheme.
 - Production of comprehensive updated guidance and resources to assist applicants in improved submissions

Level of Funding

- 6.22 There is no set value that can be applied for however it is anticipated that Delivery Phase grants will typically range between £750,000 - £1.5m, depending on match funding.
- 6.23 To maximise their funding opportunities, applicants will also be encouraged to apply for area-based funding under the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Eligibility

- 6.24 To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- Have selected a defined area of the historic environment with heritage significance.
- Demonstrate how the scheme fits the local authority's strategic framework for Place and Regeneration.
- Demonstrate that there is need for repair and regeneration of the historic environment.
- Have identified demand within the local community for a range of projects and activities within the historic environment that will focus on its repair and resilience, traditional skills training and materials, community heritage engagement and future management and maintenance.
- Attract match funding from the local authority and preferably other funding partners, such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- Explain how the scheme will deliver outcomes against HES Grants Priorities

6.25 Applications to the Heritage & Place Programme can be accepted from local authorities, national park authorities and not-for-profit organisations based in Scotland. Where the lead applicant is a not-for-profit organisation, they must have a Joint Delivery Agreement with the relevant local authority or national park authority.

Application Process

6.26 As noted, the first round of Heritage & Place Programme grants opens for Expressions of Interest in March 2022. If successful at EOI stage, applicants will be invited to make a Development Phase application. The decision timeframe at this stage is 3-4 months.

6.27 Full programme guidance and information about the application process will be published on the HES website in March 2022

Example

6.28 As noted, the Heritage & Place Programme will open later this year. In terms of the CARS programme, the following final awards were announced in March 2021.

Argyll and Bute Council - £1,240,000 for Helensburgh CARS

The scheme proposes to repair at least three priority projects across Colquhoun Street, East Clyde Street and West Clyde Street in the newly designated Helensburgh Conservation Area. The scheme will also improve links between the waterfront and the town centre, and through the repair of properties on the waterfront, make the area more attractive for people to spend time.

Dumfries and Galloway Council - £762,101 for Dumfries CARS

The scheme proposes to repair four priority projects on English Street and the High street in Dumfries. Buildings include 117-119 High Street and 11-17 English Street. The scheme also includes public realm works. There are high numbers of properties that are suffering from a lack of maintenance and high levels of vacancy, and through the use of a condition survey map, buildings which are in the poorest condition will be identified and focused on as part of the repair works.

East Lothian Council - £1,113,949 for Dunbar CARS

The scheme proposes to repair six priority projects on Dunbar High Street, including the former Lothian Hotel which is currently on the Buildings at Risk Register, and there will also be a strong focus on providing local training opportunities and addressing empty properties. A further project that will be developed around the production of building condition surveys for tenement owners working together in stair committees will help to promote collaborative working and lead to better maintenance of private properties within the CARS area.

Stirling Council - £1,386,525 for Stirling CARS

The scheme proposes to repair two priority projects - the Alhambra Theatre and Arcade and John Cowane's House. Ten properties have also been identified as focus buildings to be repaired through a small grants scheme. Through public realm works, walking routes will be created within the city to improve connections between the commercial and historic centres. The CARS project will build on the work which has been carried out in recent years by the Stirling City Heritage Fund, funded by HES, and The Traditional Buildings Health Check to carry out a high standard of repairs and improvements to key sites in the city centre.

CITY HERITAGE TRUSTS

Aim of Fund

- 6.29 The City Heritage Trust programme from HES gives local communities power to regenerate buildings and create jobs. Each of Scotland's seven cities has an organisation working as a City Heritage Trust (CHT) to enhance the condition, maintenance and understanding of the historic environment in their city.
- 6.30 The programme, now in its 15th year, has delivered successful funding projects including revitalised city centre precincts, repaired and restored buildings that have opened up new spaces for residential and commercial use, programmes to support training like traditional building skills, and activities and events to raise heritage awareness among communities.
- 6.31 The City Heritage Trust programme is being reviewed as part of HES's overall grants refresh and will form a future phase of work to be undertaken after the implementation of the Heritage & Place Programme (new CARS scheme) and other grants. In the meantime, HES continue to provide funding for the 7 City Heritage Trusts enabling them to use their local expertise to help communities look after and engage with their local historic environment.

Level of Funding

- 6.32 £8.6m was distributed between the 7 City Heritage Trusts between 2018-2021. The funding was distributed as follows:
- Aberdeen City Heritage Trust - £901,100
 - Dundee Historic Environment Trust - £750,000
 - Edinburgh World Heritage Trust - £2,655,500
 - Glasgow City Heritage Trust - £2,550,000
 - Inverness City Heritage Trust - £250,000
 - Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust - £750,000
 - Stirling City Heritage Trust - £750,000
- 6.33 Further funding was provided for 2021-22 as follows:
- Aberdeen City Heritage Trust - £90,000
 - Dundee Historic Environment Trust - £70,000
 - Edinburgh World Heritage Trust - £285,000
 - Glasgow City Heritage Trust - £212,000
 - Inverness City Heritage Trust - £50,000
 - Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust - £94,000
 - Stirling City Heritage Trust - £279,000
- 6.34 In partnership with HES, and working collaboratively with local authorities and other groups, CHTs deliver this funding through their own programmes to eligible local projects.
- 6.35 Individual grant levels vary by Trust and scheme.

Eligibility

- 6.36 Works eligibility varies by trust but grant assistance is targeted towards works that repair historic fabric using traditional materials and techniques. There is also usually a requirement for an element of public benefit. However, owners are responsible for the cost of repairing their buildings.

Application Process

- 6.37 The application process varies by Trust and details can be found on the individual Trust's websites.

Example

6.38 Past funding has enabled CHTs to deliver significant transformative projects, including:

- Glasgow City Heritage Trust's conversion of the derelict and B-listed 'Pump House' building on the River Clyde into a working whisky distillery and visitor centre
- Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust led a project to bring a historic tenement in Perth's High Street back into use as residential and shop space
- Edinburgh World Heritage Trust are overseeing a project to make the A-listed 'City Observatory' on Calton Hill publicly accessible for the first time in decades.

07

DEVELOPMENT TRUSTS AND CHARITIES

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE FUND

Aim of Fund

- 7.1 The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) exists to help communities find enterprising ways to revitalise meaningful buildings to the community. The AFH has set out strategic aims for the next three years and are as follows:
- Generate and distribute increased levels of investment and funding to support the sustainable reuse of historic buildings.
 - Support community-led heritage regeneration by assisting charities and social enterprises to take ownership of, develop and sustain new uses for historic buildings.
 - Increase the effectiveness and impact of the AHF, ensuring they continue to deliver value for funders and the organisations and projects they invest in.
 - Promote the impact and benefits of community-led regeneration and ownership of historic buildings, to Government, communities and funders.
- 7.2 The AHF currently has three programmes within their fund – the 'Project Viability Grant (PVG)', 'Project Development Grant (PDG)' and the 'William Grant Foundation Tailored Support Fund (TSF).
- 7.3 The Project Viability Grant aims to fund studies to look at potential uses for a building at its current condition as well as producing a Viability Report. Successful completion of this will dictate whether the Project Development Grant can be used somewhere else in the project.
- 7.4 The Project Development Grant is a scheme that aims to assist an organisation to cover some of the costs of developing and co-ordinating a project.
- 7.5 The TSF is intended to help organisations and projects that may not fit within the criteria of other grants. It is typically used in situations where an unexpected cost arises or emergency repairs are required. It may also be used to support meanwhile uses, or other physical enabling works that help sustain the development of a larger project.

Level of Funding

- 7.6 The PVG programme offers grants up to £10,000 and the average grant offer is £6,000. This grant can fund 100% of the cost work involved. It is preferred but not required that some evidence of match funding has been obtained.
- 7.7 The PDG scheme has a higher offering with grants being offered up to £40,000 with the average being £15,000. It is expected that for applications to this grant that 50% match funding has been secured and evidence of this can be provided within the application form.
- 7.8 The TSF supports applicants with funding up to £10,000 with the average offer being £7,500.
- 7.9 The level of funding across all three funds varies with the most recent budget being set in 2021 and following a 3 year programme.

Eligibility

- 7.10 To qualify for the PDG programme, an organisation must have established the end use of a project and

concluded that it is viable for the project to go forward.

7.11 The AFH has stated that the project, in general, will be eligible for both the PDG and PVG programmes if the following apply:

- The project involves a historic building which is defined as: Listed, Unlisted but in a Conservation Area and/or highly valued by the local community for its demonstrable historic interest.
- The project involves a change of primary use and/ or a change of ownership
- The project is being led by a not-for-private-profit organisation.

7.12 The below are examples of organisations that can apply:

- Community Councils
- Community Benefit Societies
- Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee
- Unincorporated organisations (e.g. Charitable trusts and associations) intending to incorporate (for PVG only)
- Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

7.13 The TSF programme is in place for projects that do not fit within the criteria of other funds or for projects that are otherwise hard to secure funding for. The AFH is particularly looking for projects looking to create something unique or something that will contribute more widely to Scotland's built environment.

Application Process

7.14 The first application stage is an online enquiry form that can be found on the Fund's website. From here, a support officer will contact a project to discuss and assist producing a draft application. An online application form is then required to be completed and this acts as a formal application to the selected fund.

7.15 The decision cycle for the three funds are as follows:

- Project Viability Grant: Monthly
- Project Development Grant: Up to £15,000 – Monthly, Up to £40,000 – Quarterly
- William Grant Foundation Tailored Support Fund: Monthly

7.16 Specific deadlines are noted on the Fund's website.

Example

Silverburn Park, Fife

The Project Development Grant programme has been used in the continual development on a 27-acre site at Silverburn Estate. Once home to the wealthy Russell family and their historic flax mill this B listed building is being transformed into a backpacker's hostel, a café and restaurant, arts and crafts studios for local makers and enterprises, a gift shop, meeting rooms, event and exhibition space. As well as the Architectural Heritage Fund, funding has also been received from Fife Council and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Aim of Fund

- 7.17 The Association for Industrial Archaeology (AIA) is the national organisation for people who share an interest in Britain's past. The AIA bring groups and individuals together with a shared interest and expertise in identifying, recording, persevering and presenting the remains of the industrial past.
- 7.18 Through its programme of awards and grants the AIA unites academics, field professionals, individuals and local societies by:
- Sponsoring research and rewarding excellence
 - Encouraging research and publication
 - Supporting local and special interested societies
 - Assisting in preservation and restoration

Level of Funding

- 7.19 As of 2020, the funding streams have been divided into two categories:
- Major projects – The maximum grant that can be awarded is £20,000. For this grant to be awarded it must contribute to a significant part of the project cost. This is to ensure the AIA has a real impact within projects.
 - Small projects – The grant limit for small projects is £7,500 for which the total cost of the project – excluding volunteer labour – must not exceed £10,000

Eligibility

- 7.20 Applications for a grant must be regarding the restoration of historically, technically, architecturally, and/or archaeologically important industrial buildings, structures, machinery, vehicles and vessels within the UK. For the subject project there must be a time limit of three years from the date of the offer to start the work with a completion date of five years. AIA does not grant awards to private businesses or individuals and therefore it must be for a not-for-profit organisation such as a trust or a charity.

Application Process

- 7.21 For major projects, applicants are encouraged to submit their application on no more than four sides of A4 paper and cover the following areas:
- Name of organisation with full contact details
 - The heritage asset for which funding is required, why it is important, its value to the local community and purpose of the grant
 - How much is being sought and what it will be spent on (breakdown of project cost)
 - Proof of partnership funding
 - Once restoration work is complete, how it will be maintained, run, managed, interpreted and displayed for the public
 - Timetable for the work (including start and finish dates)
 - How the AIA grant will be acknowledged
 - Copy of Conservation Policy and Conservation Statement (not included in the 4 sides of A4)
- 7.22 For small projects, applicants are encouraged to submit their applications on no more than two sides of A4. The above points should still be covered however in summary. A conservation statement may be included within the two pages or provided as a separate document.

7.23 Applications should be sent by email to the Association.

7.24 The closing date is 31st March in each year. The Association anticipate that all funding decisions will be made by the end of May in each year and all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application in early June.

Example

Former Ferryhill Locomotive Depot, Aberdeen

The Ferryhill Railway Turntable Trust was awarded a grant of £20,000 from the AIA to assist in its restoration of the steam locomotive turntable and engine shed at the former Ferryhill locomotive depot. The Engine Shed dates from 1850 and the turntable is a Grade A listed structure and one of the last turntables in the UK capable of turning the largest steam locomotives, e.g. Flying Scotsman. The restoration of the turntable to use will steam locomotive hauled trains to use Aberdeen as a destination, whereas previously it was not economically viable to do so. The Trust plans to transform the site into the Ferryhill Railway Heritage Centre which will be open to the public as a museum and historical restoration visitor attraction.



EDINBURGH WORLD HERITAGE

Aim of Fund

7.25 Edinburgh World Heritage is an independent charity that aims to ensure the city's World Heritage status benefits everyone. The charity wants to connect people to their heritage in everything they do – through the conservation of historic buildings, delivering improvements to public places, or engaging people directly through education.

7.26 Edinburgh World Heritage's previous funding cycle for its Conservation Funding Programme ended on 31st March 2021, and the funds available for 2021/22 have already been committed. The Charity is currently in the process of reviewing its grant priorities and hopes to re-open for funding applications later in 2022. This will be in line with an area based regeneration approach.

Example

Acheson House, Edinburgh

Acheson House, at the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town was built in 1633 for Sir Archibald Acheson, Secretary of State for King Charles I. The building lay vacant from 1991 and had been on the Buildings at Risk Register since 2000. Edinburgh World Heritage took the property on with a view to using it as their new office. Essential roof repairs were carried out in 2009 to make the building wind and watertight, the interior was fitted out with necessary services with funding from Historic Environment Scotland of £120,000 towards the project. Edinburgh World Heritage funded the repair of the roof, using traditional stone slates. The project lasted 8 months and was completed in 2011. It is now home to Edinburgh World Heritage and their 15 members of staff.



08

PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY

GARFIELD WESTON FOUNDATION

Aim of Fund

- 8.1 The Garfield Weston Foundation is a family-founded, charitable grant-making foundation, which supports a wide range of causes across the UK, donating over £80 million annually. It was established in 1958 by the Weston family and is one of the largest charitable institutions in the UK which has donated over £1 billion in total.
- 8.2 The Foundation aims to be responsive to where need is greatest and therefore supports a wide range of charitable activity in the following categories:
- Arts
 - Education
 - Youth
 - Health
 - Museums & Heritage
 - Community
 - Environment
 - Faith
 - Welfare

Level of Funding

- 8.3 The Foundation donates c. £80m annually across the UK. Funding is available for capital projects, revenue/core costs and project costs.
- 8.4 The Garfield Weston Foundation is a match funder. Typical capital grants are around 10-15% of the project's total cost. For Revenue/Core Costs Grants these are unlikely to be more than 10% of an organisation's total income. For project grants these are usually 10-20% of total project costs.

Eligibility

- 8.5 Funding is generally targeted towards charities however housing associations are also eligible. The organisation must be working in the broad areas noted above.
- 8.6 Funding does not support individuals, community interest companies, social enterprises, organisations not within the UK, animal welfare charities, charities that spend the majority of their money out with the UK or local authorities and councils.
- 8.7 Organisations with unrestricted reserves (available cash and investments) covering more than 12 months' expenditure are unlikely to receive a grant unless they can make an exceptionally convincing case that they are in financial need. There are some activities that we do not provide funding for:
- one off or annual events such as galas or festivals, even if they are for fundraising purposes
 - sponsorship
 - individual salaries –cannot accept applications for a specific role/member of staff. The Foundation does however, accept salaries and staff costs as part of general overheads through project or revenue/core cost grants
 - feasibility and development studies
 - round-robin appeals
 - activity that takes place overseas, including overseas trips

- start-up costs, organisations that do not yet have a track record of service delivery, and do not have 12 months of operational accounts
- campaigning and lobbying if that is your organisation's main activity/purpose
- endowment appeals
- activities that have already taken place or projects that have already completed

Application Process

- 8.8 Full details of the application process can be found on the Foundation's website however the first step generally involves submitting a succinct funding proposal (10 pages max).
- 8.9 Applications for grants below £100,000 are accepted at any time of the year via the Foundation's website. For major grants (above £100,000) applications will be assigned to a specific Board meeting for discussion (conducted 8 times a year).

Example

Queensland Court and Gardens, Cardonald, Glasgow

Grant funding from the Garfield Weston Foundation will help transform underused greenspace adjacent to Queensland Court and Gardens Cardonald, Glasgow. The forthcoming project will include the creation of a new community park with resident's garden and seating; as well as the introduction of sustainable drainage measures that will reduce local flood risk. The creation of this much improved community greenspace will assist the area in adapting to the challenges associated with climate change, whilst also providing attractive, accessible open space that will include dedicated play areas for children, complemented by a holistic landscape design that offers many environmental benefits.



ROBERTSON TRUST

Aim of Fund

- 8.10 The Robertson Trust was established in 1961 by the Robertson sisters who donated their shares in the family businesses to the Trust for charitable purposes. The family business now operates as the global company Edrington – one of Scotland's largest private companies and owner of several well-known whisky brands. The sisters' generosity enables the Trust to use the dividends from its controlling shareholding in Edrington for the benefit of Scotland's people and communities.
- 8.11 The Trust has an overarching focus to support people and communities in Scotland who are living with poverty or trauma. The Trust particularly looks to provide funding for organisations and initiatives that address:
- Financial wellbeing: tackling the financial and material effects of poverty on people and communities
 - Emotional wellbeing and relationships: ensuring people have emotional wellbeing, and confidence and strength in their relationships with others
 - Educational and work pathways: equipping people for the future by supporting learning and skills

Level of Funding

- 8.12 Over the next 10 years, the Trust will provide around £200m in funding.
- 8.13 Both revenue and capital funding are available via the following funds:

- Wee Grants – up to £2,000 for 1 year only
- Small Grants – Revenue funding of between £2000-£15,000 for up to 5 years
- Large Grants – Revenue funding of between £15,000 - £50,000 for up to 5 years
- Community Buildings – closed in November 2021

Eligibility

- 8.14 Funding is aimed at constituted community groups and registered charities who are working to alleviate poverty and trauma in Scotland, and who have an annual income of under £2m.

Application process

- 8.15 Application forms and full guidance are available on the Robertson Trust website. Wee Grants are open all year round

Example

Govanhill Baths, Glasgow

The Robertson Trust is helping to fund the refurbishment of the Govanhill Baths in Glasgow. The Baths were originally closed in 2001 and in 2004 the Govanhill Baths Community Trust was formed to raise funds to reopen the building as a community health and wellbeing centre. The Robertson Trust is one of many funders, which also includes crowdfunders, enabling the planned multi-million-pound refurbishment which will restore two of the Edwardian swimming pools and provide a new yoga studio, gym, Turkish suite, community kitchen, café, and multipurpose meeting spaces. The building is Grade B listed. The facility is due to open in 2023.



HUGH FRASER FOUNDATION

Aim of Fund

- 8.16 The Hugh Fraser Foundation was set up by the House of Fraser entrepreneur in 1960 and has donated in excess of £50m to good causes in Scotland.
- 8.17 The Foundation makes donations to registered charities which are active in such sectors as the arts and culture, medical & health, the environment and education, care and support of the young and elderly, people with disabilities and the under-privileged. So long as the object is charitable, the Trustees will consider any application from a registered charity.
- 8.18 The Trustees' policy is to focus on applications relating to activities and projects in Scotland, particularly those parts of Scotland where the local economy and/or circumstances make fund-raising for charitable purposes difficult.

Level of Funding

- 8.19 The Foundation invests c. £2m per annum.
- 8.20 The Trustees are prepared to enter into commitments over a period of time by making grants in up to three successive years, often to assist in new initiatives which can maintain their own momentum once they have become established. Grants are frequently made by way of pledge where payment is conditional on the full funding and the commencement of the activities or project.

Eligibility

- 8.21 Grants will only be made to organisations which are registered charities or community interest companies. The Trustees tend not to support highly-publicised national appeals and do not make grants to individuals.
- 8.22 The Foundation targets organisations in Scotland, but others areas will be considered.

Application Process

- 8.23 The Foundation is administered via the legal firm Turcan Connell to whom letters of application can be submitted. There is no prescribed application form but applications should include a description of the activities, sum requested, details of other funding sources, budget for the activity/project, timescales and most recent accounts and/or up to date financial information. The Trustees meet normally in March, June, September and December. The cut-off-date for applications is normally a month before the meeting date.

Example

The Rockfield Centre, Oban

The Rockfield Centre is a Grade B listed building located within the town of Oban. Originally a school it closed in 2007 and lay empty until a community campaign saved it from proposed demolition in 2014. Following extensive community engagement and testing of new potential uses, the building has now been converted into a multi-use, all weather community hub comprising of a studio, work and events space. With capital costs totalling £3m a number of funders including the Hugh Fraser Foundation enabled the restoration. Works were completed in 2020.

PILGRIM TRUST

Aim of Fund

- 8.24 Edward Stephen Harkness founded The Pilgrim Trust in 1930 with an endowment of just over £2m. Inspired by the role Great Britain played in the First World War, Harkness wished the funds to be used for some of the UK's 'more urgent needs'. From the Trust's inception, these needs included preserving the nation's 'material treasures'. The focus has changed over the years, but for many years now its main attention has been on preserving historic buildings and sites, and conserving significant collections and artefacts so that the general public can explore and enjoy them.
- 8.25 The Trust operates the Preservation and Scholarship Fund to preserve the fabric of historically important buildings, conserve significant collections and promote knowledge through academic research. It gives particular consideration to:
- Preservation of, and repairs to, buildings or architectural features of outstanding architectural or historic importance particularly those at risk
 - Conservation of important artefacts and collections
 - Promotion of knowledge and its dissemination through academic research within institutions where historic, scientific or archaeological records are preserved.

Level of Funding

- 8.26 The average grant value in 2020 was £25,000. The Small Grants scheme is for grants of £5,000 or less, while our Main Grants scheme is for over £5,000.

Eligibility

- 8.27 Grants are aimed at charities and public bodies within the UK. Social enterprise groups or community interest groups are not eligible to apply at present.

Application Process

- 8.28 Application to the Preservation and Scholarship fund are welcomed at any time. There are no deadlines for sending in an application.
- 8.29 Applications are assessed in two stages. The Stage One application collects key details about the project

and ensures eligibility for funding. A response will be provided within four weeks. If successful, applicants will be invited to complete a Stage Two application, where they will be required to set out their proposal in full.

- 8.30 The Pilgrim Trust Trustees make all of the grant awards. They meet quarterly normally in March, June, September and November.

Example

2-4 Old Castlegate, Banff

The town centre building, 2 – 4 Old Castlegate, had lain vacant and derelict for more than 20 years. Following funding from the Pilgrim Trust and other providers, the North East Conservation Trust has been able to transform the property, through sympathetic restoration, into two private houses. Work on the B listed Georgian townhouse took c. 11 months to complete and both properties have now been sold on the open market.



09

CIVIC CROWDFUNDING, LOCAL AND OTHER SOURCES

CROWDFUNDING

- 9.1 Crowdfunding is a way for people, businesses and charities to raise money. It is a collective effort of a large number of people, who pool together small amounts of money to support a large variety of projects they believe in or expect a return from.
- 9.2 The process of fundraising, takes place online on digital platforms such as JustGiving, Kickstarter and Crowdcube. Here ideas get posted to get visibility and attract support. Fundraisers, in order to seek their financial target, also seek funds by setting up their own website and starting their own crowdfunding campaigns. Money is raised through different networks, extending the reach often through social media (Twitter, Facebook, Blogs, Instagram) in order to secure a wider base of support. Supporters can then receive different forms of benefits that are unique to that project: they can donate as a form of lending and returns are financial, they can donate in exchange for equity, or they can donate because they believe in the cause and do not expect anything back.
- 9.3 Civic Crowdfunding, as a sub type of crowdfunding, has the same donation-based model to raise money, but is specifically aimed to fund public assets without rewards in return. Spacehive is a specific crowdfunding platform dedicated to civic/built environment projects. The ideas it supports are locally-driven, capturing the imagination, enthusiasm and energy of local people and contributing to local changes that go beyond the boundaries of the actual physical changes.
- 9.4 Since its 2012 launch, Spacehive has acted as a platform for project sponsors to promote and seek funding for over 1,850 projects across the UK worth over £24m. Examples of successful projects in the UK, relevant to VDL, listed on Spacehive include:
- Peckham Coal Line Urban Park – an elevated urban park built on disused railway coal sidings to form a natural, physical and social link between two high streets. Raised £75,757.
 - Peckham Lido – Rebuild the Peckham Lido which fell into disrepair and was closed and filled in in 1987. Raised £63,106.
 - Old Bath Community House – Restore a community building which has fallen into disuse in Hackney and develop a multicultural community centre, with a community kitchen at the heart of its services. Raised £53,360.
 - Camden Highline – Transform a disused railway into a public park and garden walk between Camden Town and Kings Cross. Raised £62,652.
 - Cinema for Acton – lease a disused library building on the High Street and create a lively community hub with a cinema and café on the ground floor. Raised £115,172.
- 9.5 The Mayor of London uses Spacehive to put more power into the hands of Londoners to propose, fund and deliver projects that bring local places to life. This partnership was one of the first city-wide civic crowdfunding programmes and aims to give communities a bigger voice in regeneration and embedding a more collaborative way of shaping places. The Mayor's programme invites local groups to pitch ideas on how to make their local area better and pledges up to £50,000 to selected projects based on the quality of the idea, its potential impact and strength of local support. The Mayor acts as a catalyst for building wider support for the projects. To date, City Hall has backed a total of 134 projects worth £4.4m – pledging alongside 16,000 other backers.
- 9.6 Crowdfunding platforms are also used in the provision of community shares which are becoming increasingly popular. Community shares are a way to raise money by offering the community a chance to own a share of an organisation or in relevance to VDL, a building. In many instance community shares have been used to take ownership in a share of a local pub, shop, wind turbine, housing project, community hub etc.

- 9.7 Crucially in the case of crowdfunding and community shares, they can often unlock additional support and help because others have invested and become a project's greatest advocates.

LOCAL SOURCES

- 9.8 In a number of the case studies mentioned local support from businesses has been a crucial part of the success story. This ranges from monetary donations from the local golf club through to the provision of labour and materials from local tradespeople. Local businesses have a vested interest in improving their community and the impact they can have, particularly on community projects, should always be explored.

OTHER SOURCES: INVESTMENT/LENDING SPECIALISTS

- 9.9 The 2019 review considered investment specialists as a separate topic and included various ethical banks and lenders. Increasingly lenders are applying ESG (environmental, social and governance) criteria to their activities rather than just commercial. This is likely to become more prevalent moving forward.

10

SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 This review details the wide range of funding options for VDL (vacant and derelict land) across Scotland. As noted in the Introduction, the funding landscape has changed markedly since this review was last undertaken. This has included the end of European funding, the entry of UK Government funding as well as a change in priorities across other funding streams as a result of the pandemic and increased focus on net zero carbon, community wealth building and natural capital. The introduction of the Scottish Government's new £50 million VDL Investment Programme is welcomed.
- 10.2 Funding sources are both direct and indirect (the latter depends what the land is being used for, rather than just being vacant/derelict) and are generally targeting a full range of productive outputs, e.g. infrastructure, housing or commercial development, greening, community uses etc.
- 10.3 There is funding available for both capital and non-capital projects. The latter forms of funding support are particularly important for community projects where local capacity building is required or where further work needs to be undertaken into the feasibility of a proposed project.
- 10.4 It has also been noted that a number of the examples of funded projects (excluding those of specific VDL funds) are now of buildings rather than land. Again the change in policy landscape to include fabric first and embedded carbon priorities may mean that funding is now bending toward reuse of buildings rather than simply VDL.
- 10.5 Funding is available to a wide range of applicant organisations including Local Authorities, charities and community organisations. However, in conducting the review, it has become apparent that there are funding gaps which omit private landowners of long-term derelict sites whether they be individual owners or private organisations. There are a number of options here including incentivising the reuse of sites by introducing additional reliefs on Non Domestic Rates and Council tax for new build properties on long standing vacant sites. This is discussed in greater detail in the Scottish Land Commission's recent report to the Scottish Government on Land Reform and Taxation (January 2022).
- 10.6 Funding levels vary dramatically from the multi-million-pound City Deals to much smaller scale community focused funders. This means there is funding potentially available for all sizes and types of project. However, as with the previous review, it is still apparent that many projects need multiple funding streams to allow them to come to fruition. Funders are looking to spread their risk, often with decreasing funds which can mean that self-generated income is becoming increasingly important. Funding available from Lotteries, Trusts and Foundations and UK and Scottish Governments may appear extensive however competition can be intense and strict criteria and objectives apply. For those seeking funds, research and preparation are key. Funders often have firm deadlines for submitting applications and therefore projects need to be planned well in advance and may need to embed flexibility as funding sources change.
- 10.7 A summary of the funding sources discussed in this review is provided overleaf along with hyperlinks which can be followed for further information about each fund.

APPENDIX A
SUMMARY TABLE
OF VDL FUNDING
SOURCES

Provider	Fund Name (Hyperlink)	Eligibility			Type	£ available	Status
		Project Type	Location	Applicant			
UK Government	Levelling Up Fund	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 21. Future dates for further rounds awaited.
UK Government	UK Community Renewal Fund	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	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	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	Community Ownership Fund	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 8 bidding rounds. Rounds 1 and 2 now closed. Round 3 will take place in May 2022.
Scottish Government	Place Based Investment Programme	Place based investment	Scotland wide	Local authorities	Grant	£325m. Allocations will be made to each LA.	Part of local government budget settlement
Scottish Government	Vacant & Derelict Land Investment Programme	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	Vacant & Derelict Land Fund	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	Regeneration Capital Grant Fund	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	Investing in Communities Fund	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	Business Improvement Districts	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
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	Grant	£10m Grants between £5,000-25,000k	Details of next funding round awaited.

				charity trusts			
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
NaturScot	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.
Scottish Forestry	Grant Scheme	Creation of new woodland and the sustainable management of existing woodland.	Scotland wide	Private owners	Grant	Unavailable	Open
Scottish Government	Affordable Housing Supply Programme	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	Housing Infrastructure Fund	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	City Region & Growth Deals	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	Repurposing Property Grant Scheme	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.
West Lothian Council	Place Based Investment Capital Grant	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	Scottish Land Fund	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	Awards for All	Strengthen communities, improve	Scotland wide	Voluntary or	Grant	£300 - £10,000	Open

	Scotland	spaces and places and help more people reach their potential		community organisations, registered charities, social enterprises, community councils			
Community Fund	Community led	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	Bringing People Together	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
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	3 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
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	City Heritage	Regenerate buildings, revitalise city	7 City Heritage Trusts	See individual trust	Grant	See individual trust details	See individual trust

Scotland	Trusts	centres, open up new spaces for residential or commercial use, training in traditional skills, raise heritage awareness	in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Perth & Kinross and Stirling	details			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
Edinburgh World Heritage	Conservation Funding Programme	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	Grant Programme	Arts, education, youth, health, museums & heritage, community, environment, faith, welfare	UK wide	Charities, RSLs	Grant	c. £80m p.a.	Open
Robertson Trust	Grant Programme	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	Grant Programme	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	Preservation and Scholarship Fund	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

EDINBURGH

7 Exchange Crescent
Conference Square
EH3 8AN
0131 225 6612

GLASGOW

130 St Vincent Street
G2 5HF
0141 204 3838

ABERDEEN

25 Albyn Place
AB10 1YL
01224 588866

LEEDS

3rd Floor Carlton Tower
34 St Pauls Street
LS1 2QB
0113 243 6777

LONDON

4th Floor Langham House
302-308 Regent Street
W1B 3AT
020 7436 1212

MANCHESTER

2nd Floor
28 King Street
M2 6AY
0161 249 9778



Ryden