



Sharing value Creating opportunity

SSE Community Investment Review 2014/2015



Welcome to SSE's Community Investment Review 2014/15

Sharing value

Understanding SSE's funding programme, the community perspective and an overview of 2014/15.

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Foreword

Like the hydro-electric power stations that are dotted around the country, sensitively positioned wind farms should contribute to the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of people throughout the UK. One of the most important social impacts associated with wind energy is the provision of wind farm funds. These funds share the value of generating electricity from wind with local communities. SSE has been providing these funds for more than a decade. Over those years the funds have grown in number, status and impact, and now, SSE provides funding to communities through 25 funds in Great Britain, the vast majority of which are in Scotland.

In 2014, SSE published its first annual review of its wind farm funds, showing exactly how each pound was spent. We did that because the funds have reached a scale that, we believe, deserved greater transparency. Publishing the detail of the funds is important for two reasons.

The first is to highlight the excellent funding decisions made by community panels and trusts and the impact they are making. It makes us, at SSE, very proud to see the hundreds of different projects across the country that are being supported by our wind farms. The second reason is to inspire communities to develop new projects by showing the kinds of innovative ideas being realised in other areas. Funding of this scale can energise, reinvigorate and transform communities and we are very conscious we have a duty to create the conditions whereby communities can make the most of that opportunity.

So, building on our first report last year, the 2014/15 report further demonstrates the scale and diversity of community development in the areas and regions around SSE's wind farms. From enterprising projects that support young apprentices in some of our most remote communities to energy solutions for affordable housing, it is clear

to me that local people are making good judgements and are making their communities more sustainable places to live and visit.

SSE is a company for the long-term and we like to think we remain rooted in the communities we work, live and serve. A commitment has been made to support people who live near our wind farms for the 25 year life of the turbines. This annual review – and the ones that will follow – simply demonstrates our intent to make sure those funds have the best possible impact they can. And by doing so, we help to share the value of renewable energy and support healthy, active and vibrant communities.

Rachel McEwen
Director of Sustainability



Our commitment

SSE seeks to be a responsible developer of renewable energy. That means we must consider carefully the social and environmental impacts of every project before proceeding to develop. It also means we make sure local communities share in the economic value that is created. One of the best ways to do that is by providing funds for community benefit.

SSE's onshore wind farms and hydro-electric stations now support 25 grant-making community funds across Great Britain. Since 2002, we've committed

over £19 million and supported more than 5,000 local projects. These funds are long-term sources of finance which will see communities benefit over the lifetime of each development, usually 25 years. In providing funding, we seek to enable local regeneration through community-led economic, social and environmental development.

We're proud to help communities grow and build strong foundations for the future. To this end, we've set out five clear commitments for the way we manage our funds.

1 Keep it simple

We make the grant making process as straightforward as possible and look to remove some of the barriers which may hinder community development. There's no need to over complicate these things and experience tells us that complexity can be a deterrent for communities. We use a **simple application** form and, where required, we offer community groups additional support with their proposals.

We provide **robust governance** to ensure that funds are being spent appropriately, but not in a way that is onerous to either applicants or our panels and trusts.

2 Work together

We believe a strong partnership between a funder and the community means effective collaboration and, ultimately, a fund that works for everyone.

SSE takes an active role in fund administration, working with each panel or trust directly. We are committed to local decision-making, **empowering communities** to support the projects that matter most to them. We hope that by taking a hands-on role, we can effect real change and build greater trust with communities. A key part of this involves maintaining consistent and **open communication** with the whole community.

3 Listen hard

Our Community Investment team regularly meets local groups to hear their thoughts and aspirations. While we're always at the end of the phone to chat through any issues, it's often most effective to meet face-to-face to discuss project ideas. By working as an active partner in this way, we can develop a breadth of local knowledge to inform and improve our grant-making.

We listen hard to the changing needs of local people and adapt our grant-making processes in response. We've committed to **peer reviews** of our funds and regular **funding surgeries** to ensure we're meeting expectations. We're also having conversations about **community co-investment** in our developments to further share the value of our projects with local communities.

How we calculate a fund

A 50MW onshore wind farm provides:

Total annual value – £250,000
(£5,000 per megawatt of installed capacity x 50)

£125,000 (50%) per year ring-fenced for local community fund

£125,000 (50%) per year allocated to regional Sustainable Development Fund



Listening

Ciara Wilson, SSE Community Funds Manager, discusses the impact of SSE's funding in Helmsdale.



Action

SSE's Jade Fearon talks about community funding with former Secretary of State for Energy Ed Davey at Keadby wind farm.

4 Be flexible

Each of SSE's funds has a 25 year lifespan – we're in this for the long haul. To create effective long-term partnerships with communities, we have to be flexible when it comes to individual community priorities. Although consistency is important, we understand that a 'one size fits all' approach is not always the best option and that the needs of a community can change significantly over time. Our approach is to work with communities to find the **best model** and agree to review it on a regular basis.

Our core focus will always be an open grant-making fund, but we're also speaking with communities to pilot a range of initiatives within our fund structure that deliver targeted benefit to individuals, such as **fuel poverty prevention** and **energy efficiency schemes**.

5 Create a legacy

We hope that in the coming years our grant-making programme will continue to evolve and change for the better. The word 'legacy' is often debated but we believe that true and lasting legacy comes from implementing real change that makes a long-lasting difference to people's lives. We encourage communities to think big and hope that initiatives such as **community ownership**, **apprenticeship schemes** and setting up **endowment funds** will go some way to meeting this aim.

We're also piloting **small grants for rural micro businesses** and believe this new venture could bring unique opportunities for local economies in our areas of development. With planned investment of over £200 million over the next 25 years, it's exciting to see where the funds will go next.



Sharing

The community of Bonar Bridge with Fiona Morrison, SSE Community Funds Manager.

Our funding process

At an early stage and separate to the planning process, we share our community investment policy with the local wind farm liaison group.

Once a project receives planning consent, we consult with local stakeholders to agree the area of benefit and fund delivery arrangements.

We work with the local community to either set up a decision-making panel or enter into agreement with a nominated community organisation, such as a development trust.

On the start of major construction, we organise a fund launch event and invite initial applications.

Applications undergo an assessment. Funding decisions are made by the panel or trust at meetings throughout the year.

A final evaluation report is submitted by the applicant on the project and its outcomes.

Working together

The success of our funding programme relies on local decision makers who volunteer their time to award grants in their local area. They are responsible for helping hundreds of projects come to fruition every year and their passion, hard work and commitment is invaluable.

"After years of attending countless meetings about the wind farm. I was keen to discover how things were going to work out and if this project was going to produce the community benefits we had hoped for.

I am very happy to say our hopes have been more than realised and I have great praise for the way we as a community have been respected, treated and considered.

In just a year, the fund has already worked wonders in our North Sutherland communities. As well as those local businesses, shops, hotels, and bed and breakfast establishments which were busy all winter during the construction of the wind farm, the fund itself has enabled many of our village halls to upgrade their buildings and facilities and our clubs to

From Orkney to Essex, every community we work with is unique, with its own priorities and aspirations for development. By listening to the views of local experts, we can best ensure that the right projects are supported and that the fund meets the needs of the wider community both now, and in the long-term.

renew equipment. The swimming pool, MUGA pitch, football clubs and local schools have all been supported. Not to mention the fencing and cattle grids which surround our township.

With the help of SSE, we look forward to planning what is best for our communities in future years so that a lasting benefit may be established in this very fragile part of the world where perhaps we were either overlooked or forgotten before."

Janette Mackay
Chair of Strathy and Armadale Community Council



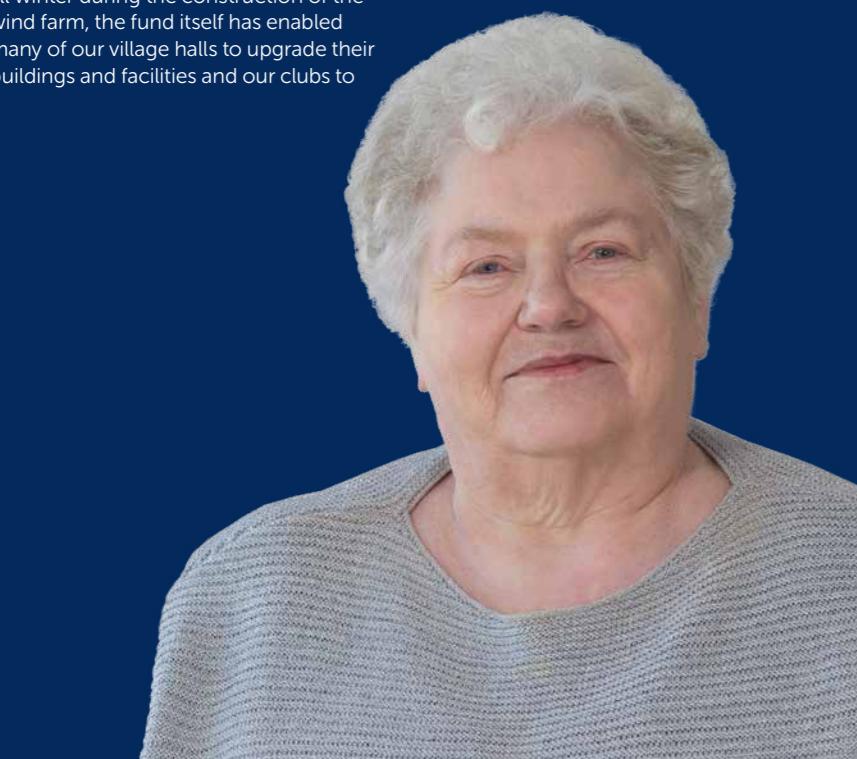
"As an elected member on the panel I take real pride in discussing and approving the applications that come into the committee. We are a diverse group from all walks of life and when we come together the decisions we make are for the greater good of the community which gives me a real feel good factor."

Jane Ellis
Toddleburn Panel



"Helping to disburse the community fund in its first year has been a hugely rewarding experience as our fragile community has never before had access to anything resembling it under local control. I am confident that the community will rise to the opportunities offered and maximise the usefulness of the fund in the years to come."

Jim A. Johnston
Secretary of Bettyhill, Strathnaver and Altnaharra Community Council



"I've been on the panel for three years and have enjoyed seeing our communities' money support a wide range of people and projects. It feels good to support applications which have a meaningful legacy. We often make suggestions which ensure the fund goes further and lasts longer."

Alistair Rennie
Fairburn Panel



"Our community could never dream of receiving this much secure investment over such a long period of time from any other sources. I am so pleased that the panel is not made up of folk in an office in the big city that have no idea about our area or struggles, but made up of people who have the knowledge and understanding to make the right decisions."

Emma Montgomery
Strathy North Panel



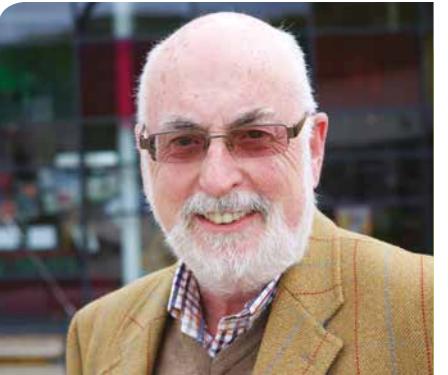
1,680

The number of volunteer hours dedicated by our local decision makers every year



"The funding we receive from SSE has made a real difference to our community. It allows us to operate a grant scheme that benefits all community groups and has helped us secure employment of three community caretakers. Lately, we started a joint apprenticeship scheme with neighbouring trusts and have created six apprenticeships in 18 months."

Linda Whiteside
Chair of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company



"It is a privilege and a pleasure to chair this dedicated and vibrant group of representatives from the five local community councils involved as we head for our second million-pound milestone of approved awards. It is certainly rewarding to play a vital part in this long-term partnership with SSE."

Douglas Craik
Chairperson, Griffin and Calliachar Panel



"In my role at SSE I've worked with many communities across the country and have seen the amount of time and effort which is invested in the funds by both the panel members and the applicants alike. I greatly admire their dedication and enthusiasm. It's clear how much each community genuinely cares about what happens in their area."

Ciara Wilson
Community Funds Manager at SSE

Funder's Report 2014/15

It's been a year of progress for the SSE community investment programme, with a growing number of funds, a diverse range of awards and some exciting new ideas taking shape.

We have worked with community panels and trusts across our 25 community funds to make almost £3 million in grant awards to 414 projects. This includes the first awards from Strathy North wind farm on the north coast of Sutherland, and important funding milestones for our Clyde and Drumderg funds, which reached a total spend of £2 million and £500,000 respectively.

£24m

Total value of the projects supported by our funds in 2014/15

With a total project value of over £24 million, some eight times the value of our grants, it's encouraging to see the impact our contribution is having to support funding from other sources.

Given reduced opportunities for public funding, it is also no surprise that our average fund demand remains high at 147% – with our regional sustainable development funds the most popular, attracting £5 in application value for every £1 available.

A long-term view

Many of our funds have been active for a number of years now. In these cases, communities have begun to recognise the need for more targeted, coordinated community development in order to make the most of their funding.

Fund panels at Gordonbush and Achany undertook reviews of their fund objectives, looking to focus on long-term projects that will leave a legacy, and several funds have investigated the potential to save beyond the 25-year period with investment in an endowment fund.

Our panels and trusts awarded over £152,000 towards employment and skills development, with 79 training positions directly supported through the funds. It's clear that opportunities for local jobs are a priority, particularly in rural areas, with over £100,000 invested in apprenticeship schemes alone.

Making the difference

It's also the case that small grants often have a big impact. 84% of our awards this year were for grants up to £10,000. A £100 micro grant for the local toddler group or £5,000 to support a young apprentice, while lower in value, can make a big difference where it matters most.

Major strategic projects have also played their part this year, with some key awards which will provide a real and lasting legacy for the future. The Erict Trust was awarded £40,000 towards a community buy out of a disused school in Blairgowrie for redevelopment as a community cinema and venue. The children of Crawford in South Lanarkshire were successful in their bid for a much needed play park which was granted £148,000. And in Highland Perthshire, a major high speed broadband project was given a £50,000 boost to train and employ local technicians.

Another key theme which emerged in 2014/15 was rural self-sufficiency during times of severe weather. A difficult winter prompted a number of communities to set up local resilience initiatives and we received requests for equipment such as snow ploughs, cold weather kits and hand held radios. It was fantastic to see communities taking the initiative in this way and a total of £48,000 was awarded to emergency community teams across the country.

147%

Average demand across our funds in 2014/15

Regional development

The regional funds have brought a new dynamic to our funding programme by creating opportunities for strategic initiatives with the potential to affect wider community development in the long-term. During 2014/15, two new regional funds were launched in the Scottish Borders and Perth and Kinross. The independent panel awarded 18 projects across the two funds a total of £372,122. Our Highland Sustainable Development Fund will reopen in October 2015, and with a budget of £1 million, we look forward to helping many more major projects get off the ground.



Skills and employment

Learn how community-led initiatives are helping to create jobs and start careers.

page 08

Ben Armitage, employed through the Community Trusts Apprenticeship Scheme in the Great Glen.



Community facilities and services

Read our success stories of revitalised local amenities and services.

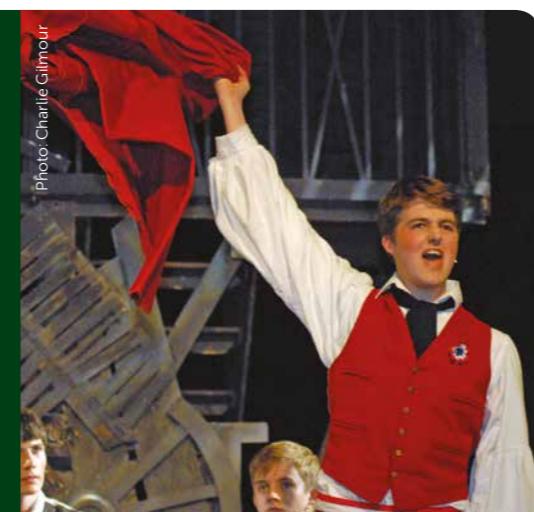
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The Blackwater Hall committee, awarded £30,000 for a major hall refurbishment.

Culture, heritage and tourism

Find out how our funding is building vibrant communities and developing strong visitor economies.

page 12



Largs Academy's production of *Les Misérables*, supported by a £3,000 grant.

Education and youth development

Take a look at the community projects that are helping young people learn and develop.

page 14



Children at Melvich Primary School, Sutherland, enjoy their new computer.



Sport and recreation

Discover how community funds can help develop and maintain local sporting infrastructure.

page 16

Swimming lessons at the North Coast Leisure Centre, funded by a £15,000 grant.



Environment and conservation

See the initiatives that are cutting carbon and protecting the local environment.

page 18

The Scottish Wildlife Trust employs a Perthshire Ranger thanks to a £25,000 grant.

Community Trusts Apprenticeship Scheme

Highland Sustainable Development Fund
£87,250 awarded April 2014

Three community organisations in the Great Glen are working together to offer apprenticeships to 14 local young people over the next three years.

The Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company (FAGCC), Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust and Glengarry Trust work to identify young people looking for apprenticeships and place them with local businesses that would otherwise not be able to employ an apprentice. In an area with few employment opportunities, the scheme gives young people the chance to live and work in the local area. The award to FAGCC has allowed the groups to expand the number of apprenticeships on offer to local young people. Four of the placements will be specifically for over 19s, for whom it is more difficult to access funding.

Ben Armitage, an apprentice with the scheme, is training on the job at The Lock Inn towards SVQ3 in Professional Cookery.

"I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to learn and gain experience at the same time. It has spurred me on to follow a career in catering."

Ben Armitage
Apprentice at The Lock Inn



Making a difference Skills and employment

Enterprising opportunities

One of the most rewarding outcomes of the funds is the ability to create new opportunities for learning, training and employment; so important in ensuring the long-term survival of fragile rural economies.

Over £177,000 was invested in training, jobs and apprenticeships in 2014/15. Many of the grants for skills and training were directed at helping young people prepare for the world of work; from SQA employability awards to bike mechanic certificates – these initiatives provide invaluable life skills and qualifications to help participants reach positive destinations.



The Bike Station

Griffin and Calliachar
£20,000 awarded December 2014

The afterschool 'build your own bike' course gives 30 young trainees the opportunity to gain bicycle mechanic skills.

The sessions, held at Breadalbane Academy, involve 24 young people being peer mentored by six previous graduates of the course. The mentors work towards Silver Velotech standards, whilst supporting the trainees to achieve Bronze Velotech certificates – recognised vocational qualifications. The trainees work on donated bikes which are sold when completed, with income reinvested back into the project. The course helps young people remain engaged with education, building their self-esteem and equipping them with practical skills which can lead them into fulfilling careers.



"The training programme reaches young people who have fewer opportunities due to their rural location and helps them to develop in positive ways."

Mark Sinclair
The Bike Station

Cairngorms Skills Project

Highland Sustainable Development Fund
£57,000 awarded April 2014

More than 40 young people across the Highlands can now benefit from support to enter careers in construction or forestry related industries.

In remote rural areas that often lack training and employment opportunities, young people can often be restricted to seasonal or low-skilled work. The Cairngorms Skills Project, led by the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust, is being expanded across the whole Highland region and will help 14 young people, each year for the next three years, with their applications to study construction or forestry related courses at college. The Trust provides support such as training and transport costs, and also arranges local work placements.

"The project has helped me excel in my college studies and also gain practical experience. The funding has made things a lot easier and without this support I would struggle to be where I am now."

Heather Coyle
HNC Forestry trainee

Strong foundations

Robust facilities and services form part of the fabric of communities so it's no surprise that nearly half of our grants were awarded to improving and enhancing these provisions in 2014/15.

Over £1.2 million was invested in establishing new facilities and developing existing services this year. From rural development to supporting the elderly and the vulnerable, the diversity of projects is testament to the strong sense of community that exists in our areas of development.

Alt Beag Market Garden

Strathy North
£6,860 awarded May 2014

The Alt Beag Armadale Trust is redeveloping the Alt Beag Croft into a market garden for community use.

The Alt Beag Croft, situated in a stunning location overlooking Armadale Beach in North Sutherland, was lying vacant for many years until the Trust purchased it in 2002. With the help of local volunteers, the Trust has redeveloped the site to make it productive once again. The award allowed the group to purchase a polytunnel to increase productivity of the garden and protect crops from the wild elements of the north coast. They were also able to buy a shed to safely store equipment for the garden. The fruit and vegetables grown will be sold, with profits made reinvested into the project.

"The shed and polytunnel are helping us achieve our long-term objective – producing locally grown fruit and vegetables for sale in the community."

Margaret Mackay
Alt Beag Armadale Trust



"The Hub empowers service users to engage with life, support each other and contribute to their community. It also provides valuable respite for families and carers."

Esther Brown
Engaging With Activity



Helmsdale Dementia Activity Programme

Gordonbush
£5,000 awarded September 2014

Helmsdale and District Community Association (HDDCA) runs weekly activities for people in rural East Sutherland living with dementia.

An active social life is important for people living with dementia, helping them to maintain their health and wellbeing. The award allowed HDDCA, working with service provider Engaging with Activity, to deliver this invaluable work to support vulnerable individuals. Weekly activities include Tai Chi, crafts and cookery classes. Participating in these activities helps individuals with dementia improve their self-esteem and reduces social isolation. While most of the service users suffer from dementia, activities also cater for users with learning difficulties and mobility diseases.

Food Train

Clyde Dumfries and Galloway
£11,500 awarded September 2014

The Food Train provides a grocery shopping delivery service for elderly members of the community in Dumfries and Galloway who are unable to go to the shops themselves.

The charity aims to support people aged 65 and over to maintain their independence and stay in their own homes for as long as possible. To achieve this, it undertakes various initiatives including a grocery shopping delivery service, household support service and more recently a befriending service helping those experiencing isolation and loneliness.

The service is delivered by local volunteers, some of whom have been involved for 10 years since the project began in 1995. The award has allowed the Food Train to purchase an additional delivery vehicle for their grocery service, enabling volunteers to make deliveries to even more elderly people.

"The addition of the new van to our delivery fleet will enable us to continue to provide this vital and much needed service to support even more elderly people in the local area."

Helen McAnespie
Food Train



Comrie Development Trust

Perth and Kinross Sustainable Development Fund
£36,350 awarded March 2015

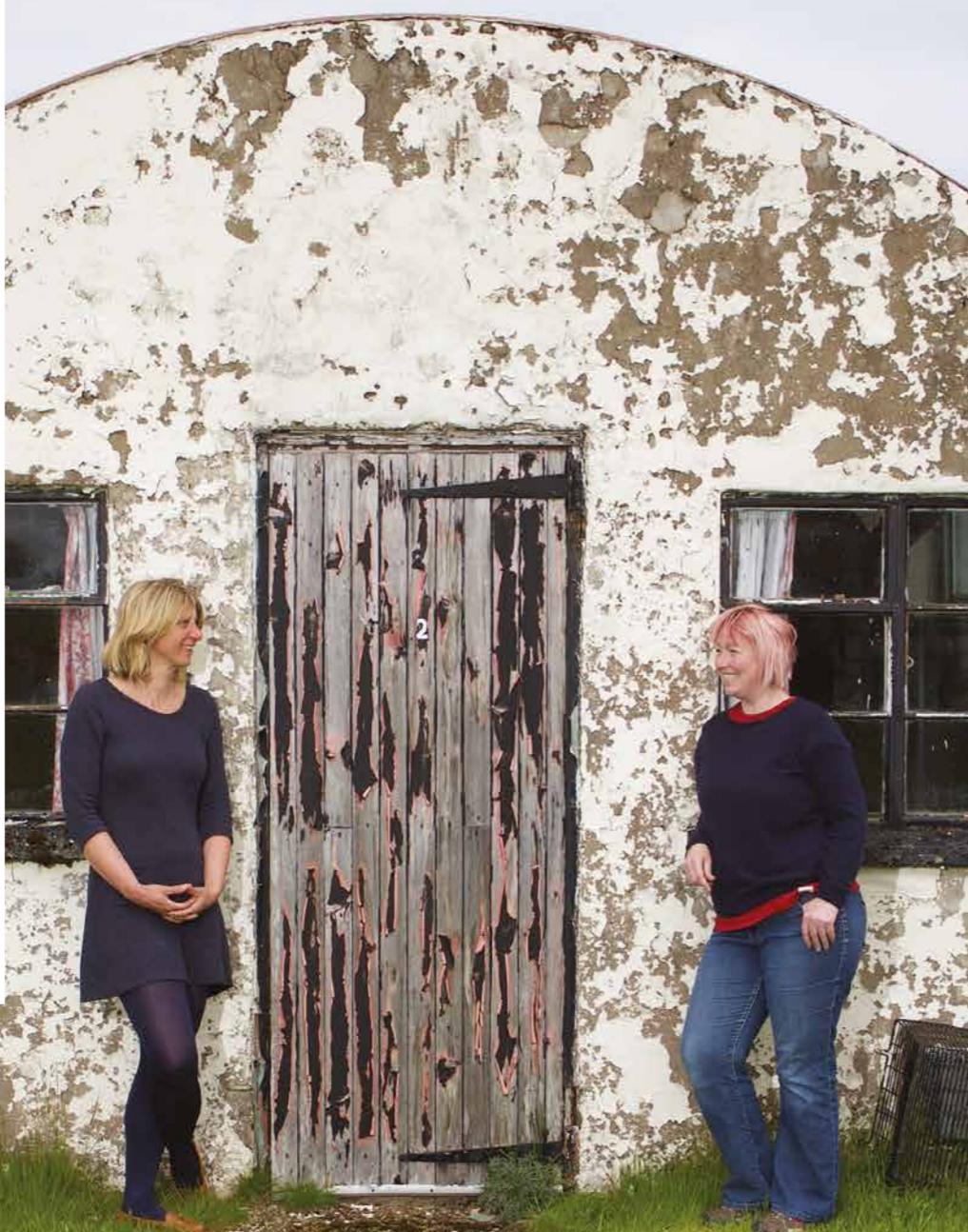
Visitors to Comrie in Perthshire will be able to enjoy the unique experience of staying the night at an ex-Prisoner of War camp.

Cultybraggan Camp is the last remaining WWII high security POW camp in the UK. Owned by the Comrie Development Trust on behalf of the community, the 90 acre camp provides space for allotments, community groups, events and recreation. The camp is a significant employer in the area, housing 18 businesses and providing around 50 full-time equivalent jobs.

The Trust now has exciting new plans to turn 10 of the 80 Nissen huts on site, which housed the prisoners, into self catering accommodation. The award will allow the huts to be connected to a biomass boiler, which will provide the heat they need without contributing to climate change.

"The one-of-a-kind accommodation will encourage more visitors to Cultybraggan to learn about the camp's heritage. Connecting the huts to the biomass boiler has the added bonus of reducing CO₂ emissions significantly."

Naomi Clarke
Comrie Development Trust



Vibrant communities

A rich cultural, artistic and social calendar is vital to encourage community spirit and to bolster the visitor economy. Some unique projects are telling the story of their local heritage this year.

Comrie's interesting military connections have been brought to light again with the redevelopment of 10 Nissen huts into self catering accommodation at Cultybraggan Camp, and the mining history of Leadhills in South Lanarkshire has been given a new musical platform in the reforming of its silver band. In 2014/15, over 65 community events and festivals also received grants.



Aberfeldy Farmers' Market

Griffin and Calliachar
£12,000 awarded December 2014

Last year the Aberfeldy Farmers' Market showcased the very best of Perthshire's larder.

Run by the Aberfeldy Small Business Association (ASBA), the monthly market has already made a name for itself, attracting some of the best small retailers in Perthshire and allowing locals and visitors to purchase directly from producers. For the first time, shops in the town are opening on a Sunday to take advantage of the visitors drawn to the market during the summer months. The award, being delivered over three years, is allowing ASBA to develop the market into a self-funding event that will increase visitor footfall in Aberfeldy, benefitting local businesses.

"The market has been embraced by visitors and locals alike, enhancing the shopping experience and supporting local businesses through increased footfall."

Jenny Langrish
Aberfeldy Small Business Association



"Having decent instruments has made an enormous difference. As well as sounding better, we have been able to plan a larger concert outside the village, which wouldn't have been possible before."

Teresa Brasier
Leadhills Silver Band

Thriving youth

With around £426,000 invested in projects that support a younger demographic in 2014/15, it's clear that encouraging the next generation continues to be a key priority across our funds.

Younger members of the community are often at the heart of these projects, from designing a dream play park, to writing letters of support, and carrying out local fundraising. Their enthusiasm is the driving force behind many of the applications we receive.

Bananas Playgroup

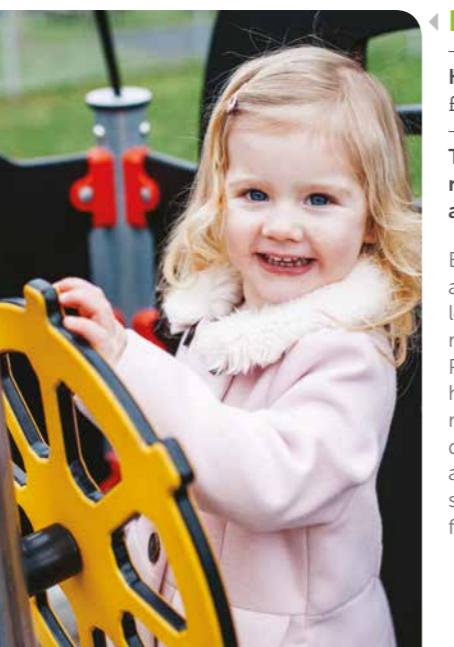
Clyde Borders
£2,812 awarded in April 2014 and March 2015

Children at Bananas Playgroup in the Scottish Borders are getting messy with their new 'mud kitchen' and play shelter.

The mud kitchen was installed earlier this year in the playgroup's garden at Broughton Primary School, with an award of £822. The kitchen consists of wooden units and cooking equipment, letting the children learn and explore the outdoors in a creative way. The group was also awarded a grant of £1,990 from the fund last year for an outdoor play shelter, meaning the children can enjoy daily outdoor singing and dancing sessions. The garden area is now well equipped for outdoor learning, which is a vital part of a child's development.

"The play shelter and mud kitchen have totally changed the children's outdoor learning experience, and the 'puddle suits' mean they can be outside everyday, whatever the weather."

Christine Parker
Bananas Playgroup



"It's amazing to see the children running around and enjoying the new play park equipment."

Julie Reed
Friends of Ealand Park

Friends of Ealand Park

Keadby
£20,000 awarded April 2014

Toddlers in Ealand can now enjoy a brand new play park thanks to one of the largest awards from the Keadby fund to date.

Ealand Park provides the only outdoor play and leisure venue in the village, without which local children would have to travel almost two miles to the nearest park. Friends of Ealand Park, set up by three determined teenagers, has updated the toddler playground which now includes swings, a tornado spinning dish and a pirate ship. The new toddler area offers the children a fully equipped, safe play space within easy walking distance from their homes.



The Young Karers East Sutherland (TYKES)

Gordonbush
£4,320 awarded September 2014

TYKES supports young carers in East Sutherland, offering a drop in service where they can socialise and take part in activities.

The group was established in 1999 when research highlighted that 4% of young people in the area were caring for a family member with little extended support. The Gordonbush community fund keenly backs the group's work and has previously supported the project with an award of £4,000 towards the costs of employing a sessional worker.

This year's award will allow the group to provide trips for young carers, including daily outings and three overnight respite stays. Young people with caring responsibilities can often experience feelings of isolation through the role that they undertake at home. Respite breaks allow them to develop social skills, make friends who share the same burdens and understand that they are not alone. But most importantly, it gives them the chance to be a child.

"TYKES helped me to realise I'm not alone as a young carer. If I've had a bad day at school, I know I can go to TYKES and just chill out."

Alison MacKay
TYKES club member

Active lives

A diverse range of sporting and outdoor pursuits were backed through the funds with grants totalling over £505,000 in 2014/15. This variety is encouraging, especially in rural areas where access to services can often be limited.

From swimming to skiing, fishing to football, groups across the country are being increasingly ambitious in their aspirations for quality sports provision in their area. These kinds of projects are invaluable in promoting positive wellbeing and encouraging healthy lifestyles for local people.

Lowther Hills Ski Club

Clyde South Lanarkshire
£4,995 awarded July 2014

Lowther Hills Ski Club has expanded its facilities near Leadhills in South Lanarkshire, through the purchase of a 600 metre rope tow.

The club, which runs the only ski tows still in operation in the south of Scotland, acquired the 600 metre long rope tow from a Pennine-based ski club. The rope tow was relocated to the slopes of Lowther Hill, where it has opened access to a new hillside. The award has also bought essential equipment for the maintenance of the slopes, helping to bring the facilities up to modern standards.

"As the only snowsports facility of this kind in the south of Scotland, we hope the Ski Club will play an important part in the economic regeneration of the area."

Anjo Abelaira
Lowther Hills Ski Club



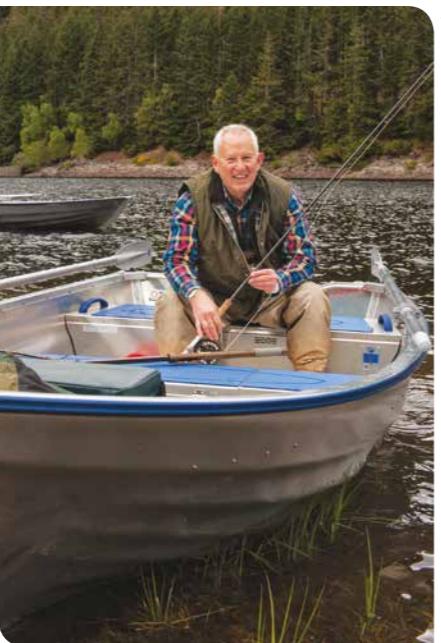
Photo: Ross Doder

Loch Achanachie Anglers Club

Fairburn
£10,000 awarded August 2014

Loch Achanachie Anglers Club has purchased new boats and engines to improve the fishing experience for members and visitors.

The club controls salmon and wild brown trout fishing on various lochs and rivers in the Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon areas in Ross-shire. Until recently, it was using old unreliable plastic boats and outboard engines that no longer met EU emission regulations. The purchase of three new aluminium 'unsinkable' boats and four new engines means members and visitors can fish on the waters in a secure and enjoyable environment. The new equipment will make the experience safer, allowing them to attract younger members and also help the club to promote the area as a fishing tourism destination.



"The new boats are making a real difference to the quality of experience we can offer, helping the club contribute to improving angling tourism here in Ross-shire."

Stephen Dowds
Loch Achanachie Anglers Club



North Coast Leisure Centre

Strathy North
£15,000 awarded December 2014

Children in North Sutherland are able to gain valuable life skills through the swimming and mobility classes held at the North Coast Leisure Centre in Bettyhill.

The award has allowed the Tongue and Farr Sports Association, that runs the centre, to continue covering the staffing costs of the lessons. Held three days a week for babies, toddlers and young children, the classes give local children the opportunity to attend swimming lessons without having to travel what can be more than a 60 mile roundtrip to access similar services – particularly important in such a remote rural setting.

The leisure centre provides a range of activities which local residents would struggle to access if they didn't have the facility. The water confidence classes provide a vital service to local young people in this coastal region.

"When Euan started swimming lessons six months ago, he wouldn't go near the water without armbands. Now he can't wait until the lessons and is even starting to swim a breadth unaided."

Tara Smart
Local parent

Sustainable surroundings

Protecting the natural environment and taking measures to reduce energy consumption within the community are important initiatives which we strongly encourage. In 2014/15, over £230,000 was awarded to projects which take an active role in addressing these challenges.

Enhancing local surroundings was a leading theme, with over £80,000 awarded to rural path networks and scenic walk development and £19,500 for community renewable schemes. A number of energy efficiency measures were supported, including a major affordable housing project in Sutherland.



Helmsdale Housing Project

Highland Sustainable Development Fund
£24,306 awarded April 2014

Helmsdale and District Development Trust is ensuring its new innovative housing project is truly sustainable through the installation of energy efficiency measures.

The four houses are 100% community owned and represent the first affordable housing to be built in the Highland village of Helmsdale for 35 years. The houses were completed in December 2014 with the first tenants moving in only a few days later, in time for Christmas.

The award allowed the Trust to install solar panels as part of the energy efficiency measures, not only reducing the carbon footprint of the buildings, but also lowering energy bills for the families that moved in earlier this year. The income generated from the solar panels is invested by the Trust into other community initiatives.

"The solar panels make a huge difference in keeping the bills down, taking us out of fuel poverty and having a positive impact on our lives. We can now afford the little things we couldn't before."

Annette McFarlene-Barrow
Resident



Williestruther Loch Walk

Scottish Borders Sustainable Development Fund
£30,000 awarded October 2014

A new countryside walk is to be created around Williestruther Loch, near Hawick in the Scottish Borders.

Walking around the entire circumference of this scenic loch is currently not possible, with only verge parking providing access for anglers. The award will allow the beauty spot to be opened up for the benefit of the whole community, including local residents, wildlife enthusiasts, photographers and visitors. The new path will include boardwalks, viewing platforms and a pond dipping area, and will provide a new and inspiring educational facility for local school children. At a mile long, the low level and accessible route will cater for all ages and abilities.

"The new walk will be a real asset to the town that we believe will attract locals as well as tourists."

Marion Short
Hawick Community Council

ALLenergy

Tangy
£9,237 awarded April 2014

ALLenergy carries out a series of projects in the Argyll and Bute region which promote sustainable energy use and renewable energy generation to address fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions.

Working with a variety of communities, businesses and households, ALLenergy runs activities such as energy education in schools and communities; affordable warmth advice, support and mentoring to combat fuel poverty; and support to community renewable energy projects and co-operatives. Last year, at least 888 vulnerable households received in-depth Affordable Warmth advice, energy education was provided to more than 3,600 people and 775 households were referred for free insulation measures.



"The difference that our Affordable Warmth team makes to people's lives is significant – not just financially, it is often emotional as well."

Mandie Currie
ALLenergy

Our funds in focus

In this section we take an in-depth look at the detail and data behind SSE's community investment programme in 2014/15.

414

Total number of projects supported

1,663

The number of households supported through energy efficiency projects in Argyll and Bute

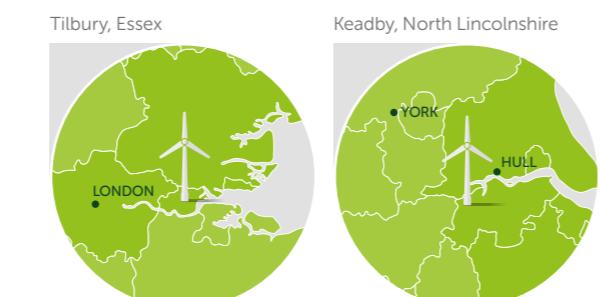
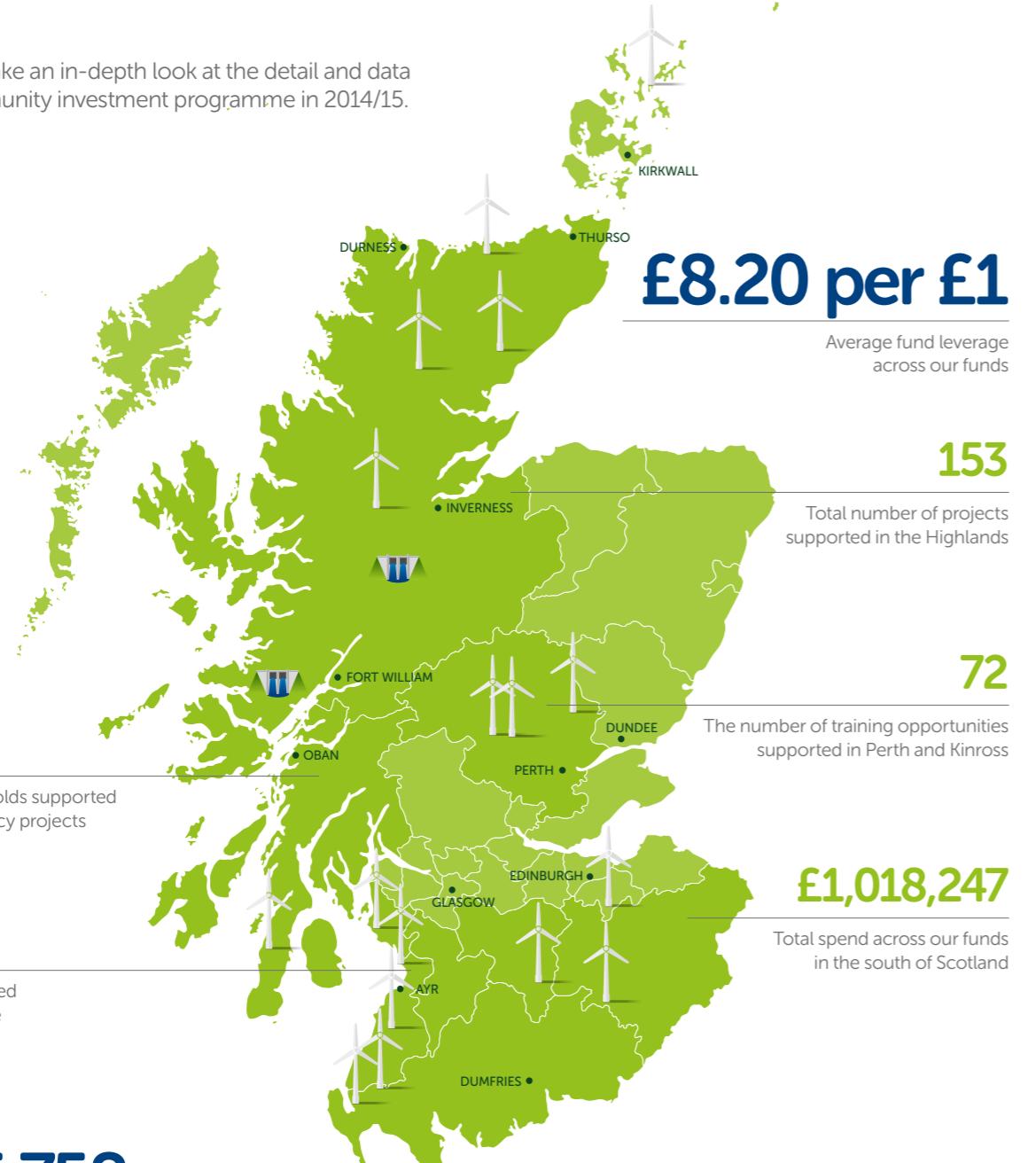
£100,000

The largest grant awarded in South Ayrshire to date

£2,965,758

Total spend across our funds

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Skills and employment
- Sport and recreation
- Environment and conservation



Highlands and Islands

Home to the widest spread of SSE community funds, the Highlands and Islands region hosts seven developments that provide community benefit, including two hydro schemes, comprising a total capacity of 330MW. Approximately £27 million will be invested through these funds in their lifetime.



Strathy North

The Strathy North community fund will provide over £4.5 million to invest in local projects over its lifetime.

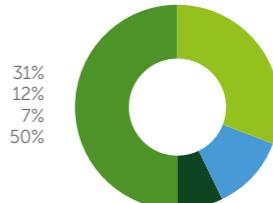
Established in May 2014, the fund serves a population of around 940 over the three community council areas of Bettyhill, Strathnaver and Altnaharra; Melvich; and Strathy and Armadale.

A smaller ring-fenced fund is available in Strathy and Armadale only.

Annual fund payment	£227,000		
Value of applications	£296,880		
Awards approved	£251,589*		
Total value of projects	£632,004		
131% Fund demand	£2.51 per £1	78% Capital	22% Revenue

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Sport and recreation



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Strathy and Armadale Community Council To construct a surrounding wall for the Field of Hope garden	£7,325
■	Allt Beag Armadale Trust To purchase a polytunnel and a shed for the community garden	£6,860
■	Halladale Film Club To install an integrated audio and visual system for film screenings	£6,060
■	Bettyhill Gala Committee To purchase a new marquee for use at community events	£6,050
■	Strathy and Armadale Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£6,000
■	Melvich Village Hall Association For a feasibility study into the redevelopment of Melvich Village Hall	£4,000
■	Féis Air An Oir To purchase instruments for Féis participants to use	£3,300
■	Féis Air An Oir To provide a Féis for the local community	£3,000
■	Bettyhill, Strathnaver and Altnaharra Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£3,000
■	Melvich Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£3,000
■	Farr Primary School Parent Council To purchase computers and tablets to enhance pupils' IT skills	£2,821
■	Altnaharra Primary School Parent Council For the provision of sports equipment and healthy snacks	£2,809
■	Strathy Church of Scotland To carry out refurbishment works to access path and wall	£2,500
■	KSD Martial Arts For the delivery of weekly martial arts classes in Bettyhill	£2,500
■	Strathy and Armadale Community Council To refurbish the Armadale picnic site	£1,934
■	Strathy Village Hall To employ a part-time caretaker for the hall	£1,800
■	Strathy Bay Environmental Action Group To set up a website and fit a fence at the beach hut	£1,150
■	Strathy and Armadale Community Council To replace a rundown picnic bench	£648
■	Melvich Primary School Parent Council To replace the old laptop with a desktop computer	£632

Gordonbush

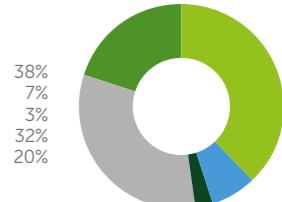
The Gordonbush community fund will provide around £5.2 million to invest in local projects between 2011 and 2036.

The fund benefits a population of around 4,680 over the four community council areas of Brora, Golspie, Helmsdale and Rogart.

Annual fund payment	£202,047		
Value of applications	£215,198		
Awards approved	£119,693		
Total value of projects	£227,102		
107% Fund demand	£1.90 per £1	48% Capital	52% Revenue

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Skills and employment
- Sport and recreation



* Includes awards from ring-fenced fund



Positive impact

Category	Organisation	Award
	The Gordonbush Project To run a local apprenticeship scheme	£36,000
	Golspie Rowing Club To purchase two building kits for St Ayles Skiffs	£5,000
	Helmsdale Millennium Committee To replace Christmas lights and purchase a storage shed	£5,000
	Helmsdale and District Community Association For delivery of the Dementia Activity Programme	£5,000
	Golspie Sutherland Football Club To fit crowd barriers to meet SFA health and safety requirements	£5,000
	Helmsdale and District Development Trust To commission an artist to design seats for a community area	£4,700
	Helmsdale Community Golf Club To purchase equipment for the clubhouse gym facilities	£4,519
	TYKES To provide respite trips for young carers living in East Sutherland	£4,320
	Gaarfields Childrens Centre Towards play equipment for outdoor learning	£4,000
	Pittentrail Recreational Hall Committee For internal and external painting of the hall	£3,828
	Brora Harbour Users Association To purchase a trailer and winch to assist boats in the harbour	£3,820
	North of Scotland Kart Club To purchase timing equipment for the circuit	£3,586
	Loth and Helmsdale Flower Show Society To purchase and install a polytunnel and staging	£3,000
	Brora Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£3,000
	Golspie Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£3,000
	Helmsdale Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£3,000
	Rogart Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£3,000
	Helmsdale Heritage and Arts Society Staffing costs to develop Timespan's archive	£3,000
	East Sutherland Sea Angling Club To purchase a larger boat for the club's activities	£2,500
	Feis Chataibh To run summer workshops and to purchase instruments	£2,500
	Clyne Heritage Society For professional design fees for the Old Clyne School museum	£2,500
	Laig and District Learning Centre To hold outreach workshops	£2,500
	Brora Community Event Group To organise community events for local residents	£1,585
	Attitude Cheerleading To purchase safety mats	£1,500
	Rogart in Bloom To buy equipment for the polytunnel and garden	£1,452
	A Brighter Brora To replace lights for the Christmas tree and light display	£1,243
	Golspie Bowling Green To purchase internal rollers for the green keeping mower	£1,140

Achany

The Achany community fund will be worth £2.5 million between 2010 and 2035 to share between local projects.

The fund serves a population of around 2,500, covering the three community council areas of Ardgay and District, Creich and Lairg.

Annual fund payment **£142,538**

Value of applications **£228,297**

Awards approved **£218,877***

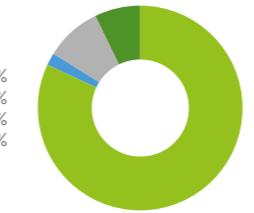
Total value of projects **£2,018,967**

160% Fund demand **£9.22 per £1 Fund leverage** **35% Capital** **65% Revenue**

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Skills and employment
- Sport and recreation

82%
2%
9%
7%



Category	Organisation	Award
	Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust To employ a part-time development manager (2 year grant)	£55,208
	Lairg and District Community Initiative Towards salary costs of a development officer (3 year grant)	£55,000
	Kyle of Sutherland Youth Development Group Towards the construction of a multi-use community centre	£25,000
	Lairg Gala Week To purchase equipment for the Lairg Gala Week	£17,000
	Loch Shin Sailing Club To purchase a safety boat for the sailing club	£11,500
	A&D Lockhart Joiners and Decorators Towards hiring an apprentice in carpentry and joinery (3 year grant)	£10,030
	Ardgay Public Hall Committee To install a new kitchen in Ardgay Public Hall	£10,000
	Ormiston and Watt Ltd Towards the costs of hiring an apprentice in butchery (3 year grant)	£9,689
	Rosehall Village Hall To install double glazed widows and insulation	£8,450
	Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust Funds towards salary costs of a business services assistant	£8,000
	Feis Chataibh To hold four traditional music events for local young people	£5,000
	Bonar Bridge Ardgay Golf Club To purchase a verticutter to improve drainage on the golf course	£4,000

*Includes multi-year grants for future years

Fairburn

The Fairburn community fund is expected to invest around £2.7 million in local projects over its lifetime.

The fund benefits a population of more than 4,300 over the three community council areas of Contin; Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon; and Muir of Ord.

Annual fund payment **£110,040**

Value of applications **£138,472**

Awards approved **£91,464**

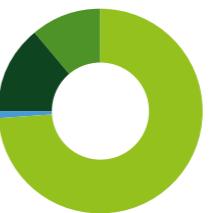
Total value of projects **£101,481**

126% Fund demand **£1.11 per £1 Fund leverage** **38% Capital** **62% Revenue**

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Sport and recreation

74%
1%
14%
11%



Category	Organisation	Award
	Loch Achonachie Angling Club To purchase boats and engines for the club	£10,000
	Fairburn Memorial Hall Towards architect fees and two years' salary cost of the caretaker	£10,000
	Strathconon and Marybank Club 55 Towards outings and events for members (3 year grant)	£10,000
	Scatwell Community Association Ground preparation works for a new community building	£9,000
	Contin Community Trust Towards equipment and running costs of the 2014 gala	£8,026
	Contin Community Trust For roof repairs to the community building	£7,944
	Contin Community Trust Towards the running costs of the 2015 gala	£5,500
	Contin Community Trust To purchase a new lawn mower for land maintenance	£3,900
	Marybank Primary School Parent Council To purchase playground equipment, education packs and iPads	£3,732
	Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon Community Council To set up a new community website	£3,473
	Fairburn Scout Group Towards equipment and holding a community concert	£3,077
	Strathconon Social and Recreational Society Funding to hold the local Highland Games	£3,070
	Fairburn Memorial Hall To upgrade the stove and wiring in the kitchen	£2,534
	Marybank Primary School Parent Council Towards transport and equipment costs for activities	£1,725
	Strathconon Social and Recreational Society To purchase kitchen equipment to allow catering at large events	£1,700
	Contin Community Trust To hold the senior citizens' and children's Christmas parties	£1,500
	Friends of Strathconon Primary School To organise a family day out	£1,000
	Muir of Ord Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
	Fairburn Scout Group Funds towards activities and training for young Scouts	£960
	Marybank Primary School Parent Council Towards transport costs for activities	£864

Category	Organisation	Award
	Contin SWRI Towards costs for a summer outing to a historic building	£700
	Friends of Strathconon Primary School To purchase craft materials to make items for fundraising	£700
	Contin Football and Sports Club To undertake groundworks to the training area	£560
	1st Contin Brownies Towards running costs of the group	£500

Glendoe

The Glendoe community fund will invest an estimated £2.2 million in local projects between 2006 and 2031.

Opened in 2009, Glendoe was the largest conventional hydro-electric scheme to be built in over 50 years. The fund benefits a population of around 2,000 over the two community council areas of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston, and Stratherrick and Foyers. The fund is managed locally by the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company and the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust on behalf of SSE.

Annual fund payment **£111,664**

Value of applications **£89,165**

Awards approved **£54,643**

Total value of projects **£88,865**

80% Fund demand **£1.63 per £1 Fund leverage** **30% Capital** **70% Revenue**

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Sport and recreation

41%
4%
32%
13%



Category	Organisation	Award
	Individual energy efficiency grant x 3 Three individual energy efficiency grants	£5,383
	Glenmoriston Shooting Ground To purchase three new clay traps	£5,000
	Educational bursary x 18 Eighteen education related travel and resource cost bursaries	£4,067
	Fort Augustus Lunch Club Funds to subsidise a weekly lunch club	£4,000
	Stratherrick Public Hall Final installment towards roof repairs	£2,685
	Friends of Kilchuumen Academy To provide an educational trip	£2,625
	Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council To keep residents informed of community council business	£2,408
	Fort Augustus Senior Citizens To subsidise various activities for elderly residents	£2,400
	Glenmoriston Children's Committee To fund various classes and hold a halloween party	£2,360
	Glenmoriston Senior Citizens Funds to subsidise a lunch club	£2,100
	Foyers Fire Brigade To hold the annual community firework display	£2,000
	Glengarry Shinty Club Towards transport costs and a new grass cutter	£1,875
	Stratherrick Primary School Parent Council Towards various activities and related transport costs	£1,775



Positive impact

Category	Organisation	Award
■	Loch Ness Luvvies To hold amateur dramatic productions for the community	£1,500
■	Glenmoriston Senior Citizens Funding towards a festive meal and two outings	£1,500
■	Friends of Kilchuimen Academy Towards costs of a school trip for seven pupils	£1,400
■	Foyers Primary School Towards various activities and transport costs for a ski trip	£1,325
■	Boleskine Community Care Group To run the monthly senior citizens' lunch club	£1,200
■	Fort Augustus Parish Church Congregational Board To hold a Ceilidh and purchase a dishwasher	£1,175
■	Fort Augustus Parish Church Congregational Board To upgrade windows in the church used by the community	£1,000
■	Stratherrick Public Hall To install CCTV to protect the defibrillator and hall	£848
■	Boleskine Community Care Group Funding for training to establish a care at home service	£800
■	1st Stratherrick Guides Towards various activities and outings	£785
■	Fèis Gleann Albainn To cover transport costs for local children attending the Fèis	£720
■	1st Stratherrick Rainbow Unit Towards various activities, classes and craft resource packs	£583
■	Stratherrick and Foyers Primary Schools To purchase equipment for orienteering	£520
■	1st Fort Augustus Brownies Funding towards three trips	£500
■	Children's Christmas Party To hold the annual children's Christmas party	£450
■	1st Fort Augustus Guides and Senior Section To fund four events over the next year	£445
■	Netball Club To run a weekly netball club	£385
■	1st Fort Augustus Rainbow Unit To cover running costs and an outing	£300
■	1st Stratherrick Brownies Towards various activities, classes and hall rental	£261
■	The Fort Augustus Times To produce a newsletter commemorating the centenary of WWI	£200
■	Foyers Nursery To cover the transport costs of a nursery outing	£69

Kingairloch

The Kingairloch community fund will provide around £325,000 to invest in local projects over its lifetime.

Kingairloch is one of SSE's smaller hydro-electric schemes. The annual value of the fund is around £6,670, benefitting an estimated population of 3,200 across the community council areas of Ardgour, Sunart and Morvern. The fund is administered by the Highland Council on behalf of SSE.

Category	Organisation	Award
■	Highland Council – community fund allowance To distribute funds on behalf of SSE	£6,672

Bu

Bu wind farm was decommissioned in March 2015.

A final community benefit payment of £12,000 was made to the community.

Category	Organisation	Award
■	Stronsay Community Association – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£12,000

Perthshire

SSE has three developments in the Perthshire region covered by two community funds. With an installed capacity of 220MW between the three developments, over £13 million will be invested in local projects.



Spurness

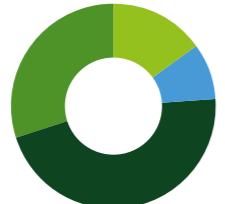
The Spurness community fund will provide over £600,000 to invest in local projects between 2004 and 2029.

The fund benefits just over 500 people in the community council area of Sanday.

Annual fund payment	£26,878
Value of applications	£9,911
Awards approved	£9,737
Total value of projects	£10,494
37% Fund demand	£1.08 per £1 Fund leverage
74% Capital	26% Revenue

Fund allocation by category

Community facilities and services
Culture, heritage and tourism
Education and youth development
Sport and recreation

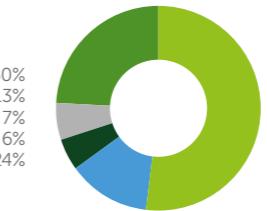


Annual fund payment	£518,397
Value of applications	£840,515
Awards approved	£471,313
Total value of projects	£2,391,530
162% Fund demand	£5.07 per £1 Fund leverage
73% Capital	27% Revenue



Fund allocation by category

Community facilities and services
Culture, heritage and tourism
Education and youth development
Skills and employment
Sport and recreation



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Locus Breadalbane For major renovations to Aberfeldy Town Hall (2 year grant)	£100,000
■	Breadalbane Heritage Society Towards specialist display cabinets for the library	£30,000
■	Dunkeld and Birnam Recreation Club To regrade and resurface the car park	£24,125
■	Heartland FM To cover one year's core funding	£24,000
■	Aberfeldy Tennis Club To provide an enclosed mini tennis court and hitting wall	£22,800
■	The United Lodge of Dunkeld No 14 Towards internal and external building repairs	£20,000
■	The Bike Station To run an afterschool bicycle mechanic course	£20,000
■	Breadalbane Football Club To purchase a mower and cover servicing costs	£18,334
■	Kenmore and District Sports Association To resurface the car park and provide disabled access	£15,135
■	Logierait Bridge Company To replace the bridge timbers	£15,000
■	Aberfeldy Parish Church (The Breathe Project) To run various activities for the youth club (3 year grant)	£15,000
■	Highland Perthshire Cycling To support running costs of two cycling events in 2015	£12,056
■	Tayside Mountain Rescue Team To purchase an all-terrain quad bike and a trailer	£11,000
■	Highland Perthshire Communities Partnership To pilot a high speed broadband project for rural communities	£11,000
■	Birks Cinema Trust To employ a community development officer	£10,800
■	Perth Autism Support To run activities and support for children with autism	£10,000
■	Explore Aberfeldy Tourism Association To produce the Explore Aberfeldy magazine	£10,000
■	Dunkeld and Birnam Tennis Club To purchase portable floodlights	£8,527
■	Breadalbane Stay and Play To carry out improvements to the Scout hut garden	£5,260
■	Birnam Arts Funding to hold a special exhibition	£5,000
■	Amulree Village Hall Trust Fund To undertake a feasibility study for a hall extension	£5,000
■	Breadalbane Strathay Youth Football Club Towards establishing new youth football teams	£5,000
■	Birnam Arts Towards running costs of the 2015 Tummel and Tay Festival	£5,000
■	Dull Biodynamic Vegetable Project To purchase a polytunnel and cover project co-ordinator costs	£5,000
■	Aberfeldy Golf Club To support a young greenkeeping apprentice for 12 months	£5,000
■	Dull and Weem Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £500	£5,000
■	Aberfeldy Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £500	£5,000
■	Mid Atholl, Strathay and Grandtully Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £500	£5,000

Category	Organisation	Award
■	Kenmore and District Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £500	£5,000
■	Dunkeld and Birnam Golf Club To resurface weather eroded pathways on the course	£4,840
■	Dunkeld and Birnam Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £500	£4,827
■	Perth and Kinross Business Community Support Group Delivery of a SQA Employability Awards programme	£4,318
■	Aberfeldy Community Choir Towards the running costs of the choir	£4,275
■	Dunkeld and Birnam in Bloom Funding for Phase 2 of the St Ninians Garden project	£4,156
■	Hightland Perthshire Clay Shooting Club To purchase equipment for the club	£3,030
■	Aberfeldy Festive Committee To hold Christmas and New Year celebrations in Aberfeldy	£2,500
■	Heartland Film Society To support the running costs of the annual Film Festival	£2,500
■	Music in Hospitals To provide eight live concerts in two healthcare units	£2,080
■	Heartland Film Society Funding for a film festival and workshops	£2,000
■	Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology To update a feasibility study for a new research centre	£2,000
■	Aberfeldy and District Junior Agricultural Club Towards holding the club's 70th anniversary celebration	£1,000
■	Dunkeld and Birnam Events Group To provide entertainment at an annual festival event	£750

Drumderg

An estimated £2.6 million will be invested through the Drumderg community fund in local projects over its lifetime.

The fund serves a population of around 3,700 over the two community council areas of Alyth and Mount Blair.

Annual fund payment	£98,033
Value of applications	£118,799
Awards approved	£107,723
Total value of projects	£346,321
121% Fund demand	£3.21 per £1 Fund leverage
59% Capital	41% Revenue

Fund allocation by category

Community facilities and services
Culture, heritage and tourism
Education and youth development
Sport and recreation
Environment and conservation



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Alyth Development Trust To support the salary costs of two staff members for 18 months	£20,085
■	The Alyth Friends of Guiding Hut Committee Towards interior works to the new Guide hut	£20,000

Positive impact

Category	Organisation	Award
■	North East of North Contribution to an arts programme based around the Cateran Trail	£10,000
■	Mount Blair Community Development Trust To build and upgrade a path network around Kirkmichael	£10,000
■	Kirkmichael Session House and Open Learning Centre For external repair works to the Session House	£10,000
■	North East of North Towards the creation of the Alyth Story Box arts initiative	£7,576
■	Alyth and District Pipe Band To purchase new equipment and instruments for the band	£5,226
■	Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance Funding towards the increased provision of services in the area	£5,000
■	Glenshee Tourist Association For a feasibility study into the restoration of a derelict hotel	£5,000
■	Alyth Musical Society To purchase spotlights and stands for performances	£2,903
■	BOOKMARK To run a series of creative writing workshops	£2,830
■	Alyth Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £300	£2,200
■	Alyth 45th Perthshire Scout Group To purchase equipment and install heating in the Scout hut toilets	£2,000
■	Keep the Glens Fit Towards the costs of running regular keep fit classes	£1,770
■	Kirkmichael and District SWRI To purchase two sets of indoor curling equipment	£1,098
■	Mount Blair Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £300	£1,055
■	Alyth Church Scottish Country Dance Group To purchase a new CD with integrated speaker and radio mic	£980

Argyll and Bute



SSE currently operates one development in the Argyll and Bute region. The Tangy wind farm has an installed capacity of 18.7MW and is expected to generate £160,000 in community benefit funding over its lifetime.

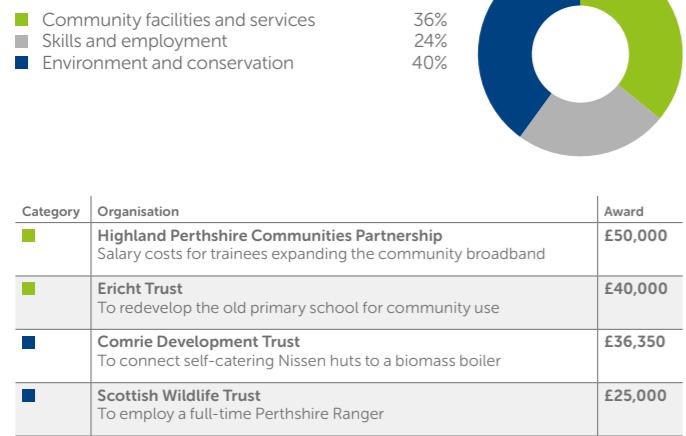
Sustainable Development Fund – Perth and Kinross

The Perth and Kinross Sustainable Development Fund has a current estimated value of £2 million over its lifetime.

Depending on construction of SSE's wind farm portfolio this value could rise. The fund serves the whole population of the Perth and Kinross region, estimated at 146,600. It is expected to open for applications every three years.

Annual fund payment	£250,000
Value of applications	£1,523,695
Awards approved	£249,122
Total value of projects	£6,875,620
609% Fund demand	£27.60 per £1 Fund leverage
46% Capital	54% Revenue

Fund allocation by category



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust Towards a rural skills programme for young people	£24,700
■	GrowBiz To run a mentoring programme for self employed local people	£18,100
■	Perth and Kinross Business Community Support To deliver a SQA Employability Award for 24 young people	£17,272
■	Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust To upgrade the Cateran Trail and organise guided walks	£15,000
■	Crieff Community Trust Towards path improvements in a community-owned woodland	£12,700
■	Pitlochry in Bloom (Path Group) To upgrade a path running along the shores of Loch Faskally	£10,000

Ayrshire



This region hosts two SSE developments, including Hadyard Hill wind farm, the UK's biggest on its completion in 2006. Community funds in this region cover developments with a combined installed capacity of around 140MW, with £3.3 million to be invested over their lifetime.

Hunterston

The Hunterston community fund will provide £250,000 over five years to invest in community and charitable projects.

Hunterston is Scotland's first offshore wind turbine test facility. The fund benefits a population of around 19,000 over the four community council areas of Cumbrae, Fairlie, Largs and West Kilbride.

Annual fund payment	£50,000
Value of applications	£58,981
Awards approved	£41,075
Total value of projects	£163,715
118% Fund demand	£3.99 per £1 Fund leverage
73% Capital	27% Revenue

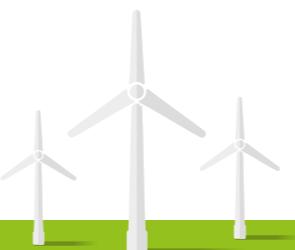
Fund allocation by category

Community facilities and services
Culture, heritage and tourism
Education and youth development
Sport and recreation
Environment and conservation



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Fairlie Bowling Club To upgrade the club's parking area	£6,000
■	West Kilbride Community Sports Club Towards developing a community sports hub	£5,000
■	Barrfields Theatre User Group To install a state-of-the-art sound system for performances	£3,000
■	Largs Academy Towards staging costs of a community musical production	£3,000
■	Largs Bowling Club To hold a bowling competition for 120 school children	£2,500
■	Fairlie Community Trust To level and resurf a sports area at a local park	£2,496
■	Largs Helter Skelter For repair works to the Helter Skelter teenage cafe building	£2,000
■	Cumbrae Support Team For supplies and training to set up the Cumbrae Support Team	£2,000
■	West Kilbride Environmental Group Towards new hanging baskets for the town floral display	£2,000
■	Fairlie Community Trust Towards a feasibility study into developing a heritage centre	£1,761
■	Largs Community Council To purchase equipment to establish Largs resilience team	£1,000
■	Largs Viking Festival Towards entertainment costs for the Largs Viking Festival 2014	£1,000
■	The Largs Initiative To produce an events guide for Largs and Millport	£1,000
■	Isle of Cumbrae Initiative Community Company To provide a composting toilet for Cumbrae community garden	£1,000
■	Cumbrae Community Council To support the costs of the 2014 Commonwealth Baton event	£1,000
■	Cumbrae Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Largs Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	West Kilbride Brownies For an outdoor activity weekend at the Guide Centre	£995
■	West Kilbride Primary School To create raised vegetable beds at the school	£950

*Includes multi-year grants for future years



Positive impact

Category	Organisation	Award
■	Largs Events To stage a family fun weekend in Largs	£500
■	Music in West Kilbride To sponsor a series of classic concerts	£500
■	West Kilbride out of School Care To provide scooters and safety equipment for 3-12 year olds	£461
■	West Kilbride Village Hall For the extension of the heating system in the hall	£456
■	Poo on My Shoe For the provision of bag dispensers to encourage cleaner streets	£456

Toddleburn

The Toddleburn community fund will provide over £2 million for investment in local projects over its lifetime.

The fund serves a population of around 1,800 over the three community council areas of Heriot, Oxton and Channelkirk, and Parish of Stow.

Annual fund payment **£77,154**

Value of applications **£143,317**

Awards approved **£138,868***

Total value of projects **£870,696**

186%
Fund demand **£6.27 per £1** Fund leverage **96%** Capital **4%** Revenue

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Education and youth development
- Sport and recreation



Scottish Borders

This region currently hosts three SSE's developments. With a combined installed capacity of 43.6MW, over £4.2 million will be invested in local projects over the lifetime of the funds.



Langhope Rig

The Langhope Rig community fund will provide over £1 million to invest in local projects over its lifetime.

The community benefit fund serves a population of around 2,400 over the three community council areas of Lilliesleaf, Ashkirk and Midlem; Ettrick and Yarrow; and Upper Teviotdale and Borthwick Water.

Annual fund payment **£40,000**

Value of applications **£67,176**

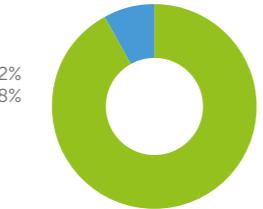
Awards approved **£25,195**

Total value of projects **£203,906**

168%
Fund demand **£8.09 per £1** Fund leverage **100%** Capital

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Currie Memorial Public Hall Towards the refurbishment of Currie Memorial Public Hall	£10,000
■	Midlem Village Hall Committee To purchase a storage shed and outdoor equipment	£7,680
■	Friends of Ettrick School To enhance exhibitions at the old school museum	£2,000
■	Ettrick and Yarrow Parish Church of Scotland To cover printing costs for the community newsletter	£1,720
■	Upper Teviotdale and Borthwick Water Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Lilliesleaf, Ashkirk and Midlem Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Ettrick and Yarrow Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Kirkhope Parish Hall Committee To replace the windows in the hall	£795

Clyde Borders

The Clyde Borders community fund will invest around £1.2 million in community projects over its lifetime.

This fund is one of three that benefit as a result of SSE's Clyde wind farm and serves around 1,000 people in the two community council areas of Skirling and Upper Tweed.

Annual fund payment **£38,001**

Value of applications **£50,108**

Awards approved **£35,733**

Total value of projects **£186,158**

132%
Fund demand **£5.21 per £1** Fund leverage **87%** Capital **13%** Revenue

*Includes use of remaining balance from previous financial year



Fund allocation by category

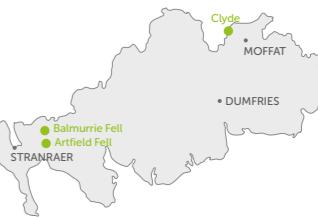
- Community facilities and services
- Education and youth development
- Environment and conservation



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Ettrick and Yarrow Valleys Tourism Group To employ a tourism promotion officer (3 year grant)	£20,000
■	Currie Memorial Public Hall Towards the refurbishment of Currie Memorial Public Hall	£13,000
■	Sprouton Coronation Hall For the installation of solar panels	£5,000

Dumfries and Galloway

The Dumfries and Galloway region hosts several community benefit funds, including one which benefits from the Clyde wind farm development. With a combined installed capacity of 47.5MW, over £5.5 million will be invested between the three funds over their lifetime.



Clyde Dumfries and Galloway

The Clyde Dumfries and Galloway community fund will invest around £4.3 million in community projects over its lifetime.

One of three funds that benefit as a result of SSE's Clyde wind farm, the Clyde Dumfries and Galloway community benefit fund serves around 12,600 people in the following community council areas: Carronbridge, Closeburn, Durisdeer, Johnstone, Kirkconnel and Kelloholm, Kirkmichael, Kirkpatrick and Juxta, Moffat and District, Royal Burgh of Sanquhar and District, Thornhill, Wanphray, and Wanlockhead. The fund is administered by Foundation Scotland on behalf of SSE.

Annual fund payment **£161,125**

Value of applications **£279,827**

Awards approved **£198,820***

Total value of projects **£3,068,110**

174%
Fund demand **£15.43 per £1** Fund leverage **84%** Capital **16%** Revenue

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Sport and recreation
- Environment and conservation



Sustainable Development Fund – Scottish Borders

The Scottish Borders Sustainable Development Fund has a current estimated value of £1 million over its lifetime.

The fund serves the whole population of the Scottish Borders region, estimated at 114,000. It is expected to open for applications every three years.

Annual fund payment **£125,000**

Value of applications **£498,054**

Awards approved **£123,000**

Total value of projects **£553,345**

398%
Fund demand **£4.50 per £1** Fund leverage **69%** Capital **31%** Revenue

Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Environment and conservation



Fund allocation by category

- Community facilities and services
- Culture, heritage and tourism
- Education and youth development
- Sport and recreation
- Environment and conservation



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Wanphray Community Council To replace the kitchen and meeting room in the village hall	£70,590
■	Johnstonebridge Centre and Community Development Trust Ltd To replace the old village hall with a new community centre	£20,000
■	Kello Rovers Football Club To renew the drainage system at Nithside Park, Kirkconnel	£12,000
■	The Food Train To buy an additional van for the shopping delivery service	£11,500
■	Moffat War Memorial Restoration Group To provide three benches and upgrade parking at the memorial	£9,148

*Includes use of remaining balance from previous financial year



Positive impact

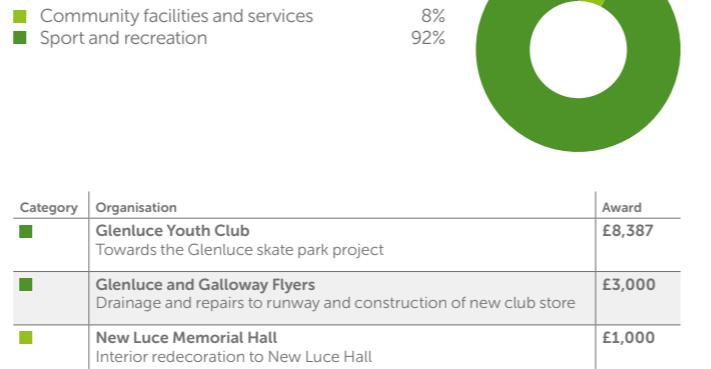
Category	Organisation	Award
■	Thornhill Music Festival Towards the running costs of the music festival	£7,000
■	Carronbridge Hall Fund To replace windows in the hall and fit blinds	£4,708
■	Wanlockhead Village Council For feasibility studies into a hydro and wind turbine project	£4,000
■	Kirkconnel Parish Heritage Society Funds towards the purchase of a new printer	£3,000
■	Johnstonebridge Centre and Community Development Trust Ltd Towards developing a garden with community allotments	£2,975
■	Thornhill Playgroup Towards staff training, uniforms and waterproof children's clothing	£2,886
■	Lowther Heritage To set up an IT system for digital archiving	£2,860
■	Thornhill and District Community Transport To cover costs of providing community transport for one year	£2,694
■	Nethermill School Parent Council To purchase equipment for the Forest Classroom project	£2,293
■	Jazz Scotland Towards holding a jazz event in Moffat	£2,275
■	Buccleuch and Queensberry Caledonia Pipe Band To purchase outfits for band members	£2,183
■	Wamphray Community Council Towards professional fees for the renovation of the village hall	£2,142
■	Moffat Childcare For a baby-changing room to meet health and safety standards	£2,124
■	SWRI Dumfriesshire Federation Show Committee To contribute to the costs of the 2015 Federation Show	£2,000
■	Queensberry Initiative Towards running costs of the pupil minibuses and activity fees	£2,000
■	Moffat Short Mat Bowling Club To purchase two new mats and a bowl target	£1,700
■	Carronbridge Community Council To hold the seniors' Christmas party and the 2015 gala	£1,700
■	Music in Hospitals To provide three performances for residents of five healthcare units	£1,680
■	Kirkconnel and Kelloholm Senior Citizens Outing Association To contribute to the cost of a senior citizens' outing	£1,500
■	Johnstone Community Council For land maintenance and events for seniors and children	£1,469
■	Wallace Hall Primary School Parent Council To fund a willow installation in the school playground	£1,434
■	Wanlockhead Village Council Towards running costs of the village council	£1,121
■	Nithsdale Ringcraft Showdog Training Club For the purchase of equipment	£1,114
■	Sound Force To hire equipment for the annual music festival	£1,100
■	Thornhill Gala Committee To contribute to the cost of holding the 2015 gala	£1,000
■	Nith Valley Leaf Trust – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Kirkconnel and Kelloholm Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Royal Burgh of Sanquhar and District Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Carronbridge Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Johnstone Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000
■	Kirkmichael Community Council – microgrant allowance To award microgrants with a maximum value of £250	£1,000

Artfield Fell

The Artfield Fell community fund is expected to provide around £700,000 over its lifetime for local community projects. The fund serves an estimated 1,550 people in the two community council areas of Old Luce and New Luce. Funds are administered by Dumfries and Galloway Council on behalf of SSE.

Annual fund payment	£24,373
Value of applications	£12,387
Awards approved	£12,387
Total value of projects	£87,731

Fund allocation by category



Balmurrie Fell

The Balmurrie Fell community fund will provide £560,000 over its lifetime for local community projects.

The fund serves an estimated 2,125 people in the three community council areas of Kirkcowan, New Luce and Old Luce. Funds are administered by Dumfries and Galloway Council on behalf of SSE.

Annual fund payment	£22,750
Value of applications	£28,945
Awards approved	£28,945*
Total value of projects	£52,032



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Glen of Luce Community Association For roof repairs to the Auchennalig Community Hall	£15,000
■	Kirkcowan Community Council To purchase community resilience equipment	£10,945
■	Kirkcowan Community Council To buy a container for storing community resilience equipment	£3,000

South Lanarkshire

The South Lanarkshire region is home to the Clyde South Lanarkshire community fund, the single largest community benefit fund in the UK. The fund is expected to invest around £28 million over its lifetime.

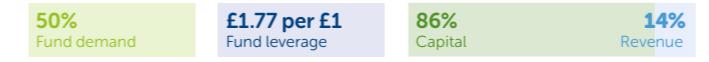


Clyde South Lanarkshire

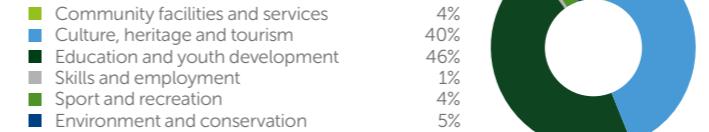
The Clyde South Lanarkshire community fund provides over £840,000 per year to invest in community projects in the local area.

This fund is the largest of three which benefit from SSE's Clyde wind farm and serves an estimated 4,900 people in the community council areas of Biggar; Crawford; Duneaton; Leadhills; Liberton, Quothquan and Thankerton; and Symington. The fund is administered by South Lanarkshire Council on behalf of SSE.

Annual fund payment	£843,370
Value of applications	£425,609
Awards approved	£414,224
Total value of projects	£733,113



Fund allocation by category



*Includes use of remaining balance from previous financial year

Category	Organisation	Award
■	Crawford Community Council To upgrade the playpark in Crawford	£148,206
■	Biggar Museum Trust To provide special exhibitions in the new museum	£100,000
■	Rigside and Rural Communities Nursery To run the stories and songs programme at various nurseries	£28,325
■	Leadhills Silver Band For the purchase of new instruments	£23,174
■	Wiston Community Enhancement Group To develop and landscape areas of the village for community use	£10,000
■	Leadhills Miners Library For interior and exterior repairs and improvements	£9,220
■	Biggar Theatre Workshop To upgrade the stage to include raised platforming	£5,000
■	1st Biggar Tinto Scout Group To purchase six kayaks for the group	£5,000
■	Biggar Little Festival To purchase promotional banners for the festival	£5,000
■	Covington and Thankerton Beekeepers Association Towards equipment and promotional materials	£4,996
■	Douglas St Brides Community Group To offer a wider range of training courses at the St Brides Centre	£4,996
■	Lowther Hills Ski Club Towards a new ski lift and equipment to maintain the slopes	£4,995
■	Thankerton Improvement Group To work with local young people to produce a short film	£4,980
■	Friends of Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust To promote past and present musical talent in the local area	£4,930
■	Leadhills Village Association – Environment and Garden Group To renovate unattended ground within the village	£4,828
■	Biggar Bowling Club To upgrade the kitchen in the clubhouse	£4,770
■	Roberton WRI To run further education classes and the annual outing	£4,545
■	Abington and District Agricultural Show To upgrade equipment for the show	£4,523
■	Biggar Primary and Nursery School Parent Council To purchase equipment to develop pupils' IT skills	£4,000
■	Biggar Farmers Club For the provision of a new storage unit for show equipment	£3,420
■	Biggar Twirlers To purchase twirling equipment for a dance show	£3,391
■	Friends of Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust To enhance displays at the museum	£3,311
■	Coulter WRI Towards activities and holding 95th anniversary celebrations	£2,735
■	Thankerton Bowling Club To upgrade the club's chairs and tables	£2,576
■	Roberton Gardening Club Towards running visits to a number of gardens in Argyll and Bute	£2,550
■	Biggar Embroiderers' Guild To create a wall hanging for the new Biggar Museum	£2,496
■	Biggar Free Operatives To replace the old tables and chairs	£2,417
■	Upper Clyde Church, Abington For upgrading the access path to the church	£1,954
■	Biggar Theatre Workshop To install external lighting to the Biggar Corn Exchange	£1,800
■	Duneaton Community Council Towards the creation of the community council's website	£1,704
■	Biggar Writers Group To run workshops, a writing competition and publish local works	£1,586
■	Crawford and Elvanfoot WRI To hold a social celebration marking the group's 95th anniversary	£1,250
■	Cairngryffe Everyoung Club To hold an event to celebrate the club's 35th anniversary	£1,162
■	Roberton Gardening Club To run classes in willow weaving	£383

North Lincolnshire

The North Lincolnshire region is host to Keadby wind farm, west of Scunthorpe. Keadby is the largest onshore wind farm in England, with an installed capacity of 68MW. It is expected the fund will invest £4.25 million in local projects over its lifetime.



Keadby

The Keadby community fund will provide £170,000 per year to invest in local projects.

A population of around 10,500 is served by the fund over seven parish council areas: Amcotts, Althorpe, Crowle, Eastoft, Garthorpe and Fockerby, Keadby and Luddington and Holdenby. The fund is administered by North Lincolnshire Council on SSE's behalf.

Annual fund payment	£170,000
Value of applications	£172,214
Awards approved	£137,214
Total value of projects	£290,851

101% Fund demand	£2.12 per £1 Fund leverage	75% Capital	25% Revenue
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Fund allocation by category



Category	Organisation	Award
■	Althorpe Methodist Church Towards the installation of a new energy efficient heating system	£5,022
■	Keadby and Althorpe Parish Council To lay a hedge using traditional methods at Ropery Field	£3,531
■	Isle Community Choir To cover running costs and purchase equipment for the choir	£3,000
■	Crowle Show To purchase equipment for holding the annual Crowle Show	£3,000
■	St Norberts Academy Towards a wildlife at school produce project	£3,000
■	Eastoft Primary School For an extension to the community room within the school	£3,000
■	Amcotts Parish Council To restore the Amcotts War Memorial and purchase a lawnmower	£2,753
■	St Oswalds Church, Crowle To upgrade paths and improve disabled access	£2,100
■	Crowle and Ealand Regeneration Project Ltd To purchase equipment for floral displays	£3,000
■	Amcotts Parish Council To introduce a community brochure for Amcotts	£1,000
■	Eastoft WI To hold events to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of WWI	£1,000
■	Apple of your Isle Towards the running costs of the annual apple pressing event	£427

Essex

Essex is home to SSE's three wind turbine development at the Port of Tilbury. With an installed capacity of 9.2 MW, £100,000 will be invested over the 10-year life of the fund.



Tilbury

The Tilbury community fund has an annual value of £10,000 to invest in local projects at the Port of Tilbury in Essex.

In 2012 the community fund awarded £12,000 each to the RNLI and Tilbury Regeneration Project to be paid over three instalments.

Annual fund payment	£10,000
Value of applications	n/a
Awards approved	£8,000
Total value of projects	n/a

Category	Organisation	Award
■	RNLI Gravesend Station To cover annual training costs for three crew members	£4,000
■	Tilbury Riverside Project To promote economic, social and environmental regeneration	£4,000



Fund contacts

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