

# Report

Report to:	<b>Community and Enterprise Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>9 August 2022</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Community Benefit Funds – Annual Report</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide an update on the Community Benefit Funds administered by Planning and Economic Development Services on behalf of the Council during 2021/2022

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the Community Benefit Funds administered by the Council and the grants awarded under the Renewable Energy Fund, Clyde Wind Farm Fund and Quarry Funds in 2021/2022 be noted; and
- (2) that the completion of a publicity report for Community Benefit grants 2021/2022 be approved.

## 3. Background

3.1. The Council has a well-established mechanism for the collection and distribution of community benefit related to wind farm developments. This was initially established following the approval of a report by the Executive Committee entitled Community Benefit (Establishment of a Renewable Energy Fund) on the 3 March 2004.

3.2. The Council administers the community benefit element of the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) for 42 wind farms within South Lanarkshire and the community benefit for Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF) and 5 operational quarries. Operators of larger windfarm developments provide recurring annual fund contributions, formalised through legal agreements, whilst smaller developments such as single wind turbines sites, may consider providing a 'capitalised' one off community benefit payment. Community groups, social enterprises, trusts, public organisations and not for profit organisations within 10km of contributing wind farm provider are eligible to apply. Over the seven-year period 2015/2016 to 2021/2022 the Council has made awards of £8.8m from the Community Benefit Funds to 645 projects.

3.3. The agreements around the provision of community benefit oblige the Council to administer these funds using the REF mechanism. This task is undertaken by Planning and Economic Development Services who are responsible for all aspects, from securing the contributions from the developers, advising potential applicants, assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered. The Service continually seeks

ways to maximise the community benefit for all eligible communities across South Lanarkshire.

- 3.4. Between the various funds Planning and Economic Development Services administered £2.7m of community benefit income in 2021/2022. With the exception of one-off capitalised payments, the funds receive income for the duration of each wind farm's operational life and, typically, recurring annual payments which rise in line with the Retail Price Index. The operation of the Council's Community Benefit Policy, with emphasis on the renewable energy sector has proven to be a success with communities accessing funding for a diverse range of locally based projects.
- 3.5. Alongside these established wind farm developments and their associated community benefit funds, there is a number of other potential wind farm developments throughout South Lanarkshire which are being considered in the statutory planning process. It is, therefore, possible that, subject to appropriate agreements being put in place, the level of community benefit funding available to communities will increase over the next 10 years. If promoted and managed well, this increase will have a major positive impact on the eligible communities.
- 3.6. Although Planning and Economic Development Services lead in the delivery of community benefit funds, there is a significant level of consultation and cooperation across a wide range of Council services. This ensures that applicants receive support and advice to ensure the projects being developed meet the needs and aspirations of the community; are of a high quality and are delivered efficiently and effectively.
- 3.7. It should be noted that there are also windfarm funds within South Lanarkshire which are administered out with the scope of the Council's Renewable Energy Fund. These include SSE Clyde extension, Auchrobert Community Benefit Fund, Ventient Galawhistle Community Benefit Fund, Ventient Glenkernie Community Benefit Fund and Kypemuir and Banks Kypemuir Community Benefit Fund.

#### **4. REF Projects Approved During 2021/2022**

- 4.1. There are currently 41 windfarm developments contributing to the REF operating across South Lanarkshire at the following locations:- Andershaw, Auchrobert, Bank End Rig, Blacklaw, Blantyre Muir, Burnbrae, Calder Water, Climpy, Couplaw, Dungavel, Dykehead, Eastertown, Gallawhistle, Garelwood, Greenwall, Greenhall View, Haspielaw, High Blackwood Yard, High Dyke, JJ's Farm, Lampits, Letham, Millburn, Muirhall, Muirhall Extension, Middlemuir, Netherfauldhouse, Nether Kypeside, North Brackenridge, Nutberry, Pates Hill, Rench Farm, Tanhill, Upper Haywood, West Browncastle, Westtown, Whitehill, Whitelee, Woodlands, Yards Farm, Kypemuir, Douglas West.
- 4.2. During 2021/2022, contributions of £1,745,850 were received from the operating companies, incorporating both annual payments and "one off" payments.
- 4.3. A diverse range of projects across South Lanarkshire have been supported. A complete list of projects supported in the last financial year is attached at Appendix 1. A total of 52 projects have been supported with total grants of £1,068,935 towards total project costs of £2,129,851 giving an average grant award of £20,556 towards an average project cost of £40,958 at a 50% intervention rate.
- 4.4. At the Executive Committee on 21 November 2018 a series of amendments to the REF were approved. One of these was the introduction of a micro grant fund in 2019/2020 of up to £5,000 per annum available to Community Councils or equivalent

community organisations to award small grants of up to £500 locally. This was established for an initial 2-year period and at the Community and Enterprise Committee of 16 February 2021 it was agreed to continue the micro grants after 2020/2021. In 2021/2022, 25 Community Councils or similar organisations such as resident associations and community trusts were awarded micro grants totalling £94,912. Details of these grant awards are set out in Appendix 2.

- 4.5. Taking REF grants and the micro grants awards together (52+25) a total of 77 grants were awarded during 2021/2022 with a total value of £1,163,847 (£1,068,935+£94,912).

## **5. Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF) Projects - 2021/2022**

- 5.1. During 2021/2022, the CWFF received total contributions of £975,046 from SSE.
- 5.2. The Fund supported 12 new projects with a combined grant award of £350,949 The overall value of these projects was £639,747 giving an average grant award of £29,245 towards an average project cost of £53,312 - a 55% intervention rate. A complete list of projects supported in the last year is attached at Appendix 3.
- 5.3. In 2017, a micro grant fund was introduced for 6 Community Councils within the area Biggar, Quothquan and Thankerton, Duneaton, Leadhills, Crawford and Elvanfoot and Symington. Community Councils could apply for up to a £5,000 grant per annum to award to small projects within their area at a maximum of £500.
- 5.4. During 2021/2022, 5 grants were made to Community Councils within the area totalling £16,349 details are provided in Appendix 4.
- 5.5. Taking Clyde grants and the micro grants awards together (12+5) a total of 17 grants were awarded with a value of £367,298 (£350,949+£16,349).

## **6. Annual Report Publicity**

- 6.1. With the purpose of raising the awareness of the Community Benefit Funds and their support of communities a publicity document for 2021/2022 will be prepared highlighting projects funded in the year or recently completed.
- 6.2. This annual report will be circulated and publicised digitally, and 100 copies will be made available for Councillors and groups. This annual report will be part of the increased publicity of the funds.

## **7. Employee Implications**

- 7.1. The administration of the fund and support to communities is undertaken by existing officers within Economic Development.

## **8. Financial Implications**

- 8.1. There are no financial implications to the Council. No funding offers are issued without income from the respective developments being in place.

## **9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 9.1. Environmental sustainability is one of the appraisal considerations and applicants are encouraged to consider and include good environmental practices within projects. In the current year there are a number of projects which have helped deliver environmental improvements or energy efficiency for groups. These include:-

- ◆ Community Action Lanarkshire      Sustainable Travel
- ◆ Lunar gymnastics club              New efficient boiler

- ◆ Crawford John Public Hall                      Solar Photo-Voltaic Panels with battery storage
- ◆ Community Action Lanarkshire              Carbon Reduction

## **10. Other Implications**

10.1. The risks falling on the Council in the administration of Community Benefits are reputational. Management of the funds are subject to the Council's normal financial scrutiny and reporting arrangements. By not undertaking this work, the Council would not be acting consistently in support of its adopted policy and there would be a risk that funds would not be distributed timeously and equitably to eligible community organisations.

## **11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

11.2. All necessary and appropriate consultations are undertaken within the Council, with partner organisations and community groups.

**David Booth**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

19 July 2022

### **Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes**

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs
- ◆ Ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable
- ◆ We will work to put people first and reduce inequality
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress and improve
- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities
- ◆ People live the healthiest lives possible

### **Previous References**

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee - 16 February 2021 - REF Micro Grants Fund
- ◆ Executive Committee - 24 June 2020 - Renewable Energy and Community Benefit COVID-19 update and extension
- ◆ Executive Committee - 13 May 2020 - Renewable Energy and Community Benefit COVID-19
- ◆ Executive Committee – 21 November 2018 - Renewable Energy Fund Community Benefit Fund Proposed Amendments
- ◆ Enterprise Services Committee– Community Benefits Funds Annual Report -16 May 2020
- ◆ Executive Committee – Clyde Windfarm Community Benefit Fund – Proposed Amendments to Fund Management and Administration 8 March 2017
- ◆ Executive Committee 3 March 2004 – Community Benefit and the establishment of a Renewable Energy Fund

### **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ List of all projects supported by the REF Community Benefit Funds
- ◆ List of all projects supported by the Clyde Windfarm Community Fund
- ◆ REF Clyde COVID-19 Support Fund

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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## Appendix 1 – REF Grants 2021/2022

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost (£)	Grant Approved (£)	Intervention Rate %
Douglas St. Bride's Community Group	Andershaw	Community	Douglas	PPE	7762.35	7762.32	100
Coalburn Silver Band	Andershaw	Community	Coalburn	Instruments	3035.21	2835.21	93
Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association	Andershaw	Community	Crawfordjohn	Feasibility Study	6480.00	6480.00	100
Rigside and Douglas Water Tenants and Residents Association	Andershaw	Community	Rigside	War Memorial	2278.80	2278.80	100
Douglas Water Golf Club	Andershaw	Sport	Rigside	Green Regeneration	9152.33	9152.33	100
Leadhills Family Action Group	Andershaw	Community	Leadhills	Podcast Production	9605.60	9605.60	100
Community Action Lanarkshire	Andershaw	Community	Douglas Water	Seating Solar Bins	7282.52	7282.52	100
Roberton Social Group - RSG	Andershaw	Community	Roberton	Hall Refurbishment	236071.89	102535.95	43
Lesmahagow Community Football Club	Auchrobert	Sport	Lesmahagow	Business Plan	9660.00	9660.00	100
Lesmahagow Bowling Club	Auchrobert	Sport	Lesmahagow	Disability Access	9440.00	7440.00	79
Lanark Community Development Trust	Blacklaw	Trust	Lanark	Sculpture	50000.00	19999.00	40
Milton Rover Youth Football Club	Blacklaw	Sport	Carluke	Covid Support	9521.00	9521.00	100
Carluke Development Trust	Blacklaw	Trust	Carluke	Community Garden	100078.00	15928.00	16
Discover Lanark Limited	Blacklaw	Community	Lanark	Christmas Events	18958.00	9479.00	50
Rotary Club of Lanark	Blacklaw	Community	Lanark	Christmas Tree Fixing	11689.97	5844.98	50
New Lanark Trust	Blacklaw	Trust	Lanark	Conference Equipment	22006.00	10000.00	45
Clydesdale Community Initiatives	Blacklaw	Community	Lanark	Barn Extension	195199.03	85000.00	44
Milton Rover Youth Football Club	Blacklaw	Sport	Carluke	Flood Lights	60164.00	19500.00	32
Carluke Development Trust -	Blacklaw	Trust	Carluke	Miller House Purchase	121261.54	9261.54	8
Families Like Us	Blantyre Muir	Community	Hamilton	Counselling Room	9960.00	9960.00	100
Strathaven Rugby Football Club	Calder Water	Sport	Strathaven	New Changing Facilities	484738.72	272126.22	56
Climate Action Strathaven	Calder Water	Community	Strathaven	Audio/Visual Equipment	2854.80	2854.80	100
Strathaven Town Mill Arts and Heritage Centre	Calder Water	Community	Strathaven	Theatre Sanitising	3432.00	3432.00	100
Creative Strathaven CIC	Calder Water	Community	Strathaven	Storage Facility	2453.00	2453.00	100
Avondale Radio (FRETS)	Calder Water	Community	Strathaven	Broadcast equipment	2299.00	2299.00	100
Families Like Us	Clyde Dev Fund	Community	Hamilton	Family Packs	4724.00	4724.00	100
Larkhall Thistle AFC	Clyde Dev Fund	Sport	Larkhall	Covid Support	1880.06	1880.06	100
East Kilbride Men's Shed	Clyde Dev Fund	Community	East Kilbride	Covid Support	2854.58	2854.58	100
Blackwood Estate Community Association	Dungavel	Community	Blackwood	Footpath Feasibility	5352.00	5352.00	100

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost (£)	Grant Approved (£)	Intervention Rate %
Glassford Community Group	Dungavel	Community	Glassford	Asset transfer	90994.85	41394.85	45
Lunar gymnastics club	Kype Muir	Sport	Lesmahagow	Heating System	11407.00	10000.00	88
Stonehouse Scout and Guide Hall Committee	Kype Muir	Community	Stonehouse	Hall Refurbishment	43397.40	16397.40	38
Sandford Village Hall Association	Kype Muir	Community	Sandford	Hall Refurbishment	10597.00	5298.50	50
Hope Hub Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill	Kypemuir	Community	Blackwood	Sensory Garden	26781.86	14281.86	53
Coalburn Miners Welfare Charitable Society	Kypemuir	Community	Coalburn	Hall Refurbishment	130872.00	65872.00	50
Community Action Lanarkshire	Middle Muir	Trust	Douglas Water	Sustainable Travel	57731.00	19999.00	35
Glenbuck and Douglas Football Academy	Middle Muir	Sport	Douglas	Feasibility Study	5881.20	5881.20	100
Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association	Middle Muir	Community	Crawfordjohn	Solar/Batteries and Boiler	166259.08	124694.31	75
Douglas Victoria Bowling Club	Middle Muir	Sport	Douglas	Disabled Green Access	23212.00	10000.00	43
Biggar and District Men's Shed	Muirhall extension	Community	Dunsyre	Feasibility Study	7164.00	7164.00	100
St Mary's Parent Council	Netherfauldhouse Eastertown	Community	Lanark	MUGA Upgrade	32078.45	17078.45	53
Lesmahagow Farmers Society	Nutberry	Community	Lesmahagow	Annual Show Equipment	10049.00	10000.00	99
Douglas Community Development Company	Nutberry	Community	Douglas	Park Improvements	7584.00	1896.00	25
Coalburn Miners Welfare Society	Nutberry	Community	Coalburn	Signage	9956.40	9956.40	100
Green Action Trust	West Brown Castle	Trust	East Kilbride	Boardwalk Refurbishment	53297.73	19900.00	37
Kirktonholme Pavilion	West Brown Castle	Sport	East Kilbride	Irrigation	5274.00	5000.00	95
East Kilbride Indoor Bowling Club	Whitelee	Sport	East Kilbride	Refurbishment	8367.05	8367.05	100
Quarter Bowling Club	Whitelee	Sport	Quarter	Refurbishment	5400.00	5400.00	100
Calderwood Baptist Church	Whitelee	Community	East Kilbride	Sensory Garden	1251.83	1251.83	100
112th Lanarkshire Scout Group	Whitelee	Community	Hamilton	Feasibility Study	2040.00	2040.00	100
East Kilbride Community Trust	Whitelee	Trust	East Kilbride	Sensory Garden	7790.79	7290.79	94
Clyde Valley Orchard Cooperative	Woodlands	Community	Lanark	Awareness Raising	2270.00	2270.00	100

## Appendix 2 – REF Micro Grant Awards 2021/2022

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project location	Award (£)
Blackwood, Kirkmuirhill and Boghead	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Community Council	Blackwood, Kirkmuirhill and Boghead	2100.00
Coalburn Community Council	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Community Council	Coalburn	3765.00
Douglas Community Council	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Community Council	Douglas	3683.80
Lesmahagow Community Council	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Community Council	Lesmahagow	5000.00
Rigside and Douglas Water	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Residents Association	Rigside	4440.00
Sandford and Upper Avondale Community Council	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Community Council	Rigside and Douglas Water	5000.00
Stonehouse Community Council	Auchrobert (YGK50)	Community Council	Stonehouse	5000.00
Carluke Community Council	Black Law (YGK01)	Community Council	Carluke	5000.00
Forth Development Trust	Black Law (YGK01)	Trust	Forth	5000.00
Tarbrax Community Council	Black Law (YGK01)	Community Council	Tarbrax	1800.00
The Royal Burgh of Lanark Community Council	Black Law (YGK01)	Community Council	Lanark	4543.62
Burnside Community Council	Blantyre Muir (YGK29)	Community Council	Burnside	3170.00
Halfway Community Council	Blantyre Muir (YGK29)	Community Council	Halfway	5000.00
Hillhouse Community Council	Blantyre Muir (YGK29)	Community Council	Hamilton	5000.00
Uddingston Community Council	Blantyre Muir (YGK29)	Community Council	Uddingston	2900.00
Auldhouse and Chapelton Community Council	Calder Water (YGK24)	Community Council	Auldhouse and Chapelton	4400.00
Strathaven and Glassford Community Council	Calder Water (YGK24)	Community Council	Strathaven and Glassford	5000.00
St. Leonards Community Council	West Browncastle (YGK25)	Community Council	East Kilbride	500.00
Westwood Community Council	West Browncastle (YGK25)	Community Council	East Kilbride	500.00
Blantyre Community Council	Whitelees (YGK02)	Community Council	Blantyre	4995.00
Bothwell Community Council	Whitelees (YGK02)	Community Council	Bothwell	5000.00
Cambuslang Community Council	Whitelees (YGK02)	Community Council	Cambuslang	5000.00
East Mains Community Council	Whitelees (YGK02)	Community Council	East Kilbride	2000.00
Jackton and Thortonhall Community Council	Whitelees (YGK02)	Community Council	Jackton and Thortonhall	1115.00
Meikle Earnock Community Council	Whitelees (YGK02)	Community Council	Hamilton	5000.00



## Appendix 3 – Clyde Windfarm Grants

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Organisation Town		Project Cost (£)	Grant Approved (£)	Intervention Rate %
Crawford Bowling Club	Clyde	Sport	Crawford	New Clubhouse	147383.76	147383.76	100
Roberton Social Group	Clyde	Community	Roberton	Hall refurbishment	236071.89	102535.95	43
Carmichael Community Council	Clyde	Community	Carmichael	Defibrillator	1425.00	1425.00	100
ELOSCN - (Biggar After School Club)	Clyde	Community	Biggar	After School Activities	7400.00	7400.00	100
Biggar Science Festival	Clyde	Community	Biggar	Festival Activities	5739.42	5739.42	100
Thankerton Bowling Club	Clyde	Sport	Thankerton	Green Irrigation System	1452.08	1452.08	100
Thankerton Improvement Group	Clyde	Community	Biggar	Defibrillator	6744.22	6744.22	100
Biggar Bowling Club	Clyde	Sport	Biggar	Club Refurbishments	10020.67	10000.00	100
Wiston Village Hall Association SCIO	Clyde	Community	Wiston	Feasibility Study	8730.00	8730.00	100
Symington Football Club	Clyde	Sport	Symington	Feasibility/Design Study	39060.00	29295.00	75
Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association	Clyde	Community	Crawfordjohn	Solar/Batteries and Boiler	166259.08	20782.38	12
The Biggar Institute	Clyde	Community	Biggar	Refurbishment Works	9461.80	9461.80	100

## Appendix 4 – Clyde Micro Grants 2021/2022

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project location	Award (£)
Biggar Community Council	Clyde (YGK04)	Community Council	Biggar	3125.98
Carmichael Community Council	Clyde (YGK04)	Community Council	Carmichael	5000.00
Thankerton and Quothquan Community Council	Clyde (YGK04)	Community Council	Thankerton and Quothquan	5000.00
Crawford and Elvanfoot Community Council	Clyde (YGK04)	Community Council	Crawford and Elvanfoot	2824.00
Duneaton Community Council	Clyde (YGK04)	Community Council	Duneaton	400.00