

## Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund



Year 4: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023



### Headlines:

- 16 grants awarded, to a total value of £324,559
- Awards made in all four communities served by the Fund, delivering against all of the Fund's five themes.
- First Panel commissioned project underway
- £1,125,077 awarded to local projects since fund opened in 2020.

Glenlivet and Glenrinnnes – totalling £324,559. This includes an award of £25,000 to develop a footpath network in the area – the first panel commissioned project which is now underway.

Combined with funds awarded in the initial two years of grant making, 60% of the £1,884,562 provided by EDF Renewables over the Fund's first four years had been awarded by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

### Executive Summary

This report provides information and insight about Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund's third year of operation from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. With three rounds of grant making over the course of the year, awards were made for projects in each of the four communities – Cabrach, Dufftown,



*Outfit Moray delivering cycling activities in 2022*

The fund continues to support a range of projects including capital works to develop community facilities through measures to improve energy efficiency, increase storage facilities and improve access and car parks.



*Affordable housing project complete*

A wide range of community activity is also being directly supported by the fund including cycle training, arts projects, oral history and rural skills - improving health and wellbeing for all age groups.

Three key staff posts are being supported including development officers for Dufftown and Glenlivet and a heritage ranger for the Glenlivet and Inveravon area, as well as the continuing funding of youth workers with the Speyside Youth Café.

Development staff in particular are also having an impact on the scale of projects proposed in their communities with ambitious plans for affordable housing developing in Dufftown and plans for major community hall improvements in Glenlivet, among other initiatives. The community groups are also beginning to collaborate more broadly with development staff sharing knowledge and providing peer support, with an information sharing event planned for later in the year to further investigate potential for collaboration.

## **Fund Innovation - Dorenell Panel Blazing a Trail**

The Dorenell fund continues to support a wide range of projects addressing the themes and priorities set out in the initial community development plan. In the third year of grant making the panel also began to take note of projects which were not coming forward but

were still considered very much to be local priorities. With support from Foundation Scotland, a steering group was set up to address one such issue and investigate options for developing a local footpath network.

The group includes Moray Council Access Officer, the EDF Dorenell Ranger team, Crown Estate, the Glenlivet Development Officer (post funded by Dorenell Community Fund) and two of the Dorenell panel members who are also representatives of local community groups (DDCA and Glenrinnes Community Centre).



The objective of the project is to create an integrated network of paths which links the communities and also provides a valuable tourism resource that will benefit the local economy. Where possible, the routes will accommodate regular active travel though this may be limited due to the remote nature of the area and the fact that distances between the communities are considerable.

The routes will be waymarked and promoted to locals and visitors alike, with the aim of improving quality of life for residents and attracting visitors to the area. Where possible, the path works will be based on the 'light touch' principle, i.e. mostly using and upgrading existing paths to ensure minimal impact on the environment. Examples of this work would be making improvements to surfaces, drainage and access on existing

routes where necessary. Occasionally, new sections of path will be required to provide missing links in the network.

An initial desktop mapping exercise identified potential routes requiring upgrade, waymarking and, in some cases, new sections of pathway to connect the communities in the fund area. The next stage is to survey, design and cost likely routes, engage with communities, landowners and stakeholders, and create a prioritised action plan and cost estimates to deliver the path network. This work has gone out to tender and a series of consultation exercises will be held over the summer months, along with landowner discussions on access and maintenance which are key.

The study is due to be complete by end September 2023. The steering group will then plan and seek funding for the phased footpath works required to create the network as envisaged, including plans for long term maintenance of the network.

June Donald of DDCA said: **"Our project to develop a network of safe travel routes between our communities is being developed by an enthusiastic and committed panel of local individuals from many walks of life. Each member of the team brings their own area of expertise to bear on the development and planning of the project, from feasibility to delivery, optimising the potential for excellence in the outcome."**

# Financial Statement

## Fund Statement (Summary): 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2023

### Fund Income

Year 1 - EDF Renewables Donation	04/06/2020	£446,968.00
Year 2 - EDF Renewables Donation	09/07/2020	£458,726.30
Interest Payment	31/03/2021	£667.35
Year 3 - EDF Renewables Donation	27/05/2021	£465,467.67
Interest Payment	31/03/2022	£894.72
Year 4 - EDF Renewables Donation	31/05/2022	£507,170.07
Interest Payment	31/03/2023	£4,667.78
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>£1,884,561.89</b>

### Fund Expenditure

Total Grants Released		£940,655.94
Total Grants to be Released		£230,424.59
Panel Expenses		£31.50
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>£1,171,112.03</b>

<b>Total Balance available at 31/3/23</b>	<b>£713,449.86</b>
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### Sub-Fund Summary

#### Cabrach

Income	£375,666.41
Interest receipt	£1,113.88
Grants Released	£194,628.68
Grants to be Released	£34,494.33
<b>Balance available at 31/3/23</b>	<b>£147,657.28</b>

#### Dufftown

Income	£375,666.40
Interest receipt	£637.43
Grants Released	£310,940.24
Grants to be Released	£53,684.72
<b>Balance available at 31/3/23</b>	<b>£11,678.87</b>

#### Glenlivet & Inveravon\*

Income	£375,666.42
Interest receipt	£1,325.37
Grants Released	£216,814.29
Grants to be Released	£54,183.83
<b>Balance available at 31/3/23</b>	<b>£105,993.67</b>

**Glenrinnnes**

Income	£375,666.41
Interest receipt	£2,030.02
Grants Released	£27,264.32
Grants to be Released	£39,380.91

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<b>Balance available at 31/3/23</b>	<b>£311,051.20</b>
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**Cross Area**

Income	£375,666.41
Interest receipt	£1,123.14
Grants Released	£191,008.41
Grants to be Released	£48,680.80
Panel expenses	£31.50

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<b>Balance available at 31/3/23</b>	<b>£137,068.84</b>
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\* £54,000 of £60,000 loan to be repaid (at £6,000 per year til 2032)



*Art activities with Cabrach Connections project*

## Grant-making

There were three rounds of grant-making, with application deadlines at the end of March, July and November. A total of **19 grant applications were received**.

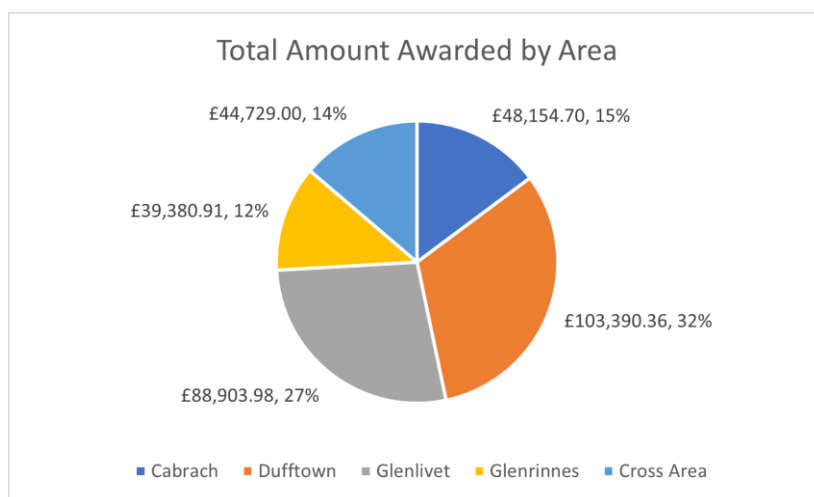
Two applications were subsequently withdrawn by the applicant prior to the Panel meeting – one due to a change in capacity of the group, and one due to a change in priorities for the organisation. One application was deferred with a request for further information to be submitted by the applicant. No applications were rejected at the panel stage. 16 applications were successful in being awarded a grant. Excluding the deferred and withdrawn applications, this gives a **conversion rate from application to award of 100%**.

A total of **£324,558.95 was awarded to support 16 projects**, giving an **average award of £20,284.93**. The smallest award made was £2,435 to fund a mobile planetarium event in Glenlivet to celebrate the Cairngorms Dark Sky

Park. **The largest award was £54,570, to contribute to cost of employing Glenlivet community development officer for two years** to develop projects, organise events and build capacity of local groups.

The **panel commissioned a project to fund a design and costing feasibility study for a footpath network connecting the Dorenell communities**. This was the first case of work being commissioned by the panel to further the aims of the community development plan with an award of £25,000 for a study which is now underway.

Awards were made for projects that will benefit each of the four communities served by the Fund, as well as for several projects that will provide benefit across all four communities. The chart below shows the amount and percentage of funding awarded in each area. A total of 11 different organisations received awards, all of which were not-for-profit groups. Details of all awards are provided on the following page.



# Awards Summary

## Cabrach

Reference	Applicant	Project Summary	Project Cost	Award	Theme
A643828	Moray Arts Development Engagement	To fund Cabrach Reconnections Phase 2 which will deliver creative community activities, permanent artworks, an art exhibition, and project film over 18 months to engage the community and promote the area.	£40,203.00	£29,887.00	1: Environment and Heritage
A643825	The Cabrach Trust	To clear, prepare and make safe the walled garden area at the Old Cabrach School to create an outdoor community space for further projects.	£18,267.70	£18,267.70	2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities

## Dufftown

Reference	Applicant	Project Summary	Project Cost	Award	Theme
FR-0067399	Dufftown & District Highland Games	To purchase 200 fencing panels to provide a secure perimeter for the Dufftown Highland Games.	£9,660.00	£9,660.00	3: Local Economy and Tourism
A643847	Dufftown and District Community Association	To install free public Wi-Fi for central Dufftown and operate for an initial 12-month period to provide outdoor broadband access to locals and visitors and investigate potential for further coverage	£11,850.94	£11,350.94	3: Local Economy and Tourism
FR-0067348	Dufftown and District Community Association	To contribute to cost of a Master Plan for an affordable housing project to meet the long term housing needs of residents of Dufftown and District.	£55,040.00	£30,000.00	4: Housing and Sustainability

FR-0067795	Dufftown in Bloom	To fund wooden barrel planters, compost and equipment to help volunteers improve Dufftown through floral displays	£4,702.42	£4,702.42	1: Environment and Heritage
FR-0063911	The Royal British Legion Dufftown	To upgrade doors and windows to improve energy efficiency and help maintain the fabric of the building for continued use as a key community facility.	£13,016.65	£10,347.00	2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities
A643851	Mortlach Memorial Hall Dufftown	To fund car park resurfacing to provide a safe and attractive parking area for users of the Hall and the wider community.	£41,940.44	£30,000.00	5: Transport and Access to Services
A599057	Dufftown Highland Games	To fund the building of a steel frame shed to increase storage capacity for equipment used during the annual Highland Games. (additional award to cover rising cost of project)	£54,180.00	£7,330.00	2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities

### Glenlivet and Inveravon

Reference	Applicant	Project Summary	Project Cost	Award	Theme
FR-0067891	Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust	To fund the costs of employing the Glenlivet and Inveravon Heritage Range for one year to deliver heritage events for locals and visitors.	£63,767.37	£31,898.69	1: Environment and Heritage
A643801	Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust	To fund a mobile planetarium event in Glenlivet to celebrate the Cairngorms Dark Sky Park.	£3,135.00	£2,435.00	3: Local Economy and Tourism
FR-0067476	Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust	To contribute to cost of employing Glenlivet community development officer for two years to develop projects, organise events and build capacity of local groups.	£54,570.29	£54,570.29	3: Local Economy and Tourism



**Glenrinnnes**

Reference	Applicant	Project Summary	Project Cost	Award	Theme
FR-0063902	Glenrinnnes Community Centre	To fund core hall running costs for three years and to purchase curtains, chairs and tables to create a better space to help facilitate community events and activity	£39,380.91	£39,380.91	2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities

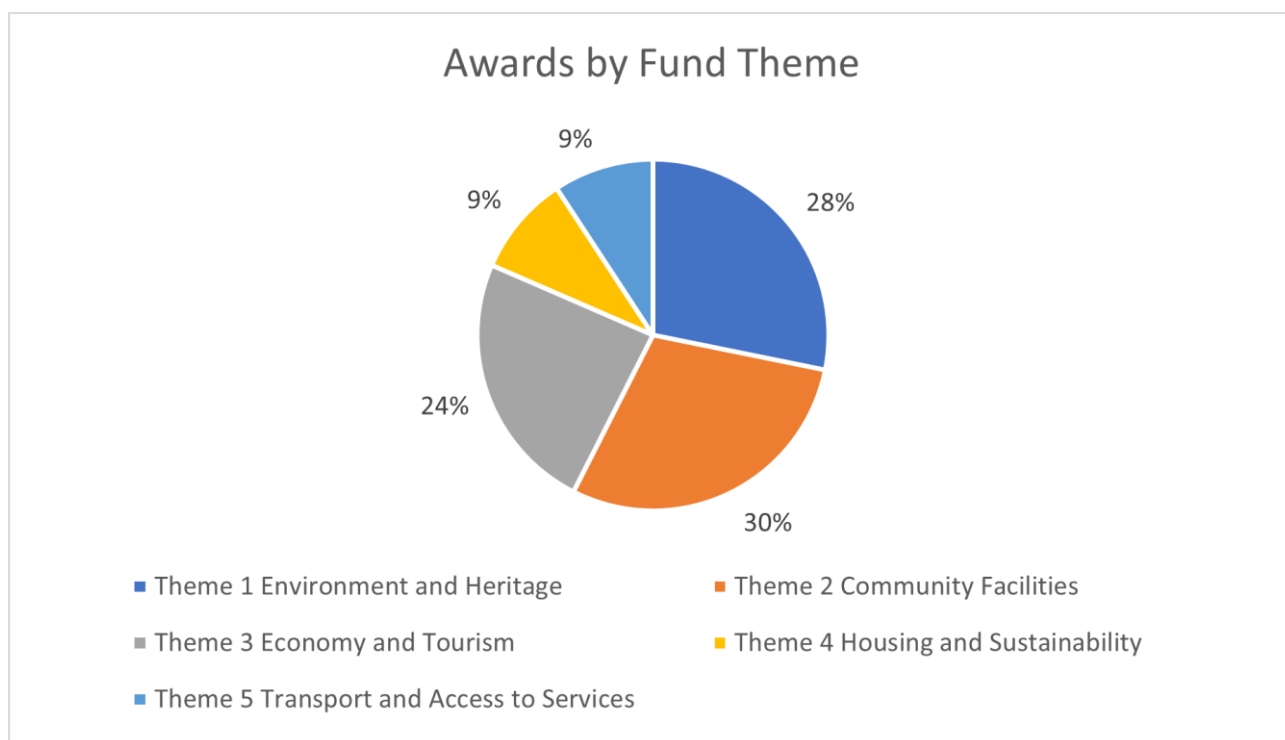
**Cross Area**

Reference	Applicant	Project Summary	Project Cost	Award	Theme
A643864	Glass Community Association	To contribute to project costs to improve access to Glass Community Outdoor Space..	£82,000.00	£10,000.00	2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities
FR-0063913	Moray District Scout Council	To cover the costs of new camping equipment to enable Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers to benefit from traditional outdoor scouting activities.	£15,000.00	£9,729.00	2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities
FR-0069309	Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust - Panel Commissioned	To fund a design and costing feasibility study for a footpath network connecting the Dorenell communities.	£25,000.00	£25,000.00	1: Environment and Heritage

## How the Fund is making a difference

Awards were made for projects contributing to **all the five themes** highlighted in the Dorenell Community Development Plan 2018 - 2023.

The chart below shows the proportion of funding awarded by theme, according to the primary theme addressed by each project. It is recognised however that many projects will deliver against more than one theme.



The following section provides short case studies of projects that have received a grant in the past year.

The summaries highlight the flexibility of the fund which has the potential to support key staff posts; as well as to provide funds for short term contracts for specialist contractors, supporting larger scale capital projects in the early development stages.

This flexibility has also been key in the past year, as groups have dealt with ongoing

challenges of rising prices and the panel has been able to “top up” awards where necessary to allow projects to still go ahead as envisaged.

There is also a short description of the process behind the first work to be commissioned by the Dorenell panel, to investigate options for a footpath network connecting the four communities.

## Cabrach Trust – Generating Positive Change

Over the course of the past year, several projects previously funded by Dorenell have come to fruition in the Cabrach, transforming the land around Inverharroch Farm to create an accessible and attractive community resource with all ability footpaths, tree and wildflower planting, ponds and interpretation.



There has been a wealth of community activity also linked to Dorenell funding including the excellent Cabrach Lives oral history project and the creation of the rural skills hub in a beautifully restored bothy. An award was also made to carry out a feasibility study and consultation about the restoration of Lower Cabrach Old School to create useful community space for the future.

The most recent award of £18,268 was to clear, prepare and make safe the walled garden area at the Old Cabrach School to create an outdoor community space for further projects.

The Old Cabrach School Walled Garden sits adjacent to the Old School Hall and House in the Lower Cabrach. This once loved asset had been neglected for many years and was overgrown and barriered off from the public due to unsafe/unsecure structures and overgrown land. Having undertaken the feasibility study focused on the restoration of the Old School Hall and House in the Lower Cabrach, the Trust was beginning to form a strategy focused on this historic place, the aim being to restore the building and bring the whole site back into community use.

An initial and essential part of this plan was to carry out a programme of works on the Walled Garden area in order to create a safe, usable space for the community to subsequently develop into a fresh community asset in the Cabrach.

This package of practical enabling works involved clearing the site of old, derelict outbuildings, before clearing, levelling and preparing the garden grounds for grass seeding, and repairing the structure of the stone wall which had been damaged over the years partly by overgrown trees etc.

The large garden area has been sown with grass seed and the hope is that this will be established quickly for summer events to take place and the area to get back to community use as soon as possible.



*Cleared garden area*

In the long term, themes from the feasibility study relating to outdoor space and wellbeing will be further explored with the community to inform the next phase of development in the Walled Garden.

For example, the renewed community garden could be developed as a venue for events and workshops (e.g. storytelling, forest schools, or outside theatre), and/or it might support the creation of a community orchard and bee hive for 'Cabrach' grown products.

Once complete, the Walled Garden will add additional value to the restored Old School Hall & House, providing additional outside space for community events.



*Restored rural skills bothy*

## Showcasing Local Heritage in Glenlivet and Inveravon

An Award of £31,899 was made in early 2023 to continue to fund the Glenlivet and Inveravon Heritage Ranger for a second year, after a successful initial year of activity and operation. The post was created in 2022 to develop and deliver a range of heritage events and ranger activity in the Glenlivet, Inveravon and Ballindalloch area. There are a number of key heritage sites in this patch, some of which have considerable community involvement – such as the mills and seminary at Scalan and the area's Dark Sky status.



*Ranger led walk to Scalan*

The ranger was recruited in May 2022 and had a successful first season developing and delivering heritage events at key local sites.

A total of 88 tours and events were held between July and December with a total of 403 attendees, summarised as follows:

- Inveraven Church and Pictish Stones Tour – 16 tours run weekly on Wednesdays

- Blairfindy Castle walk and tour – 22 tours run on Thursdays and Fridays
- Drumin Castle Walk and Tour – 8 tours run on Thursdays and Fridays during Autumn after reopening after renovations
- Scalan Mills and Secret Seminary was open to the public on 45 days between July and November. 45 Heritage tours were run on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and select Saturdays. Two additional half day tours were run on request for groups from Exeter University and Aberlour Church Walking Group.
- Three open days were also run at Scalan on Saturdays in July, September, and October.
- Tours of Inveraven Church and Pictish Stones started up again in January 2023

In addition a programme of Dark Sky events began in November following on from a number of activities held as part of the Star Party in September (also supported by this fund).

These activities are an important part of retaining Dark Sky Park status which has been achieved by local volunteers and partners and is potentially a great asset for visitor promotion in the winter months.

In addition the ranger carried out litter picking and a programme of monitoring for maintenance and safety at key local sites such as Scalan, Druimin and Blairfindy.



*Heritage ranger Lydia*

David Toovey Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust Director and Glenlivet resident said:

**“The new Glenlivet and Inveravon Heritage Ranger has provided new and exciting opportunities for locals and visitors alike to experience the unique heritage of Glenlivet and Inveravon area. Lydia has designed and developed a range of tours and events catering for everyone and is a great ambassador for our community.”**

## Game On! Supporting Dufftown Highland Games

Rising prices, particularly for capital projects has been a major issue for many groups in the past few years with Brexit, Ukraine and lingering effects of covid all having an impact.

The Dorenell fund has been able to provide additional funding to some previously awarded projects which were struggling with increased costs to enable them to keep on track and complete planned works.

One example of this was Dufftown Highland Games. The Games are held annually on last Saturday in July, and were first held in 1892. The Games have a full programme of light and heavy events, massed pipe bands, highland dancing and hill races. The event regularly attracts around 5,000 people including locals, tourists and the diaspora with around 60% attendees from overseas. After a two year gap due to covid, the 2022 games attracted an audience of 6,700 people. It is a very significant event in the Dufftown calendar and is an opportunity to bring people together and raise awareness of local groups and charities who also have a presence.

Dufftown Highland Games was awarded £25,350 in 2021 to fund a steel frame shed to increase storage capacity for equipment used during the annual Highland Games. Their aim was to double the amount of storage capacity that they have located on the Games field on

the western edge of Dufftown. They had one storage shed, and planned to erect a second shed of a similar size alongside the original one. This would allow them to store more equipment indoors which would make it last longer and also mean that they could purchase rather than lease more equipment like chairs and tables which would also be financially beneficial.



The shed required planning permission which took longer than expected to secure. Delays led to price increases from original quotes, particularly due to massive rises in steel prices, and in February 2022 an additional amount of £16,500 was approved for the project.

Planning permission was finally granted in August 2022, by which time, a further increase in prices meant the group faced a shortfall of £12,330 to carry out the build as intended. The Dorenell fund awarded a further £7,330 in December 2022 and the group met the balance from their own reserves. The shed was erected in spring 2023 and the group

believes it will make a huge difference to their successful operation.

The fund awarded a further £9,660 to the Highland Games in the past year to purchase 200 fencing panels to provide a secure perimeter for the Dufftown Highland Games,

again recognising the importance of this event to the local community.

## Marketing and Communications

Ongoing promotion of the Fund was achieved through various methods, with a key focus on press and social media channels that have strong local followings. Regular adverts and articles were placed in the two key community newspapers – Thistledown (which focusses on Glenlivet and Inveravon) and the Dufftown Speirins. Both produce quarterly printed copies and have email bulletins (Thistledown) and active social media groups, with a combined print run of 1,900 copies and a Speirins Facebook following of 4,000.

Regional press coverage was achieved as below with regular press releases sent to the Press and Journal and the Northern Scot (amongst others) to promote approaching Fund deadlines and highlight recent awards.

Other local social media channels were also used, and application deadlines and other Fund activity, such as advice surgeries, promoted via a Fund Facebook page. See

<https://www.facebook.com/DorenellWindFarmCommunityBenefitFund/>

Panel and Forum members also played a key role in promoting the Fund through their networks.

The Fund Adviser offered one-to-one advice sessions and general fund information at Dufftown Farmers Markets in July and November 2022, and continued to provide advice and support to applicants by phone and email.

The Fund has a dedicated page on Foundation Scotland's website which includes information on how to apply as well as details on Fund balances, Panel members, projects funded, case studies and recent news items. During Year Three, the webpage page had a total of 797 views of which 686 were unique. See <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/dorenell>

**Press coverage:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Headline</b>
29.6.22	Northern Scot	Dorenell windfarm awards £100,000 to local projects
15.3.23	Northern Scot	Dorenell fund inviting Moray bids of up to £30k
Jun 2022	Thistledown	Dorenell funds diverse range of projects
Sep 2022	Thistledown	Over £100,000 awarded to local projects
Autumn 2022	Dufftown Speirins	Over £100,000 awarded to local projects in latest Dorenell funding round
Winter 2022	Dufftown Speirins	2022 Dorenell Fud Round-up
Dec 2022	Thistledown	2022 Dorenell Fud Round-up
Spring 2023	Dufftown Speirins	Dorenell funds blazing a trail



**DORENELL WIND FARM  
COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

**APPLY**  
Grants up to £30,000

For community projects in  
Cabrach, Dufftown & District,  
Glenlivet & Inveravon or Glenrinnas

**Deadlines**

**31<sup>st</sup> March; 31<sup>st</sup> July; 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**Visit**

[foundationscotland.org.uk](http://foundationscotland.org.uk)

**Contact**

Marion McDonald  
Tel: 07912 759524

**Email**

Marion@  
[foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:marion@foundationscotland.org.uk)

Scottish Charity No. SC022910  
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## Conclusion

In the past year, the Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund has continued to deliver significant funding to a wide range of projects throughout the four communities in the Fund area. The fund continues to support key infrastructure projects for a wide range of local groups who are either creating new facilities, upgrading existing ones or designing and planning for larger scale projects.

Panel members continue to give generously of their time and knowledge and have contributed greatly to the success of Fund management to date.

Three full years of grant making are now complete and a review of the fund is planned in the coming year. This will be an opportunity for key community groups to consider the impact of awards to date and consider some longer term strategic funding for eg staff posts and significant local projects, and how to maximise fund delivery for wide and sustained community benefit.

## Appendix 1: Background to the Fund

Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund is a charitable fund provided by EDF Renewables, the majority owner of Dorenell Windfarm Limited. The Fund exists for the benefit of residents living in the areas served by the following community associations:

- The Cabrach Community Association
- Dufftown and District Community Association
- Glenlivet and Inveravon Community Association
- Glenrinn Community Centre

EDF Renewables makes donations into the Fund annually, starting in April 2019, when the Wind Farm was fully commissioned. Approximately £447,000 was paid into the Fund in the first year. This is equivalent to £2,525 per Megawatt of installed capacity. The annual donation amount rises each year in line with the Retail Price Index.

Each of the areas served by the four community associations is allocated 20% of the annual donation value to support projects benefiting people in that area. The remaining 20% is available for projects which benefit all four communities.

The Fund is open to applications from not-for-profit groups and organisations, statutory bodies, and private businesses that meet with the criteria set out on the Fund [webpage](#).

Foundation Scotland is an independent grant making charity that manages the Fund under

contract to EDF Renewables. The Foundation's costs in managing the Fund are provided for by EDF Renewables, over and above its annual donation to the Fund.

Decisions on grant awards under the main grants programme are made by a Community Panel comprising up to twelve people who live, work or actively volunteer in the area served by the Fund. The panel is made up of three members from each of the four areas, two from each community association and a third recruited from the wider community.

Following the launch of the Fund in July 2020, and an initial period of remote meetings during the pandemic, the award-making Panel can now meet face-to-face, and has been running hybrid meetings, giving members the option of joining remotely, if preferred.

Under the main grants programme, the minimum grant award is £1,000 and the maximum is normally £30,000. Applications for more than £30,000 are considered on a case-by-case basis for projects that demonstrate significant community benefit.

Awards can support a wide range of costs and activities including equipment costs, staff or sessional worker costs, consultations and feasibility studies, maintenance or refurbishment of community facilities and so on. Funded projects must be community led and charitable in nature, and must contribute towards the themes and priorities identified in the Dorenell Community Development Plan 2018 - 2023 as follows.

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Priorities</b>
<b>1: Environment and Heritage</b>	Walking and cycling networks Museum, visitor and heritage centres Preservation and enhancement Village and town enhancement
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Priorities</b>
<b>2: Community and recreational facilities, groups and activities</b>	Community halls Recreation facilities Opportunities and facilities for young people
<b>3: Local economy and tourism</b>	Access to ICT Tourist accommodation and hospitality Tourist attractions, events and promotion Training and enterprise Partnership work between communities and estates
<b>4: Housing and sustainable development</b>	Housing initiatives ICT Low carbon and green initiatives
<b>5: Transport and access to services</b>	Transport (includes gritting where not covered by local authority) Health and care Access to education Childcare Support for vulnerable children and families

The Fund also provides for a micro-grant scheme, under which each of the four community associations can receive an annual amount to then make grants of up to £1,000 to groups or individuals for charitable activities within their area. The community associations report on micro-grants awarded to Foundation Scotland before the next tranche of funding is released to them.

## Appendix 2 : Special Projects Fund

The Special Projects Fund is an additional contribution from EDF Renewables of five annual donations, equivalent to 100% of the donation to Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund in Year 1, 75% in Year 2, 50% in Year 3, 25% in Year 4 and a final payment of 12.5 % in Year 5 (2023). The use of the Special Projects Fund is determined by the Dorenell Community Benefit Forum, a group of representatives of the four community associations established to negotiate the community benefit settlement with EDF.

The Forum decided to invest the Fund into a long-term endowment for the benefit of the communities. They selected the Foundation Scotland EQ Impact Portfolio which is managed by EQ Investors. An initial sum of £1,024,377.08 was invested in September 2021, comprising the first three Special Projects donations plus the interest accrued whilst the monies were held on deposit by Foundation Scotland.

The Foundation Scotland EQ Impact Portfolio has a dual mandate; financial returns and social impact. Financial returns are monitored against six comparator indices as well as the Consumer Price Index + 3%. Social Returns are annualised and are shown below along with the carbon emissions associated with the investments. The Fund's carbon footprint is currently 55.72% lower than that associated with an equivalent sum invested in the FTSE 100 index.

Forum members can access all the endowment details, including transactions, fees and returns, live at any time via an online portal.

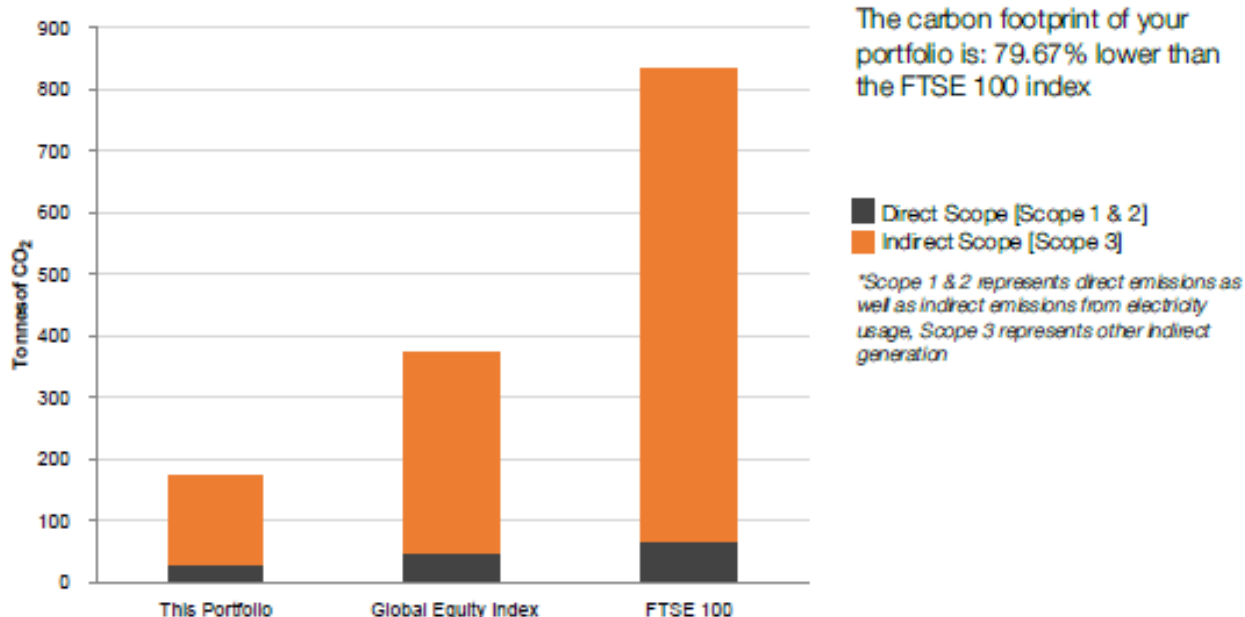
There can be no denying that absolute and relative investment performance over the last year and a half has been disappointing. Foundation Scotland portfolios have traditionally emphasised dynamic, fast-growing and well-managed companies and, until recently, this significantly helped returns. The greater focus on socially impactful companies via the FS EQ Portfolio has also led to the holding of a large number of smaller companies in the rapidly expanding renewables and recycling areas. However, with interest rates rising to curb inflation, Covid, and the Ukrainian war combining to dampen the appetite for fast growing but relatively expensive stocks, the derating of such companies has been severe. With the FS EQ Impact Portfolio's zero exposure to the oil and gas sector, other major carbon emitters and defence stocks, the limited tailwinds available to mainstream funds have also been missed in the short-term investment returns. Although environmental and social challenges faced by the world may have taken a back seat for now, they have certainly not abated. Foundation Scotland's Finance & Investment Committee remain optimistic that companies working in the renewables and recycling areas, and those simply displaying overall stakeholder friendly business practices, will flourish longer term.

## Special Projects Fund Statement

<b>Opening Balance at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022</b>	<b>£915,520.72</b>
Contributions	£129,995.38
Withdrawals	(£0.00)
Investment Income	£193.10
Foundation Scotland Fees	(£2,272.20)
EQ Fees	(£3,406.26)
Transaction Expenses	(£0.00)
Capital Growth	(£24,951.34)
<b>Closing Value at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b>	<b>£1,015,079.41</b>

## Social and Environmental Impact

### Carbon Emissions



That's equivalent to...

- 🚗 taking 144 passenger cars off the road or
- 🏠 saving 164 UK household's total energy use or
- 🛢️ preventing 74 thousand gallons of gasoline from being burned



*Social and Environmental Impact of the Special Project Fund*

## For further information please contact:

Marion McDonald  
 Community Fund Adviser  
[marion@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:marion@foundationscotland.org.uk)  
 07912 759524