

What this Easy Read is about



This is an Easy Read for community groups that develop local ecosystem restoration projects.



It is information about money that is available to help pay for work to develop local nature projects in Scotland.



Ecosystem restoration is:

- Repairing an area of nature which has been damaged.
- Keeping areas of nature alive.



The fund is called the **Neighbourhood Ecosystem Fund**.



Starting now we will call it **The Fund**.

About The Fund

The Fund is supported by:



- Carman Family Foundation
- Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, which is managed by NatureScot
- Other funders

**INSPIRING
SCOTLAND**

Inspiring Scotland is managing the funding.



The Fund wants to inspire people to do nature projects in their area.



The Fund also wants to teach people about the importance of nature.

Key information



Community groups can apply for up to **£13,500.**



Projects must be led by their community.



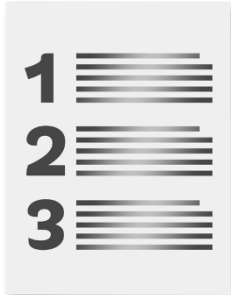
We will help the projects we fund to raise more money for their projects.

Every project will get up to £1,500 to hire someone to help them raise funds.



Work must happen between June 2025 and March 2026.

Who can apply?



To apply for **The Fund**, your community group must:



Be a group working in a specific area.



Be working in Scotland.



Have a turnover less than £200,000 last year.



Not be a business that makes money.

Types of projects we fund



Your project must focus on **one (or more)** parts of ecosystem restoration.

These are:



Join areas of nature together.



Fixing unused and abandoned land.



Creating a pond or restoring a river.



Helping Scotland's coasts and seas.



Removing species that shouldn't be in the area.



Developing nature in:

- Villages
- Towns
- Cities

When will the money be available?

| August | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Grant agreements signed and first payment in **June 2025**.

| November | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

Mid-project report and second payment in **September 2025**.

| July | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

The Fund will end in **March 2026**.

How do I apply?



First, say that you are interested by clicking on the link below.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8154660/Neighbourhood-Ecosystem-Fund-Expression-of-Interest>

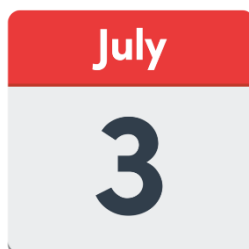


You will then be sent an application form.



You will need to send in other documents.

The form will tell you what these documents are.



The deadline for applying is **12pm Monday 3 March 2025.**

How do I get help with my application?

**INSPIRING
SCOTLAND**

You can get more information by contacting **Catriona Patterson** at **Inspiring Scotland**.



Their phone number is **0131 442 8760**



You can also email them at
nature@inspiringscotland.org.uk



They will give you more information on **The Fund**.