

# An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund Fund Report



## Years 1-8

This report covers operation of the Fund from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011 to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018.



## Introduction

An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund is provided by Innogy Renewables UK Ltd and Green Gecco, who together own An Suidhe Wind Farm, located in Argyll. The Fund benefits the communities served by the community councils of Furnace and Inveraray, as well as those of Eredine (with the Glenorchy & Innishail Community Council area) and Dalavich (within the Avich & Kilchrenan Community Council area).

The Fund normally makes grants of between £250 and £7,000, although awards above this amount will be considered where exceptional need and impact can be demonstrated.

Grants can support charitable activities that:

- Enhance quality of life for local residents
- Contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities
- Promote community spirit and encourage community activity.

Requests to support a wide range of costs and activities can be considered, such as: equipment costs; running costs for local groups and events; staff or sessional workers costs; consultations and feasibility studies; refurbishment of community facilities, and a wide range of other costs.

A Community Panel makes decisions on grant awards from the Fund and on Fund strategy, and promotes the Fund locally. The Panel comprises up to eight volunteer representatives; two from each of the four communities that benefit from the Fund, as outlined further on page 8.

Annual donations are £28,500 (index linked) from the date the wind farm was commissioned, and will be made over the operational life of the windfarm, expected to be 25 years. Foundation Scotland's costs in administering the Fund are paid separately by An Suidhe Wind Farm Ltd.

By Year 8 of the Fund, the annual donation for distribution had risen to £35,150.83. Total income available for distribution since the start of the Fund up until 15 December 2018 was £287,271.12, with £261,194.21 (91%) of this awarded to local projects through 79 grants. In addition, £8,800 was invested in Avich Community Hydro to provide a community endowment (see case study, Appendix B). A balance of £17,061.21 remained.

An independent evaluation of the impact of grants distributed from the Fund up until February 2014 was commissioned by Foundation Scotland. A report of the research can be downloaded at <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/an-suidhe/>

## Financial Statement

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### An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund

Statement Period: 15 December 2011 to 15 December 2018

**Opening Balance** **£0.00**

#### Income

Year 1 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	01/02/2012	£29,760.29
Year 1 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	01/02/2012	£28,500.00
Year 2 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	11/09/2012	£29,907.41
Year 2 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2012	£24.47
Other Income – returned grant	04/03/2013	£2,140.50
Year 3 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	28/08/2013	£31,157.84
Year 3 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2013	£28.55
Year 4 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	29/08/2014	£31,624.53
Year 4 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2014	£35.50
Year 5 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	01/09/2015	£32,268.39
Year 5 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2015	£34.40
Year 6 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	26/08/2016	£32,538.66
Year 6 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2016	£29.23
Year 7 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	15/05/2017	£4,000.00
Year 7 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	25/08/2017	£30,052.76
Year 7 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2017	£17.76
Year 8 - Innogy Renewables UK Ltd	24/08/2018	£35,150.83
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£287,271.12</b>

#### Expenditure

Grants released in period		£248,183.21
Grants to be released		£13,011.00
An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Endowment	27/04/2017	£8,800.00
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£269,994.21</b>

**Fund Expenses**

Venue & hospitality for Panel meeting 2012	08/05/2012	£50.00
Venue & hospitality for Panel meeting 2014	12/11/2014	£56.00
Venue & hospitality for Panel meeting 2016	09/11/2016	£50.00
Venue & hospitality for Panel meeting 2018	21/11/2018	£59.70
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£215.70</b>

**Total funds available as at 15/12/2018****£17,061.21**

## Overview of Grant-making

69 applications for funding to the main Fund (i.e. excluding micro-grants, see below) were received over the reporting period. 13 were rejected (one of these being ineligible) and five were withdrawn by the applicant. 51 awards were made over nine rounds of grant-making to 31 organisations to deliver 46 projects.

Setting aside ineligible and withdrawn applications, therefore, the conversion rate from applications to awards was 81%.

The table below shows the number of applications received and awards made in each year.

Year	Applicat'ns	Awards
2011	15	7
2012 (rd1)	7	6
2012 (rd2)	9	7
2013	7	6
2014	3	2
2015	9	5
2016	8	8
2017	5	5
2018	6	5

The average award made during the reporting period was £4,667.72, while the largest award was £17,280 (to Dalavich Improvement Group) and the smallest £900 (to The Royal British Legion's Inveraray & District Branch).

Alongside applications to the main Fund, funds are available to the Community Councils and Dalavich Improvement Group to run their own micro-grant schemes, enabling them to offer small grants of up to £250 to individuals and un-constituted groups in their area for

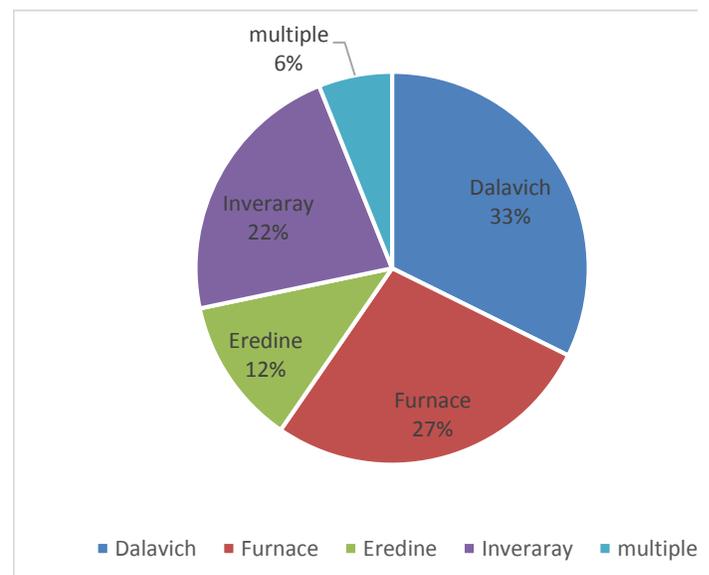
charitable activity. The aim is to bring about wider impact from the Fund by supporting less formal community activity. Each community council may receive up to £1,000 annually for this purpose, increased from £500 in Year 4 following discussions between Foundation Scotland and Innogy Renewables UK Ltd.

A total of £261,194.21, equivalent to 91% of income received in the report period, was awarded to charitable causes. This figure includes £21,000 awarded to Community Councils or Dalavich Improvement Group for micro-grant schemes.

£215.70 was used for Panel expenses, namely meeting room hire and catering.

The total value of projects funded in the reporting period was £720,073.75, giving a leverage figure of 64% (the percentage of funding brought in from other sources to deliver those projects).

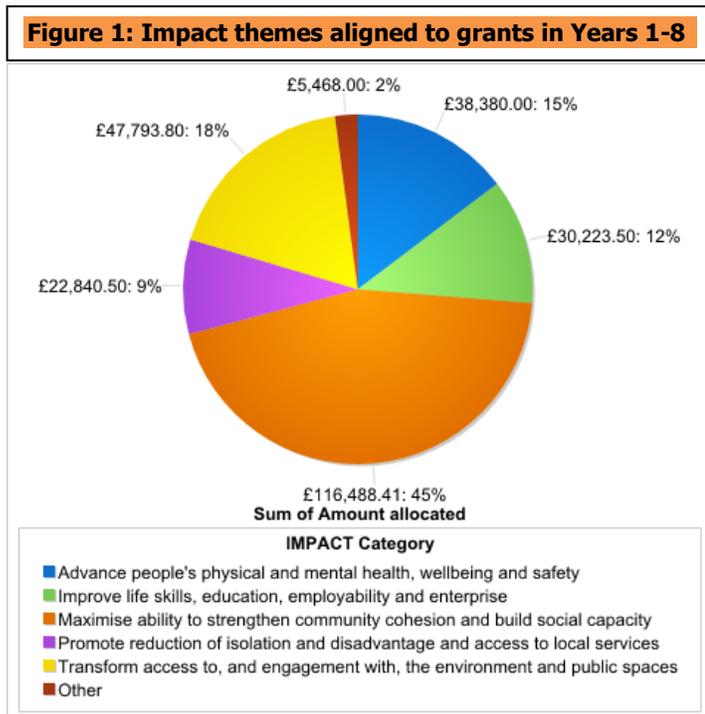
The graph below shows all funding awarded by geographical area during Year 1-8.



## What Difference is the Fund Making?

The 79 awards made (including 28 payments to Community Councils for onward distribution as micro-grants) were used to support a variety of activities, as shown in Appendix A. These range, for example, from improvements to community venues to access to public defibrillators, and from staff costs for childcare services to the costs of providing a volunteer care share scheme.

To better describe the impact of the Fund, Foundation Scotland has aligned grants from An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund to themes covering different aspects of community life. The percentage of funding aligned to these themes is shown in Figure 1.

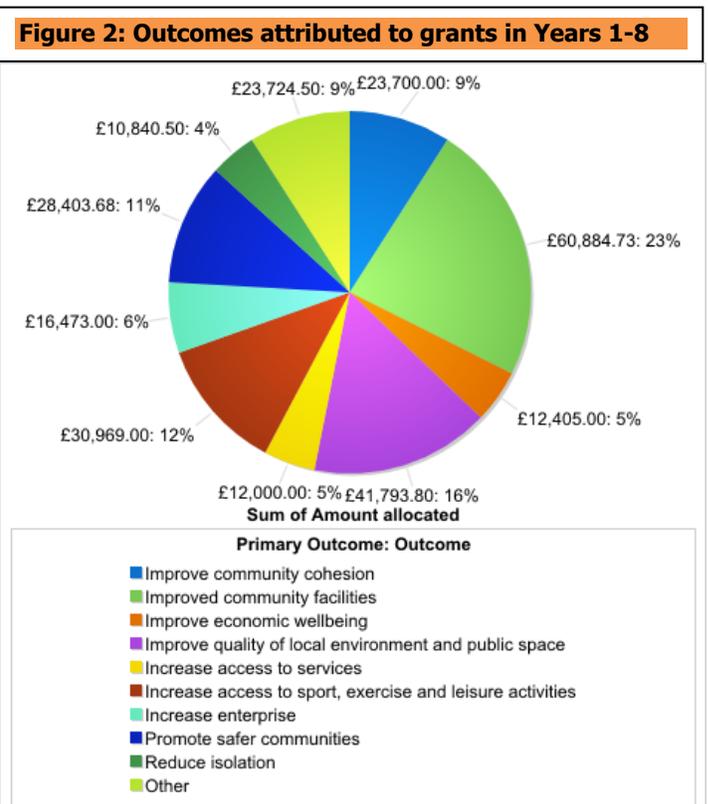


The predominant themes addressed over the first eight years of grant making were:

- Maximise ability to strengthen community cohesion and build social capacity
- Transform access to, and engagement with, the environment and public spaces
- Advance people's physical and mental health, wellbeing and safety.
- Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise.

Each award has also been aligned to a 'primary outcome', providing further information on the nature of funded projects. Figure 2 shows how the Fund was distributed according to those outcomes, revealing a wide range of changes that the grants were aimed at bringing about.

The four case studies at Appendix B provide more detailed examples of how the Fund is making a real difference across the area.



## Marketing and Communications

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Working in collaboration with Innogy Renewables UK Ltd and the Community Panel, Foundation Scotland has sought raise the profile of the Fund through a variety of channels including:

- Press releases on awards made following each round of grant making
- Advertising Panel vacancies as these arise, through press releases, posters on local noticeboards and websites, and social media
- Posters promoting the Fund deadlines placed on local noticeboards and in local newsletters and/or websites.
- A summary of awards made after each Panel meeting, distributed to Panel members for onward circulation in their communities
- Regular updates to the Fund webpage at <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/an-suidhe/>
- Social media activity – tweets, Facebook posts, relating to awards made and forthcoming application deadlines.

## Community Panel Overview

An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund Panel meets once each year to make recommendations on awards from the Fund and advise on overall Fund strategy. The Panel is governed by a Terms of Reference that has been agreed between community representatives and Foundation Scotland, and is reviewed from time-to-time.

The Panel is made up of people who live in the area that the Fund benefits, and comprises a mixture of community councillors and other members of the community. One community council representative is appointed directly by the respective community council or, for Dalavich, by Dalavich Improvement Group. One further community representatives may be appointed from each area through an open and transparent process agreed with Foundation Scotland.

Each Panel member serves a minimum of two and a maximum of four years, with members retiring on a phased basis to ensure knowledge and expertise are retained. However, retiring Members may re-stand. Opportunities to become a Panel member are advertised through local channels and on the Fund webpage (see below).

The Panel has seen a healthy level of change in membership since its inception, with turnover averaging around 1.5 members per year.

An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund Panel at 15 December 2018 were as follows:

Name	Area representing
Agnes Fleming	Dalavich Improvement Group
Irene McClouunan	Dalavich
Catriona O'Keeffe	Eredine (Glenorchy & Innishail Community Council)
Alan Kettle-White	Eredine
	Earn
Mike Masters	Furnace Community Council
Andy (Andrea) Henderson	Furnace
Vacant	Inveraray Community Council
Adrian Davis	Inveraray

Approved minutes of Panel meetings are published on the Fund webpage at <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/an-suidhe/>

## Conclusion

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Over the eight years to December 2018, An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund has provided a valuable resource for community groups and registered charities seeking to provide and improve local facilities, services and events within the four communities. 91% of the funding made available by the owners of the wind farm was distributed to worthwhile local causes.

A total of 46 projects were funded through a total of 51 grants under the main Fund. The rate of conversion from application to award was 81% - for every five applications submitted, four have been successful. This shows strong local awareness of the Fund and of the criteria for awards, which has been supported by significant local promotion by both Foundation Scotland and members of the Community Fund Panel. In addition, the four communities have benefitted consistently from awards to enable them to operate their own micro-grant schemes, enabling the funding to reach deeper into the communities. Based on their success, these awards increased from £500 to £1,000 per community.

While not enshrined in any of written agreement, it was agreed in discussions during the set-up of the Fund that, over the lifetime of the Fund, a broadly equal distribution of funds between the four communities would be aimed for. By 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018, the Dalavich community had been the most successful at securing funding for local projects, receiving 33% of awards by value made. Eredine has secured significantly less than the other communities, with 12% of the funds distributed going to projects that benefit that community. Eredine has the smallest and most dispersed population of the four communities, and prior to 2014 had few formal community groups. The establishment of South Loch Awe Side Community Company by residents since then has gone some way towards addressing the situation, with grant awards to that community picking up in recent years. Foundation Scotland will continue to work with the Fund Panel to monitor the spread of funds per community and seek to take any remedial action possible.

Only one ineligible grant application was received during the eight years. In 2017, Foundation Scotland revised the grant application form to incorporate the applicant guidance into that, with notes given alongside each question on the form. This seeks to ensure greater clarity around the information we are looking for and that the number of ineligible applications received remains low - thus avoiding disappointment for applicants.

While the number of applications received has reduced over the reporting period, from 15 in 2011 to six in 2018, it seems to have stabilised at around that level. Going into Year 9, the Fund had a balance of £17,061.21; around six-months' worth of donations into the Fund. Again, Foundation Scotland will continue work with the Community Panel going forward to monitor levels of applications and Fund expenditure and to identify any remedial action should these drop off.

## Foundation Scotland

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## Appendix A: Summary of Awards during Year 1-8

### **Dalavich (10 awards for project funding, 8 awards for micro grant scheme)**

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Grant Summary</b>
A176597	Dalavich Improvement Group	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Dalavich in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A177617	Dalavich Improvement Group	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Dalavich in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A180241	Dalavich Improvement Group	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide for a micro grant distribution scheme to the local community.
A315011	Dalavich Improvement Group	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a micro grant scheme in the local community.
A354078	Dalavich Improvement Group	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a micro grant scheme in the local community.
A386573	Dalavich Improvement Group	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a micro grant scheme in the local community.
A437794	Dalavich Improvement Group	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a micro grant scheme in the local community.
A484827	Dalavich Improvement Group	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a micro grant scheme in the local community.
A177065	North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme	£1,000.00	£22,168.00	95%	To contribute to costs of the local transport scheme and support passengers from the Community Council areas of Glenorchy and Innishail/Dalavich and Kilchrenan.

A177105	Dalavich Social and Recreational Club	£2,000.00	£4,816.00	58%	To refurbish the kitchen in the community hall to bring it up to health and safety standards.
A179566	North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme	£2,000.00	£21,694.00	91%	To contribute to running costs of the scheme that bring particular benefits to Dalavich and other areas.
A179414	Dalavich Social and Recreational Club	£6,000.00	£6,302.00	5%	To install solar PV panels on the roof of Dalavich Community Centre.
A175741	Dalavich Improvement Group	£6,681.00	£6,893.00	3%	To contribute towards the cost of installing fire hydrants in the village as well as grit bins and spreaders at appropriate points.
A420650	Dalavich Social and Recreational Club	£7,000.00	£9,270.00	24%	To remodel and reconfigure the bar area and back store and improve the group's recycling processes as the group switches from serving keg beer to bottled drinks.
A420288	Dalavich Improvement Group	£9,412.00	£9,412.00	0%	To refurbish the laundry room and install 1x new coin operated washer and 2x new light commercial tumble dryers. To contribute to the cost of one year's water shares to give the project time to get to break even or surplus.
A177103	Dalavich Improvement Group	£12,500.00	£17,000.00	26%	To support the costs of installing play park equipment in the play park for use by local children.
A253070	Dalavich Social and Recreational Club	£14,000.00	£25,260.00	45%	To replace and extend the decking area around Dalavich Community Centre, improve disabled access and provide outdoor seating area.
A376364	Dalavich Improvement Group	£17,280.00	£18,300.00	6%	To contribute to the cost of purchasing the 5-acre field that lies adjacent to the Community Centre.

Total awarded to projects benefitting Dalavich: **£83,373** (33% of funds awarded).

**Eredine (7 awards for project funding, 8 awards for micro grant scheme)**

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Grant Summary</b>
A176635	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Eredine (Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council) in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A369114	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro grants for the benefit of the local community.
A407817	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro grants for the benefit of the local community.
A442931	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution in the local community in the form of micro grants for general charitable purposes.
A177614	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Eredine (Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council) in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A180242	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro grants for the benefit of the local community.
A343948	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro grants for the benefit of the local community.
A484000	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro grants for the benefit of the local community.
A179416	Loch Awe Community Website Association	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	0%	To contribute towards the costs of creating a new website that will be more user-friendly and easily updated.

A232334	Portsonachan Village Hall	£1,929.00	£1,929.00	0%	To purchase an instantaneous water boiler and dishwasher for use at functions by the community.
A378432	South Loch Awe-side Community Company	£2,900.00	£2,900.00	0%	To restore the redundant BT telephone kiosk in Eredine village to house a community defibrillator.
A177008	Loch Awe Safety Company (LASC)	£3,500.00	£6,996.00	50%	To provide 2 sets of safety equipment on each side of the loch that can be deployed in case of emergency
A376325	Glenorchy and Innishail Community Orchard and Woodland Garden (GICO)	£4,222.80	£5,212.80	19%	To contribute to the cost of creating a small community garden at the site of the recently demolished Church of Scotland at Portsonachan.
A493229	South Loch Awe-side Community Company	£5,320.00	£7,965.00	33%	To purchase and install two public access defibrillators in Portsonachan Village Hall and Ardbrecknish.
A493585	Portsonachan Village Hall	£5,227.73	£5,227.73	0%	To purchase 60 chairs and a chair trolley.

Total awarded to projects benefitting Eredine: **£32,099.53** (12% of funds awarded).

**Furnace (11 awards for project funding, 6 awards for micro grant scheme)**

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Grant Summary</b>
A405543	Furnace Amenity Association	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro-grants to benefit the local community.
A176489	Furnace Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Furnace in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A177616	Furnace Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Furnace in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A180243	Furnace Amenity Association	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution as micro grants to benefit the local community.
A438669	Furnace Amenity Association	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution in the form of micro-grants for general charitable purposes to benefit the local community.
A490235	Furnace Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution in the form of micro-grants for general charitable purposes to benefit the local community.
A179418	Furnace Amenity Association	£2,394.00	£7,394.00	68%	To cover costs to install a hearing loop system for the hard of hearing. To employ a development officer for the village to work one day a week.
A175744	Furnace Kool Kids Klub	£2,405.00	£9,165.80	74%	To contribute towards the day to day running costs of the group including one play worker's wages.
A456286	Furnace Amenity Association	£2,700.00	£2,700.00	0%	To commission a professional website developer to redesign the group's website, making it easier to update and maintain.

A456275	Furnace Amenity Association	£5,094.00	£6,094.00	16%	To purchase and install 30 oak way-marker posts and three noticeboards on the Leacainn Walk to provide an updated map of the Walk and additional information about its historic sites and newly opened routes.
A175746	Furnace Amenity Association	£5,736.00	£5,736.00	0%	To replace five existing single-glazed windows in the village hall with new double-glazed units.
A420652	Furnace Amenity Association	£6,418.68	£6,418.68	0%	To provide street lighting to the 100-metre footpath which links Queen Elizabeth Cottages housing scheme to the centre of the village.
A344926	Furnace Amenity Association	£7,000.00	£7,395.00	5%	To complete and furnish the interior of the new bar extension to the village hall and purchase picnic benches and permanent brick-built barbecue to complete conversion of waste ground into an outdoor social gathering place.
A177257	Furnace Amenity Association	£7,340.00	£7,340.00	0%	To provide essential maintenance on the Leacainn Walk and undertake a survey on an extension to the walk, encompassing new sites of historical interest.
A376570	Furnace Amenity Association	£7,992.00	£7,992.00	0%	To install a mains hot water cylinder, commercial glass washer and acoustic panels in the village hall; to carry out repairs on Leacainn Walk.
A253577	Furnace Amenity Association	£10,000.00	£12,551.00	20%	To add a small extension to the village hall to accommodate a bar to help replace the loss of the village pub.
A492888	Furnace Community SCIO	£10,000.00	£192,500.00	95%	To contribute to the purchase of the Furnace village store and post office.

Total awarded to projects benefitting Furnace: **£71,079.68** (27% of funds awarded) <sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: A179419 Furnace Kool Kids Club £2,140.50 was paid out and then returned when the application was withdrawn.

**Inveraray (18 awards for project funding, 6 awards for micro grant scheme)**

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Grant Summary</b>
A176488	Inveraray Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Inveraray in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A177615	Inveraray Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Inveraray in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A317440	Inveraray Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Inveraray in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A354661	Inveraray Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Inveraray in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A177014	Royal British Legion (Inveraray & District Branch)	£900.00	£927.84	3%	To contribute to costs of refurbishing and maintaining the memorials and cemetery in and around Inveraray.
A443518	Inveraray Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Inveraray in the form of micro grants for general charitable purposes.
A485146	Inveraray Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Inveraray in the form of micro grants for general charitable purposes.
A175712	Inveraray and District Pipe Band	£1,294.00	£6,473.00	80%	To purchase new uniforms for 10 new members.
A456926	Inveraray Primary Parent Council	£1,345.50	£1,345.50	0%	To purchase waterproofs for all the pupils in the school.

A456758	Inveraray Tums, Tots and Toddlers	£1,600.00	£1,602.40	0%	To fund a series of holiday events for the group as well as toys, stationery and other costs.
A179288	Cairndow Community Child Care	£2,000.00	£15,000.00	87%	To contribute towards staffing costs for the 3 months January to March 2013.
A253106	Kenmore Forest Community Association	£2,000.00	£9,090.00	78%	To upgrade the main access track servicing the community in order to enhance viability and increase public access.
A253599	Inveraray Highland Games	£2,000.00	£3,000.00	33%	To purchase a wheeled storage container that can be used to store and transport equipment to the Games field in the run up to the annual Inveraray Highland Games.
A253606	Inveraray and District Pipe Band	£2,000.00	£3,500.00	43%	To fund production of 1000 copies of a CD of Inveraray Pipe Band's Grade 1 band.
A179385	Inveraray Golf Club	£2,565.00	£2,565.00	0%	To cover training costs for young club members and purchase new practice equipment and tools to maintain the grounds.
A456105	Inveraray Golf Club	£2,604.00	£2,604.00	0%	To contribute to the purchase of a new ride-on mower for use in maintaining the course.
A175739	Cairndow Community Child Care	£3,000.00	£21,750.00	86%	To contribute towards staffing costs for the 3 months January to March 2012.
A345036	Inveraray Golf Club	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	0%	To purchase a new set of gang mowers and set up a website to better publicise the club.
A175745	Inveraray Golf Club	£3,300.00	£8,500.00	61%	To contribute towards the cost of improving the tees, greens and fairways to make the course more playable all year round.
A175742	All Saints Church Inveraray	£3,584.00	£3,600.00	0%	To carry out remedial works to the lightning conductor.
A419827	Cairndow Community Childcare Ltd	£4,667.00	£16,666.00	72%	To contribute to salary costs.
A420786	SJ Noble Trust	£5,000.00	£30,000.00	83%	To fund onward grants or loans to small local businesses.
A376688	Inveraray Shinty Club	£7,000.00	£7,500.00	7%	To purchase a mower for the upkeep of the shinty pitch.

A491547	Inspire Inveraray	£5,200.00	£9,960.00	48%	To contribute to the cost of updating the structural survey of the community hall, erecting security fencing, analysing community evaluations, and publicity/printing costs.
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Total awarded to projects benefitting Inveraray: **£57,059.50** (22% of funds awarded).

### **Multiple Areas (5 awards for project funding)**

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Grant Summary</b>
A179417	Friends of Auchindrain	£1,274.00	£2,024.00	37%	To procure spare parts for the refurbishment of the recently acquired Ferguson tractor, once owned by the last tenant at Auchindrain, for use and display at the museum.
A420762	Loch Awe Improvement Association	£2,657.00	£2,657.00	0%	To fund the uplift cost of 12 x 1100-litre litter bins during the summer months and 6 x 1100-litre litter bins during the winter months.
A420834	Befrienders	£4,100.00	£78,136.00	95%	To contribute to travel costs and expenses for volunteer befrienders.
A420831	GalGael Trust	£6,000.00	£29,589.00	80%	To contribute to the cost of piloting a range of short-term residential workshops and activities for residents of Argyll and Bute who are recovering from addiction or suffer from mental health problems.
A492141	PBC Foundation	£1,411.00	£1,452.00	3%	To fund a self-management workshop in Argyll and Bute which will support the group's 10 registered service users in the Fund area and members of their support circle.

Total awarded to projects benefitting multiple areas: **£15,442** (6% of funds awarded).

### **Grand Totals**

Amount Awarded	Total Project Costs	Leverage (% of other funds)
<b>£261,194.21</b>	<b>£720,073.75</b>	<b>64%</b>

## Appendix B: Case Studies of Selected Projects Funded during Year 1-8

### Space for All - Furnace Amenity Association (Furnace Village Hall)

#### Background

Furnace Amenity Association plays an important role within the community of Furnace, a village of around 200 residents on the shores of Loch Fyne. Set up in 1980, it owns and manages the village hall and children's play area, and runs a range of social and recreational events throughout the year, providing entertainment and opportunities for social connection. The Association also manages a five mile series of footpaths through local woodland, the Leacainn Walk. This provides a significant draw for local tourists and concurrent business for the caravan site and owners of bed & breakfast accommodation.

#### Project Achievements and Outcomes

A number of grants from the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund between 2012 and 2017, totalling £39,540.68, have helped the Association turn an ageing village hall into a vibrant, modernised hub for the local community. The funding has supported the group to add a small extension to the hall to accommodate a meeting room and a bar so as to offset the loss of the village pub. Combined with replacement windows, new seating, a hot water cylinder and acoustic panels

this much needed refurbishment transformed the building. The new welcoming environment has resulted in more local residents attending events, including many more young people.



Mike Masters, Chair of the Amenity Association added, "The new extension has become our village Social Club. The replacement windows have improved the appearance and comfort and the refurbishment is helping to attract a wider cross section of the community with younger people getting involved in activities like carpet bowls! Our

monthly bingo session now fills the hall and brings people in from a wider area."

Regular user of the hall, Margaret Miller, said "The new acoustic panels in the hall have made a great difference. We can now hear the dialogue so much better during the film nights, and even meetings are a lot better". She also said that local groups really appreciated the new hot water system in the kitchen making washing up after events much easier.

Keen to improve the derelict open space outside the hall, volunteers cleared undergrowth enabling the village to hold a 'Big Village Picnic' to celebrate the Queen's Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games in 2014. At that time, the Association had to borrow picnic benches from the Forrestry Commission for the event. However, since then a grant from the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund has paid for concrete benches and a permanent brick built barbecue, once the Association secured a formal agreement with the landowner regarding ongoing access. The development of this space has enabled the community to hold more outdoor events.

The An Suidhe Fund has also played an important role in improving accessibility to the hall from the adjacent Queen Elizabeth cottage housing scheme, home to 45 residents. Lighting along the footpath will make access to the hall much safer for those people as well children using the playground and playing field next door.

Mike Masters continued, "Without the improvements, residents would have to travel four times the distance to reach the same destination and with 30 older members of the community living in the housing scheme, the pathway lighting has made their journey much shorter and safer. It has also encouraged the families living there to come into the village and get involved in activities. "

Further grants have funded other improvements such as a loop system at the hall for the hard of hearing. Micro grants, provided by the Community Council from funds also from An Suidhe Wind Farm, have helped local groups using the hall to purchase a new set of carpet bowls and run taster sessions for Zumba and Yoga. A projector for the Combined Operations Museum, formerly located at Inveraray Castle and which preserves historical artifacts relating to WW2 assault landings, has enabled this group to take their story to other interested parties such as an old folks homes and the British Legion. The camera club also received a micro grant to help create a permanent exhibition of 'Furnace Past and Present' in the new hall.

Looking forward Mike Masters said, "There is no doubt that this significant funding has contributed to the sustainability of our local community. We also hope that our new facilities will encourage people to come forward with ideas for new enterprises such as providing bar meals or a daytime café and continue to enhance the quality of life for our residents and visitors alike."

## **Lessons Learned**

In small rural communities the village hall is often the central focus for much of community life, providing a space where opportunities for recreation, entertainment, social connection and other services can be offered. Where most local people use such an asset in some way, investing in it can therefore bring about significant and long lasting benefits for the whole community and over the long-term.



Because the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund benefits four distinct communities, each some distance from the other, it has needed to respond to the varying priorities and opportunities of each. Furthermore, from the outset it was agreed that, over the life of the Fund, each community should ideally benefit equally in terms of the amount of funding disbursed. As the Fund is relatively modest in sized, it can therefore be challenging to use it strategically, for example where a community wishes to undertake a large project. In such cases,

other sources of funding will need to be secured or the project phased over several years, if possible. Furnace Amenity Association has worked hard within these constraints to still optimise the opportunity provided by the Community Fund.

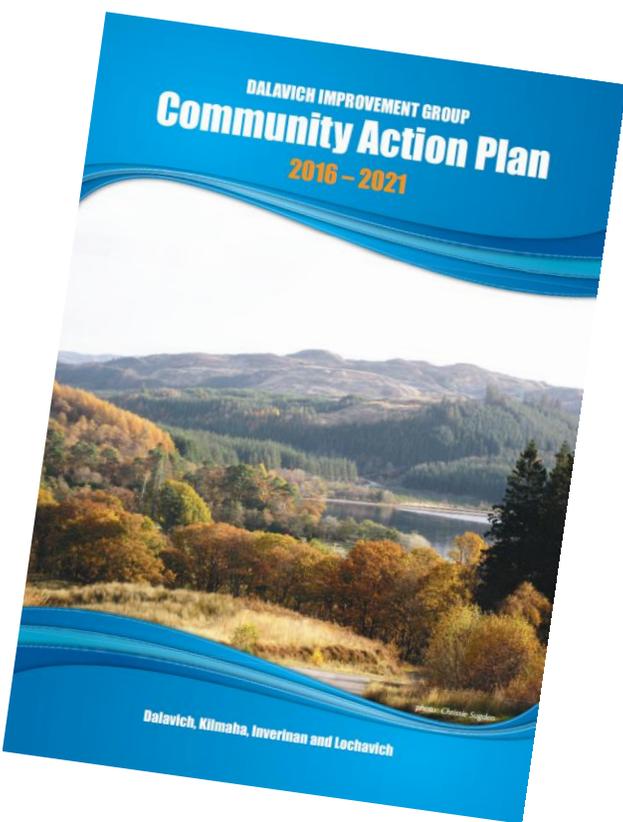
**Website:** <http://www.furnace-argyll.org/>

## Investing in Our Future - Awesome Energy Dalriada

### Background

Nestled on the western shores of Loch Awe, Argyll, the village of Dalavich has a population of around 70. The nearest main town is Oban, some 30 miles away and the village is connected there by single track road to the villages of Taynuilt and Kilcrenan. Poor access to services and out migration of young people are key challenges facing the community.

In response, Dalavich Improvement Group (DIG) was incorporated in 2002 and registered as a charity. The organisation exists to manage community land and buildings and conduct activities that contribute to the sustainability of the area, including the villages of Dalavich and Inverinan and the hamlets of Kilmaha and Lochavich. DIG owns and manages the local community centre, village green, children's playground and land along the foreshore.



Awesome Energy (Dalriada) Ltd (AED) is a community benefit society set up by DIG to install and manage a community hydro scheme on the River Avich, adjacent to Dalavich. AED will donate all profits for this scheme to support local projects, including those identified in DIG's Community Action Plan.

Produced in 2016, the Community Action Plan established a clear mandate for allocation of the funds generated by the Hydro Scheme. Funded by a CARES start-up grant, it was developed through an extensive survey of local residents, visitors and holiday home-owners (past and present) in order to gather the opinions of a wide range of people with an interest in the area. In addition, interviews were held with a cross section of the community including children, the elderly and business owners to gain a deeper understanding of

the needs and priorities of different groups and a community meeting was then held to determine the priorities overall. The Plan outlines potential projects that could enhance life in the community. Members of the community have got involved in planning and delivering projects alongside the Community Council, Dalavich Social Club, DIG, Argyll & Bute Council and other groups.

## **Project Aims and Achievements**

The 350kw Avich Community Hydro Scheme is located on the River Avich and is a run of river system (i.e. it does not require a dam). The design involved constructing a new intake channel beside the existing intake weir on the river. The new turbine house is located alongside the ruins of an earlier turbine house and utilises a similar pipeline route as the earlier scheme, with due consideration for the heritage of the area.

The project is the first Scottish community scheme to use an innovative Active Network Management (ANM) solution to overcome a severely constrained grid connection. The solution was the result of partnership working, with a number of organisations and groups working together to deliver a long term, reliable revenue stream for the community. Parties involved in the ANM project included Innogy Renewables, Local Energy Scotland, Ricardo Energy & Environment, Smarter Grid Solutions, Scottish & Southern Energy Networks as well as AED.

The project reached financial close in July 2017 and the hydro scheme became operational in January 2018. The full financial package for the £1.55m cost was made up of a £250k loan from CARES, a £200k community share offer and the remaining £1.1m came from Social Investment Scotland's Social Growth Fund. Awesome Energy Dalriada are launching a second share offer later this year in order to reduce its debt burden.

In October 2016, representatives from DIG applied for a grant from the local An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund, administered by Foundation Scotland, to support the development of the Hydro Scheme. Decisions on Fund distribution are made by a Panel of representatives of each of the four communities that benefit from the An Suidhe Fund. The Panel proposed to DIG that an investment in equity (share ownership) in the project was preferable to a grant, providing financial support to the project while enabling a return to the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund, anticipated at around 4%. The shares are held on behalf of the four communities by Foundation Scotland and any returns from them will go back into the Fund. This is a long term investment of community funds as it is unlikely that the shares can be withdrawn in the short term. That decision rests with the Board of AED.

Meanwhile, profits from the Hydro Scheme itself are anticipated to start flowing to AED from April 2019. The Boards of AED and DIG are working with Foundation Scotland to establish a community fund arrangement that brings impartiality plus the skills and capacity needed to administer these funds, while ensuring the local community is in control of decisions about how and to where funds are disbursed.

## Lessons Learned

This is the first investment in a community-owned renewables from a community benefit fund in Scotland and an exciting example of a very clear 'win-win' for the community. Not only has it been able secure investment from its local community benefit fund but the project is also enabling establishment of an additional community benefit fund for Dalavich In addition, the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund will be enhanced by additional income from its shareholding sin the hydro.

It is worth noting however that there are some restrictions in Community Benefit Agreements around not using the Fund to further the interests of other competitor Renewables bodies. In this case Innogy Renewables and Green Gecco (the owners of the wind farm linked to the An Suidhe Wind Farm) were delighted to see this opportunity progress. Innogy also happen to be the primary users of the grid connection that the hydro scheme will share, and have been key to making the enabling the Active Network Management arrangement.



*Delivery of the turbine*

Peter Thomas, AED's Company Secretary & DIG Board Member, said:

*"This has been an exciting, inspiring, and sometimes challenging project. We are delighted that a significant proportion of the work went to local companies, which is in keeping with DIG's and AED's desire to improve local sustainability, including those based in Oban, Lochgilphead, Fort William and Doune. It was really gratifying to receive share investment*

*from An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund as it reinforced our belief in the hydro scheme. The scheme is now generating power and we are excited by the potential it offers the local communities. Initial generation figures are very promising and we are confident that our community income projections will be met and probably exceeded."*

**Website:** <http://www.awesome-energy.com/index.html>

## Preserving Eredine's Heartbeat - South Loch Awe-Side Community Company

### Background

South Loch Awe-side Community Company (SLACC) was set up in 2014 to enhance the area along the loch side by developing and delivering projects that will make it more sustainable. South Loch Awe-side is home to approximately 150 residents and second-home owners scattered along a 15 mile stretch. The area also attracts many visitors, for fishing, sightseeing, and other outdoor pursuits.

SLACC's formation was also a response to the fact that the dispersed community along South Loch Awe had not until then accessed any substantial financial support through the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund. Once established, SLACC developed a community action plan through local consultations including public meetings and opinions gathered through the community newsletter and the Eredine noticeboard, to identify the community's priorities and target funding opportunities.

### Project Aims and Achievements

Following a cardiac arrest, the chance of survival decreases by 23% per minute, and it is therefore very important medical treatment starts as soon as possible. The need for publicly accessible and portable automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in the loch-side area was made clear during the community consultations above, so as to meet the needs of Eredine's ageing population and where ambulances can take up to 50 minutes to reach the site of an incident.

In November 2015, SLACC received a grant of £2,900 from An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund to purchase and install an AED in a redundant BT kiosk. This is located within a few minutes walking or driving distance from houses in the Eredine/Durran area and is accessible from other houses and tourist accommodation along the loch-side road.

The Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) was contracted to install the defibrillator and provide training to the loch-side community. Through the auspices of BT's Kiosk Adoption Programme, paint manufacturers Craig & Rose Ltd donated specially prepared paint for the kiosk. CHT is contracted to maintain and insure the equipment, with the local community monitoring the status of the defibrillator via regular checks. The kiosk now is registered with the emergency services and people travelling on the B840 can be directed to it.

Catherine Hill, volunteer director with SLACC, said "*the community feels much better prepared and confident in the event of an emergency*" and that the defibrillator is "*a permanent asset and tool of resilience in this isolated area*". She added, "*Community confidence was boosted by the acquisition of*

*the AED, to the extent that SLACC was asked to look at options for further defibrillators to be commissioned along the loch side to increase emergency coverage."*

To that end, SLACC was awarded a further grant in November 2018, of £5,320, to purchase and install two further AED devices - at Portsonachan Village Hall and Ardbrecknish House. These will be complemented by a further device, to be purchased by SLACC from their reserves, and located at another telephone box, at Cladich.

The four defibrillators now provide excellent coverage for this large and sparsely populated area, benefitting its 150 residents as well as visitors.

With the success of installing the defibrillators SLACC are now exploring a community broadband service and enhancing local networking through a community newsletter and regular email alerts.



The telephone kiosk before



... and now

## Micro Grants Make a Mark - Dalavich Improvement Group

### Background

Foundation Scotland has developed and promoted the concept of 'micro-grants' over the past 10 years, providing a way in which a Community Fund can reach deeper into the community and bring about wider impact. A micro-grant scheme allows projects which only require small amounts of funding (up to £250 for individuals or £500 for groups) to be supported without having to apply to the main fund. The scheme is open to individuals and un-constituted local groups, although constituted organisations can also be funded where this does not disadvantage other applicants.

A simple application process – normally a short letter outlining the aims of the group, how much they are requesting and what the money is for - makes it attractive for less formalised groups to apply. The scheme is usually operated by the community council or another body that represents the local community and is capable of disbursing small amounts of money.

### Aims and Achievements

Since 2012, the Dalavich community has benefitted from a micro-grant scheme funded by An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund. The scheme is operated by community anchor organisation Dalavich Improvement Group (DIG), and is known locally as the "small claims grants scheme". In addition to owning and managing a range of important local assets - such as a children's playground, several open spaces, and a laundry - DIG has operated a micro-grant scheme since 2011, receiving a total of £4,500 from An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund for this purpose.

A wide range of informal groups have benefitted, receiving funding towards the costs of small projects, events, and equipment, for example: purchasing new equipment to support the annual music weekend in May 2016 (receiving £140); improving the toy stock of the Dalavich Kids Club



(£200); offering new social activities, such as a Christmas lunch and entertainment for senior citizens (£200) and; a new crafts skills course delivered by Dalavich Arts and Crafts Group (£140). The Community Emergency Response Team was also awarded £320 to put a community emergency response plan in place.

Gill Solton, Former Director of DIG and initiator of the Christmas lunch, said *"The small claims grants are an amazing resource for individuals and small local groups and have helped several within Dalavich to keep going. Thank you for helping a small village thrive and grow"*.

Agnes Fleming, director of DIG and An Sudihe Wind Farm Community Funds Panel member added: *"The small claims grants have provided a wonderful boost to groups within the Dalavich area such as our local art group, they used their grant to hold specialist workshops and bring professionals in to broaden their knowledge and teach new skills."*