

Fund Report

E.ON Rosehall Community Fund

Year 6

This report covers awards made through the Fund from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018



Introduction

The E.ON Rosehall Community Fund made its first awards in August 2012. The Fund supports charitable activities that enhance quality of life for local residents; contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities; and promote community spirit and encourage community activity.

Requests to support a wide range of costs and activities can be considered for such things as: equipment costs; running costs for local groups; staff or sessional workers costs; consultations; maintenance or refurbishment of community facilities etc.

The Fund invests in activities and initiatives that help to build a vibrant local economy, supports thriving communities and makes the areas attractive places to live, work and visit for people of all ages. It aims to:

1. Strengthen, sustain and diversify the local economy through the development of established or emerging sectors.
2. Encourage entrepreneurship and innovation in the local community with a view to stimulating economic and social growth.
3. Increase community benefit through the acquisition, development and use of new community assets and maintain and enhance existing ones.
4. Support measures designed to improve life chances and/or quality of life.
5. Optimise local resources and assets through support for coordinated community activity.
6. Support environmental improvements which give physical social or educational benefit.
7. Support energy conservation and increased use of renewables through the promotion of energy efficiency and sustainability within the area.
8. Respond to unforeseen circumstances or opportunities that are in keeping with the broad fund outcomes identified above.

The Fund benefits the three Community Council areas of Ardgay & District; Creich; and Lairg within Central Sutherland.

Decisions on how the Fund is spent are made by the SSE & E.ON Community Funds Panel, which makes decisions on the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund and also the two SSE Funds that operate in the same area (the Achany Community Fund and the Kyle of Sutherland Apprenticeship Scheme).

This Panel has 12 volunteer representatives serving on it, made up of two Community Councillors and two elected community representatives from each of the three Community Council areas.

The Fund is ring-fenced with one-third of the Fund allocated to each Community Council area to ensure that each community receives its fair share of money.

Financial Statement

Statement Period: 01/08/2017 to 31/07/2018

Opening Balance:	£17,500.33
Income	
Year 6 - E.ON Climate and Renewables 01/09/2017	£69,541.90
Interest to Dec 2017	£92.08
Sub Total:	£69,633.98
Expenditure	
Awards allocated and paid in Year 6	£71,259.00
Awards made in previous year(s) - multi-year payments/allocations	£4,420.00
Panel administration costs	£26.50
Sub Total:	£75,705.50
Total funds carried forward as at 31/07/2018	£11,428.81

Fund Overview

The Year 6 payment to the Fund from E.ON was £69,541.90. In the period from 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2018 (Fund Year 6) the Panel awarded a total of £91,259.00 from the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund to support 11 projects in the Fund area with total project costs of £165,599.75.

£20,000 of this was to a three-year project and two-thirds will be paid in Years 7 and 8. Taking this in to account £71,259.00 was awarded, allocated and paid in Year 6 (102% of Year 6 payment).

Also, one project awarded in Year 5 was a two-year award therefore a further £4,420.00 was paid in the Fund Year.

Awards to eight of the projects were towards revenue costs, with three awards going towards capital costs.

Panel expenses such as hall hire totalled £26.50 (0.04% of the Fund) although not all invoices had been received by the Fund year end. This is the Rosehall Fund's share of Panel costs split on a 50/50 basis with the SSE Achany Fund.

In total, £75,705.50 was spent in Year 6 from the Fund.

10 applications to the Fund were received in Year 6 with 11 receiving awards. One application was deferred for more information in Year 5 and awarded in Year 6. No applications were rejected by the Panel.

All of the Year 6 income was divided equally across the three Community Council areas. This meant each Community Council area had an allocation of £23,180.63.

Interest to the end of December 2017 of £92.08 was also divided equally between each area.

Ardgay & District Community Council area carried forward a balance of £1,017.11 from Year 5; Creich Community Council area carried forward £10,580.60; and Lairg Community Council area carried forward £5,758.52. The Panel admin/expenses budget carried forward £144.10. The total carried forward into Year 6 from Year 5 was £17,500.33.

In total the amount awarded in Year 6 from each area was as follows:

- Ardgay & District - £26,889.33 (£2,532.44 carried forward into Year 7)
- Creich - £32,670.34 (£6,314.90 carried forward into Year 7)
- Lairg - £31,699.33 (£2,463.85 carried forward into Year 7)

There was no need to top up the Panel admin budget given the small amount spent. This budget has a carry forward balance of £117.62 although there is an outstanding payment for hall hire at the year end.

Awards

The 11 awards made in Year 6 were used to support a variety of activities as follows:

1. **Sutherland Care Forum**, £7,098.00 - To fund staff, volunteer and equipment costs involved in running a nail cutting and advice service in central Sutherland.
2. **Invercharron Highland Games**, £2,500.00 - To purchase a storage container for the group's equipment.
3. **Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust**, £7,000.00 - To fund professional qualifications in project management and digital marketing for Trust staff.
4. **Assynt Mountain Rescue**, £3,000.00 - To contribute to the purchase and outfitting of a new 4x4 MRT-capable ambulance to be based in Thurso.
5. **Lairg and District Community Initiative**, £6,000.00 - To fund a feasibility study and 5-year business plan in support of the asset transfer of the redundant police station on Main Street to deliver tourist hostel accommodation and host a weekly youth club.
6. **East and Central Sutherland Citizens Advice Bureau**, £30,000.00 - To contribute to the salary of part time adviser and the delivery of outreach advice clinics and home visits over 3 years.
7. **Ardgay Public Hall Committee**, £1,230.00 - To repaint all exterior woodwork, downpipes and handrails.

8. **Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust**, £15,920.00 - To employ an office manager.
9. **Lairg and District Community Initiative**, £6,300.00 - To contract the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust to carry out a cost evaluation, creation of bespoke community housing strategy and facilitation of co-operative working with suitable partners to ensure best practice delivery of the Care of Wellbeing Centre.
10. **Lairg Community Association**, £5,200.00 - To employ a part-time administrator at 10 hours per week to assist with the day to day running of Lairg Community Centre.
11. **Rosehall Village Hall**, £7,011.00 - To contribute to the cost of replacing the steps up to the Village Hall.

Panel Overview

The Panel has had another busy year making awards across multiple Funds split across three Community Council areas.

Two community representatives recruited at the end of the last Fund year joined the Panel at the start of the Fund Year. Three long-serving Community Council representatives also stood down. There have been no community representative vacancies this Fund Year. Vacancies will be advertised in the related Community Council area as they arise, on the Fund web page at www.foundationscotland.our.uk/rosehall and on the new Fund Facebook page www.facebook.com/EON-Rosehall-Community-Fund

The Panel at 31 July 2018 was:

Lairg - Two community representatives: Anne Morrison and David Ross. Two Community Councillors: Andrew MacKay and 1 to be appointed.

Creich - Two community representatives: Lorraine Askew and Valerie MacKenzie-Harris. Two Community Councillors: Pete Campbell and Ron Boothroyd.

Ardgay - Two community representatives: David Hannah and Catriona Hill. Two Community Councillors: Silvia Muras and Betty Wright.

What difference is the Fund making?

The Fund supports projects that impact on many different aspects of community life. Whilst applicants are invited to state their project's 'best fit' with at least one E.ON Rosehall Community Fund outcome, projects often meet more than one of the eight Fund outcomes. However, the impact an award makes is readily observable first hand by the community.

In the period from 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2018 (Fund Year 6) the Panel awarded a total of £91,259.00 from the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund to support 11 projects in the Fund area with total project costs of £165,599.75.



The 11 awards in Year 6 have worked to achieve four of the eight Fund outcomes.

Five awards for projects totalling £22,241.00 aim to "Increase community benefit through the acquisition, development and use of new community assets and maintain and enhance existing ones," bringing the total amount of awards working to achieve this top outcome over the six years to 15, shortly followed by 12 projects towards the outcome to "Support measures designed to improve life chances and/or quality of life," which saw two awards in Year 6.

The following table shows how Year 6 projects receiving an award "best fit" with the Fund outcomes and spend by Community Council area.

It should be noted that awards in Year 1 of the Fund were made before the Fund was ring-fenced to an equal third in each Community Council area.

E.ON Rosehall Community Fund – Table of Outcomes Y1 – 6

Outcome	Years 1-5			Year 6**			TOTAL OVER 5 YEARS			
<i>(Some awards may achieve more than one outcome but have only been allocated to one)</i>										
1. Strengthen, sustain and diversify the local economy through the development of established or emerging sectors.	Ardgay	3	£17,437.00	£34,874.00	3	£4,500.00	£16,000.00	6	£21,937.00	£50,874.00
	Creich		£17,437.00			£4,500.00			£21,937.00	
	Laing		£0.00			£7,000.00			£7,000.00	
2. Encourage entrepreneurship and innovation in the local community with a view to stimulating economic and social growth.	Ardgay	3	£0.00	£19,150.00	0	£0.00	£0.00	3	£0.00	£19,150.00
	Creich		£0.00			£0.00			£0.00	
	Laing		£19,150.00			£0.00			£19,150.00	
3. Increase community benefit through the acquisition, development and use of new community assets and maintain and enhance existing ones.	Ardgay	10	£23,592.87	£62,519.90	5	£2,063.33	£22,241.00	15	£25,656.00	£84,760.90
	Creich		£17,262.13			£7,844.34			£25,106.47	
	Laing		£21,665.10			£12,333.33			£33,998.43	
4. Support measures designed to improve life chances and/or quality of life.	Ardgay	10	£29,362.16	£66,007.00	2	£12,366.00	£37,098.00	12	£41,728.16	£103,105.00
	Creich		£27,507.68			£12,366.00			£39,873.68	
	Laing		£9,137.16			£12,366.00			£21,503.16	
5. Optimise local resources and assets through support for coordinated community activity.	Ardgay	9	£17,153.48	£82,065.00	0	£0.00	£0.00	9	£17,153.48	£82,065.00
	Creich		£37,186.79			£0.00			£37,186.79	
	Laing		£27,724.73			£0.00			£27,724.73	
6. Support environmental improvements which give physical social or educational benefit.	Ardgay	3	£3,809.00	£14,137.00	0	£0.00	£0.00	3	£3,809.00	£14,137.00
	Creich		£10,328.00			£0.00			£10,328.00	
	Laing		£0.00			£0.00			£0.00	
7. Support energy conservation and increased use of renewables through the promotion of energy efficiency and sustainability within the area.	Ardgay	1	£1,437.50	£2,875.00	0	£0.00	£0.00	1	£1,437.50	£2,875.00
	Creich		£1,437.50			£0.00			£1,437.50	
	Laing		£0.00			£0.00			£0.00	
8. Respond to unforeseen circumstances or opportunities that are in keeping with the broad fund outcomes identified above.	Ardgay	3	£10,000.00	£28,150.40	1	£7,960.00	£15,920.00	4	£17,960.00	£44,070.40
	Creich		£10,000.00			£7,960.00			£17,960.00	
	Laing		£8,150.40			£0.00			£8,150.40	
		41	£309,778.30	£309,778.30	11	£91,259.00	£91,259.00	52	£401,037.30	£401,037.30

Total awards per area over Fund years	Year 1*	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 1-5	Year 6
Ardgay	£22,420.00	£12,897.50	£31,462.48	£24,500.00	£16,511.83	£107,791.81	£26,889.33
Creich	£40,589.46	£19,797.50	£14,086.79	£17,500.00	£17,757.35	£109,731.10	£32,676.34
Laing	£8,745.00	£14,482.44	£42,724.73	£11,428.00	£14,875.22	£92,255.39	£31,699.33
	£71,754.46	£47,177.44	£88,274.00	£53,428.00	£49,144.40	£309,778.30	£91,259.00
<i>Awarded in year but paying/allocating in future years</i>	<i>£13,333.33</i>	<i>£0.00</i>	<i>£19,809.00</i>	<i>£0.00</i>	<i>£4,420.00</i>		<i>£20,000.00</i>
<i>Awards made and paid/allocated in Year</i>	<i>£58,421.13</i>	<i>£47,177.44</i>	<i>£68,465.00</i>	<i>£53,428.00</i>	<i>£44,724.40</i>		<i>£71,259.00</i>

* Year 1 was before 1/3 equal split agreement

** amount awarded does not include past awards payable in current Fund year

In general awards are made to projects that expect to complete within 12 months. A further three months is given for awardees to submit a completion report which outlines how the award has made a difference. However, multi-year awards can be made with bespoke reporting arrangements.

Ardgay Public Hall Committee

The Ardgay Public Hall was built in the 1960's by the community on land gifted by the local Balnagowan Estate. It is used year round for activities such as Playgroup, Tia-Chi and Badminton, a number of community groups are reliant on it for their meetings and funding raising days and it is also available to hire for parties and other family events. The Hall provides the only large capacity venue in the immediate area and it is regularly used by the Lairg Learning Centre to deliver classes like IT classes, Christmas crafts and cooking classes.

The Committee noted that the exterior of the hall was needing repainted, this included the woodwork, the downpipes and the handrails. The Committee felt that the work needed to be undertaken urgently, to leave it for another year would leave the fabric of the building exposed to the elements all winter and there were fears the wood would start to rot potential leading to a much bigger more expensive repair project.

The Panel were aware of the Committee's hard work on various other projects over the years to upkeep the Hall and awarded £1,230 to fully fund the proposed work.

Mrs Rhonwen Copley, the Hall Secretary, said "The grant has enabled timely maintenance to be carried out which has helped protect the hall's fragile financial resources, and that in turn helps sustain a viable level of hire charges for all hall users. There was grave concern that the longer the woodwork stood unprotected from the elements the greater the possibility was of rot taking hold.

On completion of the works she said "The visibly successful completion of this project has not only physically protected the exterior woodwork but also plainly announces to both present and potential hall users that the building is being well maintained and is fit for purpose. It has also encouraged members of the hall committee to continue in their efforts to manage the hall on behalf of the whole community."

Of the application and awards process she said "The whole application process was straight forward and the award procedure was hassle free."

Lairg and District Community Initiatives

Lairg and District Community Initiatives (LDCI) was awarded £3,150.40 to help prepare a visual information display on the Lairg asteroid. The whole project cost was £5,364.10 and additional funding was received from a number of sources to allow the project to proceed.

The main purpose of LDCI is to take forward or enable projects that bring benefit to the local community with a focus on focus on community regeneration and fostering community cohesion. LDCI also works towards building relationships with neighbouring communities. Previous projects have included feasibility for community housing, public arts projects and the installation of additional seating for the community woodland.

This project was to take advantage of the recent discovery of the Lairg Asteroid. The asteroid had recently made international headlines as the one responsible for the first known impact crater on the British Isles. LDCI saw this as a great opportunity to put Lairg on the geological and astronomical map. LCDI wanted make something tangible from this opportunity to celebrate the area's unique geological heritage and also to deliver some long lasting benefit for the community in both educational and economic terms. LDCI proposed and planned a strongly visual, information packed public display and hoped to reach the widest possible audience and draw tourists in from the main tourist routes like the North Coast 500. LDCI saw this modest project as the beginning of something greater with the future creation of a permanent display which will help to put Lairg on the map.

A number of other organisations were involved in the project planning including the local primary school, the Lairg District Learning Centre, the Ferrycroft Visitor Centre, the Lairg Community Association, the Community Council and Highland Councillors. North West Highlands Geopark also contributed information to the exhibition displays, as well as 'returning home' rock samples, impact deposit from Lairg that landed on the west coast 1.2 billion years ago. Following a workshop with Lairg Primary School pupils, three outdoor interpretation panels were produced by local artist Emma Armstrong using the children's own words and drawings. The pupils liaised with Dr Mike Simms; the scientist responsible for the asteroid impact crater discovery. He answered their questions and they learned a lot researching geological facts surrounding the asteroid event. The schoolchildren also created a dramatic wall hanging and other artwork for display on the exhibition's opening night.

The opening took place in Ferrycroft Visitor Centre in front of an enthusiastic audience comprising local families, individuals and visitors alike. Dr Paul Monaghan MP formally opened the event and Dr Simms delivered a well-received, entertaining and informative speech on the phenomenon. He

visited the Primary School earlier that day and had an excellent meeting with the children, managed to fire their imagination and interest and many of them came to the event later to ask more questions and present their own rock findings.

The exhibition was open at the Ferrycroft Centre from May through November 2017 when the Centre closed for the winter months. The information panels were then lent out to the Assynt Crofter's Trust as part of their 'community land ownership 25th anniversary' celebrations. The exhibition proved to a great success and brought the asteroid story to a different audience.

Magda Macdonald, LDCI's Development Officer said "As a community initiative group we took the lead to make something of this unexpected scientific information opportunity and then very quickly disseminated our thoughts and findings throughout the community to instant endorsement. The project was an appropriate way to firstly celebrate our unique geological heritage and secondly to allow our members realise their hard work was capable of delivering some tangible and long lasting benefit for the community, in both educational and economic terms."

Leigh Sedgley, the Organiser for the Assynt Crofters' Trust 25th Anniversary Celebration said "The display was incredibly well received and added fantastically to our displays. Everyone that came into the marquee read the panels and was fascinated by the fact that they were close to where the first meteorite evidence was uncovered. So thanks for lending us the panels – they were wonderful and we very much appreciate it."

Marketing and Communications

The Foundation has continued to work to raise the profile of the Fund through a variety of channels during Year 6, as set out in the following table.

Activity	Date/frequency	Notes/impact
Issued press releases about awards made.	As required	A release was issued after each award making Panel meeting.
Updated Fund web pages on Foundation Scotland's web site at www.foundationscotland.org.uk/rosehall	As required	Raising awareness of the Fund and encouraging applications with 453 Fund page views of which 386 were unique.
Using the Foundation's Facebook page to promote the Fund.	Ongoing	Followers possibly include local individuals and community groups who may share.
Used the Fund's own Facebook page – www.facebook.com/EON-Rosehall-Community-Fund	Ongoing	Connecting with local groups and individuals, 27 followers to date.
Produced Year 5 annual newsletter for the Panel promoting the Fund.	September 2017	Distributed to local outlets e.g. library, Electronic version e-mailed to various stakeholders, community websites,

Activity	Date/frequency	Notes/impact
		newsletters etc. for promotion and distribution.
Communicated a summary of awards made after each Panel meeting to the three Community Councils in the Fund area and E.ON.	After each Panel meeting once award letter has been sent to awardees	For CCs to share as they wish.
Ongoing liaison with individuals.	As required	Adhoc queries from potential applicants on Fund, from community activists on the use of the Fund, requests from the press for information etc.
Liaison with grantees.	As grants awarded	"Acknowledging your grant" publicity advice sheet appended to cheque letters. Ongoing promotional queries from awardees i.e. signage.
Availability of a locally stored promotional sign.	Ongoing	The sign is used by awardees to use in publicity photos.

Foundation Scotland

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