



THE
ISLANDS
SCOTLAND ACT 2018

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Healthy Islands Fund

Maoin nan Eilean Fallain

Frequently Asked Questions

The Healthy Islands Fund (HIF) is a £1.3 million investment from the Scottish Government to further support improvement of outcomes for island communities in Scotland.

The Fund will support community-led initiatives that promote healthier lifestyles on the islands. The three aims of the Fund are:

1. To create opportunities for everyone to be active, whoever they are, wherever they live and whatever their background.
2. To create and/or support mental health care at a grassroot island level, taking into consideration the uniqueness of their community.
3. To use the natural environment to support islanders to make daily choices to support their wellbeing, by creating attractive and well connected places for recreation that are resilient and sustainable in line with Net Zero ambitions.

Do we need to be contributing to all three Fund aims?

No. Please only select the outcome(s) that are relevant to your work/project. You will not be at a disadvantage if you only select one outcome. But for whichever aim(s) you choose, please be prepared to demonstrate how you meet these aims in your application.

What is the National Islands Plan?

The National Islands Plan is the document created by Scottish Government following significant consultation with communities across the Scottish islands – it created a number of strategic objectives and commitments relating to each objective. Strategic Objective 7 is particularly relevant to the Healthy Islands Fund. It can be read here <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-plan-scotlands-islands/>

How important is the geographic reach of my project?

The investment is designed to support island communities and meet the objectives and priorities laid out in the National Islands Plan and the Implementation Route Map. Therefore your remit can be on one island or more than one island. To ensure you are eligible please read the Guidance Document.

Can we submit more than one application?

Yes, you can submit more than one application. Please note we anticipate the Healthy Islands Fund will be very popular, and given the desire to spread funding around the Islands as evenly as reasonably possible, it may be difficult to fund multiple projects from the same organisation.

How much can we apply for?

You can apply for capital projects up to £100,000 (+ £5,000 revenue costs) or up to £5,000 for revenue costs only. There is also the option to apply for a smaller amount towards capital costs - up to £15,000 (+



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up to £5,000 revenue costs). Funding can be for a standalone project or part of a larger programme of works.

Can Trusts apply?

Yes, Trusts are eligible to apply to the HIF for funding.

If we have no track record in securing government funding, should we still apply?

Yes. Applications are encouraged from organisations regardless of track record – as long as the application meets the criteria and ambition of fund as identified in the Guidance Document.

Can we use this programme as match funding for an existing project?

Yes. A grant may be considered for projects that have already received funding, on the condition that the funded phase of the project you propose, delivers against the overarching aims of the Healthy Islands Fund.

Does my project need to have match funding?

No. Match/joint funding approaches are welcome, but are not essential.

Can funding be sought for projects that are already in development?

Yes. It is for you to identify in your application why the funding is needed and for what stage of any project plan or programme. There is space to explain this in the application – and therefore we recommend you read the Guidance Document.

Can we use this funding as ‘last brick’ investment?

Yes. A project may already have commenced but be incomplete, on the condition that the funded phase of the project delivers against the overarching priorities of the Healthy Islands Fund.

Can we spend the grant on activities or costs that we have already incurred?

No. Your application should be for ongoing or new activity that will happen from October 2021.

Is there a budget template we should use?

Yes. Your budget must be uploaded in the template provided and in Excel format (we cannot accept other file types e.g. ‘Numbers’). Please insert your organisation’s name on the budget document and save the document with your organisation’s name. The technical guidance gives you instructions on how to upload all documents as part of your application submission. In your budget, we are looking to see how you intend to spend the grant and that it is for eligible costs. Effective applications will include a high degree of detail with specific items and costs listed in the budget.

What about VAT?

The grant should be provided net of recoverable VAT. If a project cannot recover the VAT they are allowed to include this in the project costs.



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When will we receive the funds and how will they be staged?

Finance will be allocated within four weeks of a project being awarded grant funding, assuming due diligence processes have been completed satisfactorily and the recipient has agreed to and returned a signed Partnering Agreement.

Is payment in advance or in arrears?

Successful projects will be able to receive their funding in advance of need, where that need has been established. If the successful applicant has the means to pay for part of, or the entire project, then they may be expected to do so, and reimbursed afterwards.

What is meant by capital expenditure?

Capital Expenditure is money spent by an organisation on acquiring or maintaining fixed assets, such as land, buildings, and equipment.

Capital expenditure creates or enhances a non-current asset (known as a fixed asset), provided the value exceeds the thresholds set by the Scottish Government.

Types of assets include the following:

- Capital assets (tangible and intangible) are used to produce or supply goods and services, for rental or administrative purposes. They are expected to be used for more than one year and their value will decrease over their lifetime if subject to depreciation charges.
- Tangible assets - property, plant and equipment (PPE) include land, buildings, dwellings, transport, equipment and IT.
- Intangible assets are non-monetary assets without physical substance. Examples are software, software licenses, research and development, website costs and EU emissions.
- Assets (other than assets that are still under construction/development) added to the non-current asset register (NCAR) will decrease in value if they are subject to capital charges known as depreciation or amortisation.

What kind of equipment can I request as capital expenditure?

Equipment funded must be integral to enabling and promoting participation in sport, physical activities, improving mental health or advancing the wellbeing of islanders. For instance funding football kits would not be eligible as having a football kit is not integral to playing football. Funding wetsuits on the other hand, would reduce barriers to people participating in open water swimming and would be eligible.

What is meant by 'revenue' funding?

Revenue funding can be used where there is no lasting asset for example to put on events, (attend) training courses, activities, running costs etc. Please think about how you will demonstrate that any revenue costs requested will contribute to the aims of the Healthy Islands Fund.

What monitoring will be required if we are successful?



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You will be required to spend against budget updates on a regular basis (potentially monthly). You will also be asked to collate data relating to your funding which may include the numbers of visitors, participants in activities, people using purchased equipment, community engagement etc.

Any underspend will be reinvested in the fund.

You will be required to provide at least one case study as to the impact the funding will have on your community/organisation/island and will be supported to deliver that through Inspiring Scotland. You will need to provide an update report against your expenditure, projected targets and outcomes at the end of March 2022. Depending on the nature of your project and the timescale of its outputs and deliverables you might be required to provide updates and reports after this date.

When do we need to have spent the funds and completed our projects?

Timelines for the HIF are strict. Funds must be committed and capital projects complete by the end of March 2022.

So for example, if you are using the Fund to buy equipment and/or renovate a building, we would expect your organisation to be in receipt of the equipment and have completed the renovation of the building by 31 March 2022.

On the other hand, if you were using revenue funding to undergo training, we would expect the training course to have been booked and paid for by the end of March 2022, but it is not necessary to have completed the training/qualification by then.

Timescales – when can I expect to hear back whether my application has been successful or not?

Applications to the Healthy Islands Fund close at midday Monday 20th September 2021. This is followed by an assessment and due diligence phase, where Inspiring Scotland review the applications. We anticipate this will be a popular fund so cannot guarantee when we will inform applicants of the result but we are mindful of the tight timescale for applicants in which to carry out their projects if they are successful in being funded.

Will there be funding after March 2022?

At this stage we cannot confirm this.

Who can I contact you to get more information and support?

For further questions about the application process please contact enquiries@inspiringscotland.org.uk and we will respond in 4 working days.