APPLICATION GUIDANCE
Islands Emergency Cost Crisis Fund
Application Guidance Notes

The Scottish Government's Islands Emergency Cost Crisis Fund has been established to support island communities across Scotland. The funding is being provided in response to the rising cost of living, which has been particularly challenging for islanders. The fund for North Ayrshire (Arran and Cumbrae) will be distributed by Arran Community and Voluntary Service.

The main objectives/expected outcomes of the Grant are for island local authorities to:

- Use this funding to target island areas only; and
- Use the funding to target immediate need and help those who are struggling due to the cost crisis; and
- Use the funding for existing schemes and/or other new support where the need is greatest.

The local criteria suggest activities related to the following outcomes will be considered:

- The development of youth activities that mitigate against the cost-of-living crisis, including access to training, signposting to volunteering opportunities.
- Activities that support access to food with dignity
- Events and activities that assist communities to live in a more sustainable and economic way.
- Initiatives that alleviate travel/transport related issues in order that communities or individuals can access services or resources supporting them to mitigate against the effects of the cost-of-living crisis.
- Events or initiatives that assist in raising awareness or build capacity for community groups to deliver work that assists in alleviating the effects of the cost-of-living crisis.

The amount available to island groups is from **£50 to £2000**, larger pots at discretion of scoring panel and dependant on number of applications.

Grass roots community groups and third sector organisations will be able to benefit from the funds to support them to develop a culture of mental wellbeing and prevention within their local communities with improved awareness of how we can all stay well and help ourselves.

What type of activities can be funded?
We can fund grants to most community-based activities that support the cost-of-living crisis on Isle of Cumbrae and Isle of Arran.

The Fund seeks to invest in activities that increase the ability of community-based organisations to provide a service to local people. Communities may be geographical or

communities of interest. Partnership awards that demonstrate multiple benefits will be welcomed but not essential.

We will fund:

Equipment
One-off events
Small capital spends up to £2,000
Transport
Volunteer expenses
Hall hire for community spaces

We cannot fund:

Items that only benefit an individual – for example, scholarships or equipment that is not shared
Routine repair and maintenance costs
Contingency costs, loans, endowments, or interest
Political or religious campaigning
Profit-making/fundraising activities
VAT you can reclaim
Statutory activities
Overseas travel
Alcohol

Project Examples:

Example 1: Activity & Training

Project idea: Skills Club

- Weekly sessions offering free food, training workshops in cooking on a budget, bike repair, and digital skills.
- Volunteer mentors from the community deliver sessions.
- Helps young people gain skills, reduce isolation, and access volunteering opportunities.
- Costs covered: venue hire, volunteer expenses, materials, small equipment.

Example 2: Food Access with Dignity

Project idea: Community Pantry

- A community-run pantry offering affordable groceries with dignity, plus cooking demonstrations.
- Supports families struggling with food costs.
- Costs covered: shelving, fridge/freezer, staff/volunteer expenses, hall hire.

Example 3: Sustainable Living Events

Project idea: Island Energy-Saving Roadshow

- A series of community workshops teaching energy-saving techniques and sharing resources (e.g., draught excluders, LED bulbs).
- Delivered in local halls/spaces across Arran and Cumbrae.
- Costs covered: trainer fees, hall hire, transport for facilitators, small equipment, providing food.

Who can we fund?

This fund is for third sector/ community organisations on Arran and Cumbrae. We therefore will check that all applicants:
• Are third sector (voluntary) organisations - Third Sector organisations include community groups, voluntary organisations, charities or social enterprises or any other not-for-profit group; these groups will be expected to provide evidence of a governing document.
• Are delivering services within Arran and Cumbrae, North Ayrshire.

Completing the Form
Please refer to aforementioned Guidance Notes before completing your application. Please note that no application will be processed unless all supporting documents are provided. You may find it easier to write your responses in to a word document as you go along and then copy and paste into the online form.

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible and will go throw a review process where successful awards will be made on a first come, first serve basis until the fund is depleted, which is when the fund will close.

Organisation Name – The name of your group/organisation.

What is the total cost you're applying for from the Islands Emergency Cost Crisis Fund? – Detail the total cost.

Email address – Preferred contact details for the application.

Website Address – If you have one but not essential.

What is your Main Activity – This is the activity you were set up to deliver and which area you consider yourself to be most involved in. i.e., sports, environment, retirement, leisure, gardening, food production?

Charity or Company number – Only applies if you are a registered organisation.

Group Type – The way you are governed or set up. Your organisation must be one of these structures to be able to apply.

Address Details – Enter address details your Organisation/Group is registered to.

Q1: Where will the activity or project be delivered? (Tick all that apply) – Tick the box that matches the area your work will take place, tick all that apply.

Q2a: Your project – What activity do you want to do? (Maximum 250 words)

Q2b: Your project - Who is going to do it and how will they do it?
Please include information on number of people who will work on the project, number of hours you will run each week, if applicable (Maximum 250 words) – Give details of what your project is and what difference it will make. Please include information on who your project will help.

Q2c: Working with others - Tell us what difference your project will make to your community. Who is going to benefit and how will they benefit? (Maximum 250 words).

Q3: How many people might benefit from the project – Please indicate number of beneficiaries.

Q4: When will your funded project start – We are looking for projects keen to deliver outcomes as early as possible, please indicate when you think you might begin delivery.

Q5a: What date will your project be complete – note that all projects should be complete no later than 31st March 2027

Q6: Provide a short description of item(s) required and cost. For example, staff training, venue hire. If you are applying for funding as part of a partnership, please provide details of all partners and a breakdown of costs for each partner (maximum 300 words) – Detail all items/services required for your activity and the associated costs.

Q7: If your application is not successful this time, would you like it to be considered in the next round of funding – we have been advised that there will be another round of funding to follow. If you want your application to automatically be considered, please select yes.

Q8: For equality purposes, is your project / activity open to all – This question is here to ensure you consider delivery of an inclusive project where possible.

Contact Information: - Name, address, phone number.

Do you have a Bank Account – please answer yes or no.
If not, this won't inhibit your application. It is worth considering asking a larger organisation to hold funds on your behalf, you will need an arrangement in place if your application is successful.

Please upload recent bank statement and copy of constitution.

Confirmation – click all boxes to accept terms and conditions.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss your proposal, please contact: Arran CVS on **01770 600611** or by email at **info@arrancvs.org.uk**