

How to apply

Applicants may explain and illustrate their proposed projects as they wish, however a summary is essential showing:

- Brief project description
- Key costs, capital and revenue
- Timescales
- Benefits provided
- Any other funding sources

Applications will be referred to various Council Services for comment. The submissions will be judged by a group of Councillors on a twice yearly basis, currently in February and August.

If the proposal is approved for funding an application form will require to be completed

Contact the Highland Biodiversity Officers for further information and advice.

Need to know more?

Contact Neil Downie, the Landfill Communities Fund administrator or the Highland Biodiversity Officers for further information.

Neil Downie
Senior Business Support Officer
Transport, Environment & Community Services
The Highland Council
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness IV3 5NX
Tel: 01463 702651
E-mail: neil.downie@highland.gov.uk

Janet Bromham (North Highland)
Jonathan Willet (South Highland)

Highland Biodiversity Officers
Planning & Development Service
The Highland Council
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness IV3 5NX

Tel: 01463 702274
Fax: 01463 702298
E-mail:
janet.bromham@highland.gov.uk
jonathan.willet@highland.gov.uk



LANDFILL COMMUNITIES FUND



What is the Landfill Communities Fund?

The Landfill Communities Fund (formerly called the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme) was designed to help mitigate the effects of landfill upon local communities. It encourages partnerships between landfill operators, their local communities and the voluntary and public sectors.

The Fund was introduced with the landfill tax in October 1996 and enables landfill site operators to donate a percentage of their landfill tax liability to environmental projects in return for a 90% tax credit.

Highland Council has agreed to spend its Landfill Communities Fund money on biodiversity and related projects.



Common Blue Butterfly

What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is short for 'biological diversity' and means the richness of nature or variety of wildlife.

As a region, Highland is extremely important for biodiversity. The Highland Council area holds at least 42% (>160 species) of the high priority species listed in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), which makes it the most important place in the UK for threatened, rare and declining biodiversity.

The Fund aims to:

- **Provide, conserve, restore or enhance a natural habitat**
- **Maintain or recover a species in its natural habitat**

This can include research, recording, management planning, monitoring and education work where projects aim to conserve, restore or enhance a habitat to the benefit of biodiversity. Research, recording, planning, monitoring or education cannot be the main aim of the application, but can form part of a wider project.

Rate of Grant

Normally the maximum single award is £10,000, and grant rates of up to 90% are available. The applicant must find the remainder of the costs from a third party source.

Am I eligible?

The Fund is open to constituted, not-for-profit groups and charities. Projects must be sustainable, have a clear community benefit and demonstrate partnership working. Community-led projects will be given priority.

All works must be on land or in water with a clear geographical context. A project site can have multiple habitats and you can register a project for a specific site to cover a range of habitats. Applications for multiple sites, programmes or initiatives are not eligible.

Grants cannot be offered for work that would be eligible under existing agricultural or forestry grants, or under the forthcoming Land Management Contracts.

Judging Criteria

Applications will be judged on the level of community involvement and practical biodiversity benefit to the Highlands.