

## Community Investment Fund opens to applications this week

Community groups and organisations in Perth and Kinross could share in part of a major funding opportunity that opened on Friday 14 September 2018.

The Council's Community Investment Fund (CIF) will, between 2018-19 and 2019-20, provide £1.2million to community-led projects that address local issues which meet the priorities of the five Local Action Partnerships (LAPs) that cover Perth and Kinross - Strathearn and Strathallan; Perth City; Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn; Eastern Perthshire; Highland and Strathay.

Each Action Partnership is made up of representatives from public services, the local community, and Councillors from the area. Their purpose is to tackle local inequalities by setting priorities to work for and with the community.

Applications of between £3,000 and £50,000 to the CIF will be accepted from a wide range of organisations - Community Councils, Development Trusts, parent teacher partnerships, social enterprises, registered charities, community interest companies and other constituted community organisations. The CIF is not open to applications from individuals or businesses.

Council Leader, Councillor Murray Lyle explained: "The Community Investment Fund is here to provide funding, or part funding, towards community-led projects and initiatives that respond to ward priorities and tackle inequalities, making a positive impact on as many people as possible and meet needs that are not currently addressed in other ways.

Consideration will be given to applications for a range of reasons - for example, community management of a local facility or improvements to a community building; developing outdoor spaces; the running of community events or activity programmes; training volunteers where this can be shown to have wider value; and purchasing equipment or materials to benefit the local community. I look forward to the CIF receiving many applications for support to make a real difference locally."

Applications will initially be considered by ward-level grants assessment panels, who will make recommendations to each Local Action Partnership to consider. The LAPs will then bring their recommendations to the Council's Strategic Policy & Resources Committee for final approval.

The CIF is open to applications from community groups and organisations in the Perth City; Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn, and Strathearn and Strathallan Local Action Partnership areas from Friday 14 September 2018 to Friday 12 October 2018. It will reopen on Friday 12 November 2018 for applications from groups in the Eastern Perthshire and Highland and Strathay LAP area, with a closing date of Friday 15 February 2019. Completed forms can be emailed to [communityplanningpartnership@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanningpartnership@pkc.gov.uk) or posted to Community Planning Team, 2 High Street, Perth PH1 5PH.

Further information on the Local Action Partnerships and their individual Local Action

Plans is available from [www.pkc.gov.uk/communityplanning](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/communityplanning). Application forms and more details of the CIF can be found online at [www.pkc.gov.uk/cif](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/cif). Support for prospective applicants is also available through the Council's local Community Planning staff who can be contacted via the email address above or by calling 03456 052000.