



Funded by
UK Government

**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FUND
2025/2026**

Completed project application forms must be emailed to:

grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

The closing date for applications is Thursday 1st May 2025 at 5pm.

Please refer to the associated guidance when completing this application form.

All projects must be completed by 28th February 2026

AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUESTED

TYPE OF GRANT	AMOUNT	PURPOSE	SELECT ONE
*Small grant	Up to £4950	To assist with any barriers to sustaining your group. For development of smaller projects.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*Community ownership/Community Asset Transfer (CAT)/Community empowerment	Up to £15,000	For groups who are taking ownership of land or assets. To support groups going through CAT or who have successfully achieved this, as well as supporting groups who are taking the lease of an asset. To support groups to achieve the priorities identified within their place plans or Community Action Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>

*** only one type of grant can be selected**

SECTION 1 – ORGANISATION DETAILS

a	Organisation Name	Narture CIC
b	Organisation Address	34 Newmarket Street, Ayr, Scotland, KA7 1LP
c	Website	https://www.narture.co.uk/
d	Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated)	CIC



	association etc. or private sector)	
e	If a charity or Limited Company please include your number	Company number SC665390
f	Is your organisation VAT registered?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
g	Does your group/organisation have a bank account?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 2 – CONTACT DETAILS

The contacts below will be required to read the guidance notes and consent to being contacted by the council officers managing this fund including for monitoring and evaluation purposes.			
	Contacts	Lead Contact	Secondary Contact
a	Name		
b	Position in Organisation		
c	Contact E-mail		
d	Contact Telephone Number		

SECTION 3 – PROJECT DETAILS

a	Project Title	Community Workshops in Eco Friendly Analogue Photography & Printmaking
b	A core focus of our work is sustainability. We're developing a programme of fortnightly workshops running from July 2025 to November 2025, culminating in a public exhibition of participants' work in December 2025. The programme is rooted in sustainability, creativity, and critical thinking — offering hands-on, accessible learning through analogue photography and eco-conscious printmaking techniques. These sessions explore analogue photography and eco-conscious printmaking methods such as risograph printing, which uses soy-based vegetable inks and creates minimal waste.	



	<p>We will also experiment with natural food dyes, making paper from onion skins and other food scraps — using these creative processes as an entry point to wider conversations around food systems, food waste, and sustainability. Through this, participants not only develop artistic and practical skills but also gain a deeper understanding of environmental impact and how small actions can inspire meaningful change.</p> <p>Addressing creativity, visual storytelling, communication skills and a technical understanding of the basic chemistry of the process in an environmentally safe way will engage an excluded generation who have only known a device based digital world. Enabling them to document lives and environment, take ownership of their own lived experiences and their relationship to the local community.</p> <p>We hope to empower young people to access their own creative ability and be in control of an analogue process to create truthful expression and narratives that are not manipulated. Person to person communication skills through visual storytelling will have a positive mental health benefit alongside the real skills that improve confidence, capabilities and employability.</p> <p>We've delivered multiple workshops to community groups and the public, often with no funding, simply to keep costs low and make them accessible. But to continue offering these invaluable skills and resources sustainably, we now need funding support.</p> <p>While we've struggled to build consistent momentum due to lack of core funding, we've seen first-hand the huge impact our work has when organisations like Ayrshire Drugs Alliance or Belmont Secondary School have had their own funding to book us. These collaborations have allowed us to run group sessions with real, positive outcomes — especially for people who wouldn't otherwise be able to access this kind of opportunity.</p> <p>Funding would allow us to offer open access workshops in food based eco-friendly photography and print-making processes utilising recycled equipment to provide the maximum response to the climate emergency.</p>
c	<p>What community will this project be delivered in and what communities will benefit?</p> <p>The workshop programme will be delivered in Ayr town centre, making it accessible to those living in central Ayr as well as surrounding areas with good public transport links by bus or rail. The project is designed to benefit a broad cross-section of the community, including young people, students, and marginalised or underrepresented groups.</p> <p>We'll be working in partnership with local organisations such as VASA to reach a diverse range of community groups. This includes Ayrshire College, UWS, local schools, youth groups, River Garden, LGBTQI+ communities, men's sheds, Women's Aid, and neurodiverse individuals. By creating an inclusive, welcoming space, we aim to engage those who might otherwise face barriers to accessing creative and sustainable learning opportunities.</p>



d	<p>If your project will require maintenance in future years how will your organisation achieve/fund this?</p> <p>We're working towards becoming fully self-sustaining through a mix of earned income and creative enterprise. A core part of Narture CIC is baking real bread to earn the dough to fund arts projects. We're currently expanding our food offering to support this, and we're developing multiple income streams, including paid workshops and darkroom rentals. These strands are designed to fund the ongoing maintenance and growth of our creative spaces, helping us reduce reliance on external funding over time.</p>
e	<p>Can your project demonstrate that your project/organisation needs have been identified through consultation?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>We regularly carry out both digital and paper-based surveys to understand the needs of our community – including access to creative spaces, opportunities, and resources. We've built a strong feedback culture into everything we do. Every workshop includes feedback forms to gather monitoring and evaluation data, helping us stay accountable and responsive. This ongoing feedback loop ensures we're not just delivering what we think people need, but what they've actually told us they want. Insights gathered from participants directly inform our programme development and space design, ensuring we stay community-led and relevant.</p>
f	<p>Which of the following Council plan priorities most aligns with your proposed project:</p> <p>Priority 1 – Spaces & Places <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Priority 2 – Live, Work, learn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Priority 3 – Civic & Community Pride <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>What UKSPF priority does it meet:</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> (Green Spaces, Active Travel, Sports Facilities, Cost of Living Support)</p> <p>Community Safety <input type="checkbox"/> (Crime Reduction/Prevention)</p> <p>Community Inclusion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Arts, Culture, Heritage, Volunteering, Digital Connectivity, Local Engagement and Regeneration)</p>



	<p>Does your project meet with any of the following objectives?</p> <p>Ownership of local land and assets <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community led regeneration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Assist with Community Asset Transfer <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Align with Community Wealth Building Principles <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Link into your local place plan/community action plan priorities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If linking into a place plan or a community action plan, please details which priority it will be achieving:</p> <p>Our project aligns closely with several priorities outlined in South Ayrshire Council's strategic plans, particularly the Council Plan 2023–2028. The relevant priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 2: Live, Work, Learn – Supporting initiatives that promote learning opportunities and economic development. • Priority 3: Civic and Community Pride – Encouraging community engagement and pride through participatory projects. <p>These priorities are designed to create thriving communities and are central to our project's objectives.</p> <p>Furthermore, our initiative supports the principles of Community Wealth Building by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing local skills and employment opportunities. • Retaining economic benefits within the community. • Encouraging local enterprise and sustainable development. <p>By aligning with these strategic priorities, our project aims to contribute meaningfully to the community's social and economic wellbeing.</p>	
g	Estimated start date:	July 2025
h	Estimated completion date:	December 2025
i	<p>Is your application submitted in partnership with other organisations? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please detail.</p>	



j	<p>If your project relates to a property or land, please confirm whether you own, or lease the property or land</p> <p>own <input type="checkbox"/> lease <input type="checkbox"/> (N/A)</p> <p>If lease, an indication that the owner is supportive or aware that plans will be required. Please detail how you will provide evidence of support, ie long term lease</p> <p>If lease, then a copy of the lease needs to be provided.</p>
k	<p>Please tick/populate as appropriate:</p> <p>Are you aware of the appropriate consents required for this project? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Do you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory consents for your project in place <input type="checkbox"/> • Planning, including listed building and conservation area consents <input type="checkbox"/> • Building Warrants <input type="checkbox"/> • Evidence of Pre application discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Please include your reference number <p>_____</p> <p>Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Copies of any of the above need to be provided</p>

SECTION 4 – PROJECT COSTS

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a	<p>How much are you requesting from the Community Empowerment Fund</p> <p>Are you applying for Revenue or Capital costs, or both?</p> <p>Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Capital <input type="checkbox"/></p>	£4,950.00



b	<p>Please provide a full break down of costs for your project. If applying for both revenue and capital, then please details costs separately.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders for 10 days at Scottish Artist Union Recommended day rate of £350/day £ 3500.00</p> <p>Materials:</p> <p>Bulk loaded Film 2 x 30.5 m rolls of Fomapan 400 35mm film at 55.00 per roll £110.00</p> <p>Caffenol (Instant coffee based Eco film developer) ingredients, Instant Coffee, Vitamin C powder and washing soda to make 40 litres of working solution £ 50.00</p> <p>Photographic Paper 1 x Ilford Multigrade 10x8 paper 100 sheets box at 80.00 per box £80.00</p> <p>2 x Secondhand Film cameras at 125 per camera £ 250.00</p> <p>Extra darkroom equipment all sourced secondhand</p> <p>Film Developing Tank £ 33.00</p> <p>1 Print Drying rack £ 19.00</p> <p>Riso ink set and roll of masters £406</p> <p>Utilities:</p> <p>Heat and Power 10 days @ £15 per day £150.00</p> <p>Marketing (Poster printing and social media advertising) £250.00</p> <p>Exhibition / hanging costs £100</p> <p>Total £4,948.00</p> <p>*For costs over £1000, 3 quotes need to be provided – <u>if relevant quotes are not provided when submitting application, it will not be considered.</u></p>
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c	<p>Does your group require the full amount applied for your project? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If the fund is oversubscribed, would a part funded offer be considered? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, then would this impact the delivery of the project?</p> <p>Yes – we would need to significantly scale back the scope of the project, which would reduce its overall impact. It would also require additional time to rework plans and adapt, ultimately affecting the scale and potential reach of what we aim to achieve.</p> <p>If you are successful, will this funding be used as match funding? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, have the other sources been confirmed?</p>												
d	<p>OTHER FUNDING. Have you applied for, or received, grants from any other body for your project/activity? If so, please give details of to whom and how much: N/A for this aspect of the project</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="172 1256 531 1375">Body:</td><td data-bbox="531 1256 1519 1375"></td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="172 1375 531 1496">Amount applied for:</td><td data-bbox="531 1375 1519 1496"></td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="172 1496 531 1617">Amount received:</td><td data-bbox="531 1496 1519 1617"></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="172 1617 1519 1680">OR</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="172 1680 531 1800">When applied:</td><td data-bbox="531 1680 1519 1800"></td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="172 1800 531 1921">When decision expected:</td><td data-bbox="531 1800 1519 1921"></td></tr> </table>	Body:		Amount applied for:		Amount received:		OR		When applied:		When decision expected:	
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Amount received:													
OR													
When applied:													
When decision expected:													



e	<p>Please confirm you have the following documents:</p> <p>Constitution/Memorandum & Articles <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Audited or independently verified accounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Last 3 months bank statements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>We ask that you do not upload these documents when submitting your application due to GDPR regulations. These documents should be submitted via email to grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>
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SECTION 5 – DECLARATION AND CONDITIONS

<p>I, on behalf of, (organisation name):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application is true and accurate and will adhere to the following terms and conditions;• Understand that making this application does not entitle the organisation to funding as a right;• Will not commence or commit any expenditure before receiving approval of the funding;• Confirm that the quotations are bona fide competitive quotes;• Will provide the External Funding officer with digital colour photos of the work, both before and after the work has been completed. I understand that these images will be kept on record and used for future publicity;• Understand that this funding award does not cover retrospective work;• Understand that to make any misleading statement in relation to this application could make the application invalid, or may mean the organisation has to repay the funding;• Understand that this application is subject to appropriate checks and meets appropriate conditions such as planning, procurement guidelines, and other statutory consents; and• I Have read the associated guidance before completing and submitting this application form.• Understands that if I do not provide satisfactory evidence of spend then the council may request I repay the grant
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- Failure to return or complete and return any evaluations requested then I may not receive any future funding from South Ayrshire Council. I may be asked to repay the funds if I cannot provide evidence that they were used for the purpose intended.

Signature: Saskia Singer _____ Date: 25.4.25

On behalf of: (Organisation name) Narture CIC _____

Please submit all supporting information to:

External funding Officer
grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk