



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	Alloway Railway Tunnel ART SCIO
b	Organisation Address	7, Wellpark, Alloway, AYR, South Ayrshire, KA7 4QA
c	Website	www.allowaytunnel.org.uk
d	Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated)	SCIO



	association etc. or private sector)	
e	If a charity or Limited Company please include your number	SC052139
f	Is your organisation VAT registered?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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	Raymond Sykes	Ron Ireland
b	Position in Organisation	Treasurer & Trustee	Chair & Trustee
c	Contact E-mail	Raymond@allowaytunnel.onmicrosoft.com	Ron@allowaytunnel.onmicrosoft.com
d	Contact Telephone Number	07932 256376	07711 811913

SECTION 3 – PROJECT DETAILS

a	Project Title	Alloway Railway Tunnel ART
b	About Your Project The objective is to create, and then manage, an inclusive community project which will create a stunning art installation within the old railway tunnel at the Brig O' Doon, Alloway, Ayr. Our objectives include the advancement of education (community involvement in the creation of art-works and heritage films on active-travel paths); community development by engaging people of all ages; school-pupils; students; youth and older groups and other interested individuals in the creative process; the advancement of the arts, heritage and culture by engaging people's interest in art and	



	<p>developing their artistic abilities; and for this particular project – bringing to life through art Ayrshire’s culture, heritage and social history, and improving the conditions of life through the creation of a multi-purpose community venue.</p> <p>The tunnel has been cleaned of the offending graffiti and the mural is being installed in four separate stages as funding is raised. As of April 2025 the first three stages have been completed and the mural hung with the involvement of several schools, colleges and community groups working with Thriving Communities on an outreach basis.</p> <p>In effect our local communities are creating an art gallery 150 metres long recording the rich heritage, social and cultural history of Ayrshire. In addition, young people are making short films which visitors to the mural can access via QR codes to see and hear the real stories being depicted on the mural.</p> <p>We are now seeking funding for stage 4 of the mural which will include the further involvement of local schools and community groups. Our artist has scheduled two weeks for leading community workshops for the progression of this, the final stage, of the mural. This model of community involvement has worked well in the past.</p>
c	<p>What community will this project be delivered in and what communities will benefit?</p> <p>The artwork will be available for people in the local community but also to visitors to the area from wider Scotland, the rest of the UK and from overseas who travel to this cultural-rich area. To date we have involved over 2,000 local people, mainly from South Ayrshire schools and colleges but also involving the older generation through the involvement of several local care-homes, in the creation of the artwork. We believe involving so many of our local communities will provide a sense of ownership and help safeguard the artwork created.</p>
d	<p>If your project will require maintenance in future years how will your organisation achieve/fund this?</p> <p>All capital expenditure on the infrastructure is the responsibility of SAC and ARA but the charity is responsible for the upkeep of the mural within the tunnel. We estimate the mural will have a lifespan of twenty-five years. We estimate we will need to raise approximately £5,000 per annum to keep the mural clean, fresh and vibrant. So far, we have received tremendous support for the project, and we believe this will continue when the final stage of the mural is completed through visitor online donations and through our continuing fundraising activities. We also plan to sell related merchandise (e.g. mugs, Christmas cards, jigsaws etc) to supplement our fundraising activities.</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>Before commencing the project, and with the support of Ayrshire College pupils, we carried out an extensive online survey of the local community which clearly supported the objectives of the charity. SAC and several local councillors have also provided valuable input, guidance and support.</p>
f	<p>Which of the following Council plan priorities most aligns with your proposed project:</p> <p>Priority 1 – Spaces & Places <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Green Spaces, Active Travel, Sports Facilities, Cost of Living Support)</p> <p>Community Safety <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Link into your local place plan/community action plan priorities <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If linking into a place plan or a community action plan, please details which priority it will be achieving:</p>



g	Estimated start date:	Stage 4 – 1st August 2025
h	Estimated completion date:	31st 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"/></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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Planning, including listed building and conservation area consents <input type="checkbox"/> • Building Warrants <input type="checkbox"/> • Evidence of Pre application discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please include your reference number 23/00126/APP <p>Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Copies of any of the above need to be provided</p>	

SECTION 4 – PROJECT COSTS

		£
a	How much are you requesting from the Community Empowerment Fund	£3,500
	Are you applying for Revenue or Capital costs, or both?	



	Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital <input type="checkbox"/>	
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><u>*For costs over £1000, 3 quotes need to be provided – if relevant quotes are not provided when submitting application, it will not be considered.</u></p> <p>The budget for the entire project is £200,000 as detailed in our Business Plan which is available if required at this time. The main expense is for the lead artist and project manager. The budget for stage 4 of the project is included within the budget of £200,000. We seek funding to cover the artist's costs in holding the community workshops for stage 4 of the project as detailed in the attached estimate. To maintain artistic continuity, we are unable to obtain estimates from any other party other than the artist who has delivered the existing stages of the mural.</p>	
c	<p>Does your group require the full amount applied for your project? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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>Not necessarily as we would seek the balance of the funding from alternative sources.</p> <p>If you are successful, will this funding be used as match funding? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, have the other sources been confirmed?</p> <p>No other match-funders have been identified at this time. Our policy remains that we will secure the funding prior to the commencement of each stage of the project. However, we are confident we will be able to raise funding to complete the project.</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:</p>	



	We have not applied for any other funding for this stage of the project. We have received funding for earlier stages of the project. This information is detailed in our audited Report & Accounts as at 31 October 2024 which we can provide.	
	Body:	
	Amount applied for:	
	Amount received:	£0
	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>	

SECTION 5 – DECLARATION AND CONDITIONS



I, on behalf of, (organisation name):

- 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
- 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: _____ Date: _____

On behalf of: (Organisation name) Alloway Railway Tunnel ART SCIO SC052139 _____

Please submit all supporting information to:

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