



Funded by  
UK Government

**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FUND  
2025/2026**

Completed project application forms must be emailed to:

[grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

The closing date for applications is Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 5pm.

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

**All projects must be completed by 28<sup>th</sup> 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

**SECTION 1 – ORGANISATION DETAILS**

<b>a</b>	<b>Organisation Name</b>	Curl Ayrshire Charity
<b>b</b>	<b>Organisation Address</b>	24 Beresford Terrace , Ayr KA72EG
<b>c</b>	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.curlayrshire.com">www.curlayrshire.com</a>
<b>d</b>	<b>Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated)</b>	Private Limited Company by guarantee without share capital use of 'Limited' exemption with charitable status



	association etc. or private sector)	
e	If a charity or Limited Company please include your number	OSCR Number SC053445 - Company Number SC813579
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	Colin Naismith	Robert McKay
b	Position in Organisation	Director	Director
c	Contact E-mail	colin@curayrshire.com	mckay.nirvana@gmail.com
d	Contact Telephone Number	01292 263883 077087777404	07734739676

## SECTION 3 – PROJECT DETAILS

a	Project Title	Ayr Curling Rink
b	<b>About Your Project</b> Curl Ayrshire Charity is a new, not for profit company set up in 2024 to build and operate a new, modern curling rink in or around Ayr. The aim of this plan is to deliver a new, international standard, energy efficient four sheet curling rink in South Ayrshire. To not only meet the demands of Curl Ayrshire's 340 members and associated visitors, but to introduce the sport to people who have never curled and to grow the number of people of all ages in South Ayrshire who will regularly participate in the sport. It will be designed to be fully inclusive to people with disabilities. Off season, the building could, if viable, be available for various other ice sports or to other community groups	



	<p>or local sports organisations by melting the ice pad. Curling in Ayr ceased due to the shareholders of Ayrshire Curlers Limited, who owned Ayr Ice Rink, putting the private limited company into voluntary liquidation on 26th September 2023. This meant the end of curling, ice skating and ice hockey at Ayr Ice Rink. A Steering Group was formed to examine the possibility of creating a new ice rink, primarily for curling use in the winter but available for other sports in the summer. The rink would be constructed, allowing for improved technology in ice management, enhanced energy efficiency and greater environmental considerations which would make it sustainable. The organisation has moved forward with its plans and, to date has registered Curl Ayrshire Charity's Articles of Association with Companies House as a company limited by guarantee with no shareholders; has achieved charitable status with the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR); has appointed directors; and has opened a new charity bank account with Virgin Money. Consequently, Curl Ayrshire Charity is now looking ahead to fundraising and securing a suitable site in Ayr to build the new curling rink. Having looked at a significant number of possible locations it has been concluded that in/around Ayr is the best location, not only for existing members but to attract new members to grow the business. The expected build cost will be approximately £2.7m and has considerable backing from Scottish Curling and South Ayrshire Council, as well as strong interest from local politicians and existing 340 members. The business plan will be presented to various national and local funding bodies to support this highly ambitious project. Curling is built around the ice, but more importantly around the social bonds it creates. The new facility will include seating areas, bar and catering facilities which will help to retain and attract new members and provide a service to the local community.</p>
c	<p><b>What community will this project be delivered in and what communities will benefit?</b></p> <p>Our preferred site is in the North Ayr Ward at Glenmuir place and will benefit not only the local North Ayr community but as South Ayrshire no longer has any ice sports facility will be of benefit to anyone in South Ayrshire and beyond.</p> <p>The Ayr North Locality Plan April 2024 has five main priorities which includes <i>"Improving outcomes for young people"</i> and <i>"Building healthier communities"</i>.</p> <p>Priority One of South Ayrshire Council Community Plan 2023-2028 states that within <i>"Play, Sport and Recreation"</i> everyone can access a range of high quality, safe, well maintained, accessible places with opportunities for play, sport and recreation.</p>



Community led local economic development, and a place-based economic strategy is a core driver in the SAC Strategic Economic Plan. It seeks to create vibrant communities and economic growth that is inclusive, enabling as many people as possible to contribute to, and benefit from, economic growth.

Scottish Curling is committed to promoting the sport and increasing participation levels among all ages, sexes and abilities. Its mission is to develop a robust infrastructure of clubs and facilities to support the growth of the sport and increase the number of people who enjoy curling in Scotland.

According to Public Health Scotland there is robust evidence that regular physical activity provides a range of physical,

mental, social, environmental and economic benefits, including:

- Reducing the risk of many long-term conditions.
- Developing and maintaining physical and mental function, enabling people to retain independence in later life.
- Supporting social inclusion.
- Helping maintain a healthy weight and reducing inequalities, particularly for those with long-term conditions.

In addition to the multiple health benefits of physical activity, societies that are more active can generate additional returns on investment.

More specifically, physical activity can positively contribute to several policy areas including Education and Children's Services, Strong, Safe and Sustainable Communities, Health and Social Care, Local Economies, Inclusive Growth and the Environment.

Sport and physical activity can enhance the contribution of local government to education and children's services through:

- Supporting physical and cognitive development.
- Promoting physical and health literacy, laying the foundations for lifelong participation.
- Improving educational attainment, either directly (improved grades, school engagement, behaviour and reduced absenteeism) or indirectly (by enhancing skills such as self-control and concentration, team working and time management).

#### **What can Curl Ayrshire Charity do about it?**

We realise the importance of helping the local community and by building the ice rink right in the middle of an area of deprivation, which is already a sporting hub, with football, bowling, gymnastics



	<p>etc. this gives us the chance to help support new initiatives in this area.</p> <p>To this end, we have set aside £10,000 per year to act as a subsidy for people in the local area to come and try curling</p>
<b>d</b>	<p><b>If your project will require maintenance in future years how will your organisation achieve/fund this?</b></p> <p>The project will require between £2.5 and £3 million capital investment. Our business plan and cash flow projections indicate that the project will be viable with its income derived from club membership and ice fees. The assets will be written off over a ten year period with plant and equipment maintenance built into the P&amp;L account and cash flow forecast.</p>
<b>e</b>	<p><b>Can your project demonstrate that your project/organisation needs have been identified through consultation?</b></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>f</b>	<p><b>Which of the following Council plan priorities most aligns with your proposed project:</b></p> <p>Priority 1 – Spaces &amp; Places <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Priority 2 – Live, Work, learn <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Priority 3 – Civic &amp; Community Pride <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>What UKSPF priority does it meet:</b></p> <p>Health &amp; Wellbeing <input checked="" 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><b>Does your project meet with any of the following objectives?</b></p>



	<p>Ownership of local land and assets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community led regeneration <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>If linking into a place plan or a community action plan, please details which priority it will be achieving:</b> Ayr North Place Plan</p>	
<b>g</b>	<b>Estimated start date:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2025
<b>h</b>	<b>Estimated completion date:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
<b>i</b>	<p><b>Is your application submitted in partnership with other organisations?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>If yes, please detail.</b></p>	
<b>j</b>	<p><b>If your project relates to a property or land, please confirm whether you own, or lease the property or land</b> own <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lease <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Under Negotiation with SAC)</p> <p><b>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</b></p> <p><b>If lease, then a copy of the lease needs to be provided.</b></p>	
<b>k</b>	<p><b>Please tick/populate as appropriate:</b></p> <p><b>Are you aware of the appropriate consents required for this project?</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Do you have:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consents for your project in place <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Planning, including listed building and conservation area consents <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building Warrants <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Evidence of Pre application discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Please include your reference number _____</li> </ul> <p>Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Copies of any of the above need to be provided</b></p>
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#### SECTION 4 – PROJECT COSTS

		£
<b>a</b>	<p><b>How much are you requesting from the Community Empowerment Fund</b></p> <p><b>Are you applying for Revenue or Capital costs, or both?</b></p> <p>Revenue <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Capital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	15,000
<b>b</b>	<p><b>Please provide a full break down of costs for your project.</b> <b>If applying for both revenue and capital, then please details costs separately.</b></p> <p><b><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></b></p> <p>Ice Pad installation £350,000</p> <p>It is not possible to supply 3 quotes as this is such a specialised item and there really is only one realistic supplier in the UK.</p>	



c	<p><b>Does your group require the full amount applied for your project? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b></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><b>If yes, then would this impact the delivery of the project?</b></p> <p>Not necessarily as we would seek the rest of the funding elsewhere.</p> <p><b>If you are successful, will this funding be used as match funding?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, have the other sources been confirmed?</p>												
d	<p><b>OTHER FUNDING. Have you applied for, or received, grants from any other body for your project/activity?</b></p> <p><b>If so, please give details of to whom and how much:</b> We are in the process of identifying other funders. We have had an initial conversation with Sport Scotland who are supportive of the project and we will be applying for a grant of £250k in September 25. The total funding will come from a variety of Grant funders. Loans from the World Curling Federation and individual members and local businesses.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 1305 515 1424"><b>Body:</b></td> <td data-bbox="515 1305 1509 1424"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 1424 515 1547"><b>Amount applied for:</b></td> <td data-bbox="515 1424 1509 1547"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 1547 515 1671"><b>Amount received:</b></td> <td data-bbox="515 1547 1509 1671"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="156 1671 1509 1731"><b>OR</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 1731 515 1854"><b>When applied:</b></td> <td data-bbox="515 1731 1509 1854"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 1854 515 1977"><b>When decision expected:</b></td> <td data-bbox="515 1854 1509 1977"></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Body:</b>		<b>Amount applied for:</b>		<b>Amount received:</b>		<b>OR</b>		<b>When applied:</b>		<b>When decision expected:</b>	
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<b>When decision expected:</b>													





e	<p><b>Please confirm you have the following documents:</b></p> <p>Constitution/Memorandum &amp; Articles <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Audited or independently verified accounts <input type="checkbox"/> We have not been trading for a year. But will include latest quarterly management accounts.</p> <p>Last 3 months bank statements <input type="checkbox"/> Do not have three months bank accounts as only recently opened an account.</p> <p><b>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 <a href="mailto:grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a></b></p>
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## 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



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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: Colin Naismith \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 26th April 2025

On behalf of: (Organisation name) Curl Ayrshire Charity \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit all supporting information to:**

External funding Officer  
[grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)