

**PLACE BASED INVESTMENT FUND
2025/2026**

The closing date for applications is Thursday 19th February 2026 at 5pm.

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

All projects must be completed by 30th September 2026

SECTION 1 – ORGANISATION DETAILS

a	Organisation Name	Narture CIC
b	Organisation Address	3 Cathcart St Ayr KA7 1BJ
c	Website	https://www.narture.co.uk/
d	Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated association etc. or private sector)	CIC
e	If a charity or Limited Company, please include your 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 – PROJECT DETAILS

a	Project Title	Community Bakery Upgrade: Skills, Jobs & Baking to Fund Arts and Revitalise Ayr
b	About Your Project At Narture, we use food and art to shape a brighter future. This project will enable us to upgrade a critical piece of bakery equipment—a brand-new, energy-efficient deck oven—which is central to everything we do.	

Our current oven is second-hand, very old, and inconsistent, which slows production and makes it hard to deliver high-quality bread reliably. A new 3-tray, 2-deck oven with integrated steam will transform our bakery:

- **Increase production and quality:** Consistent heat and steam means our sourdough bread will be reliably excellent.
- **Support learning and skills development:** Our bakery is a training ground for marginalised groups—school leavers, people in recovery, and others seeking work opportunities. Here, they gain artisan skills that are hard to find elsewhere, building confidence and opening doors to local employment.
- **Strengthen local jobs and apprenticeships:** The new oven allows us to scale up our bakery operation, creating more roles for young people and local residents.
- **Fuel arts, culture, and wellbeing projects:** Income from bread sales directly supports workshops, music events, and wellbeing initiatives, making the bakery a hub for creativity and social connection.

This project sits at the heart of our core pillars: **food, arts, wellbeing and sustainability**. By investing in this equipment, we can expand our community reach, delivering high-quality artisan bread, and continue providing a space where people can learn, create, and thrive.

By upgrading our bakery, we can also grow our wholesale customer base, increasing income that makes the organisation both financially and environmentally sustainable. This enables us to run more creative projects, provide employment, and operate as a community-owned, structured social enterprise. Our work supports experiential retail and cultural tourism, giving people a reason to visit the town and encouraging them to buy local.

This proposal aligns with the **Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP) objectives** by:

- Linking and aligning place-based initiatives, helping to establish a coherent local framework and implement the Place Principle.
- Supporting town centre revitalisation, community-led regeneration, and local wealth-building through meaningful jobs and opportunities.
- Ensuring our cultural programming reflects and shapes investments according to local community needs and aspirations.
- Supporting a healthier planet and people, building inclusive local economies, reducing inequality, and giving communities a real stake in their town.

In short, this oven upgrade isn't just about baking better bread—it's about nurturing creativity, building skills, supporting wellbeing and strengthening our town's social, cultural, and economic life.

c	What community will this project be delivered in and what communities will benefit?
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	<p>This project will be delivered in our local area and will benefit a wide range of people in the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local young people and unemployed residents: Our bakery acts as a training and employment hub, giving them access to artisan baking skills that are hard to find elsewhere, building confidence, and opening pathways to work. • The wider public: The local community will have access to healthier, high-quality sourdough bread. We also run educational sourdough workshops teaching people how to bake naturally, avoiding nasty additives found in shop-bought sourdough bread. • Arts and culture participants: Profits from the bakery support a variety of arts and cultural projects, including workshops, music events, and wellbeing activities. These programmes give people new skills, reduce social isolation, and help build confidence and connections. <p>In short, this project brings together food, skills, wellbeing, and creativity to support the local community, creating opportunities for learning, social interaction, and cultural engagement.</p>
d	<p>If your project will require maintenance in future years how will your organisation achieve/fund this?</p> <p>We will ensure future maintenance by securing a servicing contract where needed and budgeting for this through our trading income. This approach allows us to plan for upkeep without relying solely on external funding, keeping the project sustainable long-term.</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>
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>Does your project meet with any of the following objectives?</p> <p>20-minute neighbourhood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

	Community led regeneration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community wealth building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Link into your local place plan/community action plan priorities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If linking into a place plan or a community action plan, please details which priority it will be achieving: Our project directly supports the priorities set out in the South Ayrshire Council Plan 2023–28, including Spaces & Places, Live, Work, Learn, and Civic & Community Pride. It contributes to key objectives such as 20-minute neighbourhoods, community-led regeneration, and community wealth building by creating accessible, local creative spaces, supporting inclusive skills development, and reinvesting trading income into the community. In line with South Ayrshire’s Place Plan and Community Action Plan priorities, the project enhances local participation, strengthens community networks, and builds resilient, vibrant neighbourhoods where people can live, work, and learn locally. By embedding community involvement and sustainable income streams into the project, we ensure it delivers long-term social, economic, and cultural benefits aligned with Council ambitions.	
g	Estimated start date:	1.4.26
h	Estimated completion date: (must be by 30th September 2026)	1.6.26
i	Is your application submitted in partnership with other organisations? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please detail.	
j	If your project relates to a property or land, please confirm whether you own, or lease the property or land own <input type="checkbox"/> lease <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 If lease, then a copy of the lease needs to be provided. The landlord is aware of and fully supportive of our plans to expand the social enterprise bakery. Evidence of this support is provided via the attached copy of the lease, which confirms our long-term occupation and commitment to the project.	
k	Please tick/populate as appropriate:	

	<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>Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Copies of any of the above need to be provided</p>
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SECTION 3 – PROJECT COSTS

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a	How much are you requesting from the Place Based Investment Fund?	£14,865
b	<p>Please provide a full break down of costs for your project.</p> <p><u>*3 quotes need to be provided for proposed works – if relevant quotes are not provided when submitting application, it will not be considered.</u></p> <p><u>Mono bakery oven</u> – “3 tray 2 deck oven with steam £13,665.00 if you require racking below it is £450.00 extra. Build on site is from £600.00 subject to site survey, All prices are plus £150.00 delivery and vat. (we have quoted ex vat- total = £14865)</p> <p>2 other quotes are attached https://www.alexanders-direct.co.uk/diamond-frm-4e-f-bakery-and-pastry-rotary-oven?utm</p> <p>£22,816.80</p> <p>https://www.nisbets.co.uk/mono-static-rack-convection-oven-18-tray-3-phase/ht455?vatToggle=incvat&utm</p>	

	£20,039.98												
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 within the specified timescale? Full funding is preferred to ensure the purchase of the desired energy efficient new oven as planned. If only part funding is available, we would explore alternative ovens or seek additional funding to match, but full funding allows the project to proceed most effectively.</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:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Body:</td> <td>Scotland Edge Competition</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount applied for:</td> <td>75k</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount received:</td> <td>75k (To support architectural and planning work, building consent, staff training and wages, building works, marketing, rebrand, and new website – all contributing to the development of Narture’s spaces and bakery expansion to fund more arts)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>When applied:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>When decision expected:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Body:	Scotland Edge Competition	Amount applied for:	75k	Amount received:	75k (To support architectural and planning work, building consent, staff training and wages, building works, marketing, rebrand, and new website – all contributing to the development of Narture’s spaces and bakery expansion to fund more arts)	OR		When applied:		When decision expected:	
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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 online due to GDPR regulations. These documents should be submitted via email to grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>
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SECTION 4 – 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 • 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.

Name of Person Completing Application: Saskia Singer Date: 17/2/2026

On behalf of: (Organisation name) Narture CIC _____

Please submit all supporting information to:

External funding Officer

grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk