Rural Stirling
Housing Association

Community Donation Fund 2026 : Information Note

1. Introduction

The Association has a formalised approach to making community donations. A budget of £3,000 has been set aside for donations to be made by 31 March 2027. (This amount may vary from year to year.) (The Fund will be run according to our Community Donation Fund Policy.)

2. The purpose of donations

All donations will be consistent with our charitable objectives and aimed at benefitting:

- The Association's tenants or prospective tenants – either directly or indirectly or
- Rural Stirling communities more generally – particularly in respect of the development of local services, facilities and provision for the disadvantaged.

Applications are invited, from eligible bodies, for any project which might meet these key criteria. Examples of previous donations include contributions towards "physical" things (such as: the costs of: repairing or acquiring community buildings/halls; building a footbridge and providing play facilities) as well as other types of project such as helping pay for updating the Community Action Plan in one of the villages.

We will not fund applications that:

- Will only benefit one individual or household
- Cover regular running costs
- Relate to past expenditure
- Projects supporting or promoting political or religious beliefs

3. Donation amounts

You should bear in mind however that the overall sum available is not large and is likely to be allocated quickly. As well as telling us the amount you would ideally like, you should also let us know what the minimum worthwhile donation would be. The maximum donation is set at £1,500. The award of this maximum amount will depend on other applications received during the year as donations are made on a first come first served basis. Minimum application amount is set at £100.

4. Eligibility

To qualify your organisation must be a not-for-profit, voluntary, community or charitable body. You must be either based in the rural Stirling area or have a substantial presence here.

You must show you are properly constituted and well run, with a set of Rules and a bank account. (Note: If you are a small organisation and not yet "constituted" some assistance and advice can be provided with future Rules adoption etc, although this may not be in time for this round of awards).

5. Application packs and assessment

These are available from the Association's office on application or downloadable from our website. Applications should be returned to the Doune office by post or by email to stephanie.mcvey@rsha.org.uk

In assessing applications, we will look at a range of factors including:

- who the project will benefit and the evidence of need for it
- the presence we have, or will have, in the community that will benefit
- your organisation's own finances and whether a donation is necessary
- the pattern of previous awards
- evidence that the project represents value for money
- whether an award would help secure "match funding" from elsewhere.

6. Decision on awards

Our CEO will agree the awards.

7. Monitoring and publicity

A condition of any donation will be a requirement to provide information about how the money has been spent, and to return any monies not needed.

Donations made will be publicised on our website and in our newsletter *Rural Matters* and in the Association's Annual Performance Report.

We would ask that you acknowledge our donation in any of your own publicity.

Providing affordable homes: sustaining rural communities

Rural Stirling Housing Association (www.rsha.org.uk)
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RSHA is a Registered Social Landlord and Scottish Charity (No. SC037849).