

## Town and Village Amenity and Improvement Fund Criteria

The “Towns and Villages Amenity and Improvement Fund” is intended to be for the benefit of all, to assist communities in maintaining the appearance of their towns and villages. These monies are to support initiatives by each community, and we would encourage the promotion of team working to develop stronger communities.

Where possible, the purpose of this fund is to encourage on-going works (maintenance or 'revenue works') rather than one-off specific projects ('capital works').

It can be used to offer an honorarium to a dedicated individual within the village or town through a constituted body, such as a Community Association or Community Council, and/or to provide materials for the worker and volunteers.

It cannot be used for works in areas which cannot be publicly accessed, or for works in private properties. It would be expected that all works will be outside.

The following communities would be entitled to grant of **£500**.

Boyndie	Cornhill,	Cortes/Rathen
Crovie	Fordyce	Gardenstown
King Edward	Memsie	New Aberdour
New Byth	Pennan	Sandend
Tyrie		

The following communities are entitled to a grant of **£750**:

Aberchirder,	Inverallochy and Cairnbulg	Portsoy
Rosehearty	Sandhaven	Whitehills

In recognition of their larger size, the following settlements are entitled to a grant of **£1,200**:

Banff	Macduff	Fraserburgh
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There are, as you are aware, certain conditions attached to the grants. These are broadly:

- A proposal of how the funds will be used must be submitted to the Area Office. **This should be submitted by 31 May 2024.** If there is no response by this date, it will be assumed that the funds are not required, and they will be redistributed within the Committee budget. If you have any issues in submitting your proposals by this date, please contact the Area Manager's Office as soon as possible.

- Funds must be used for the purpose they are awarded, that is to improve the amenity or maintain the appearance of the village/town/community to which they are awarded. Broadly speaking maintenance covers such activities as:
  - An honorarium for a village 'orderly' or similar role to undertake routine maintenance such as sweeping, litter picking, weeding, repairs etc. - noting that Community Councils should not 'employ' anyone;
  - Grass cutting or other ongoing maintenance work, including that contracted out; or
  - Equipment for the undertaking of the same, including paint, or other materials for repairs.
- There is also an explicit prohibition on anyone contracted as an orderly from using mechanical equipment such as a strimmer etc, unless your Community Council insurance covers this use.
- Funds will be paid directly to Community Councils who may distribute funds to Amenities Associations, or other appropriate bodies, to manage works and support projects within their area based firmly in line with the criteria. However, the responsibility for the use of the funds and the insurance for any orderlies lies with the Community Council.
- Communities looking to contract an Orderly are encouraged to consider contacting their local Academy, especially the Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator, if there is one, as they can be useful sources of people who will undertake an Orderly type position either over the summer or throughout the year.
  - Fraserburgh Academy [fraserburgh.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:fraserburgh.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01346 417400
  - Banff Academy [banff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:banff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
Tel. 01261 455600

Although not within the Banff and Buchan Area, these schools may be closer geographically.

- Meldrum Academy - [meldrum.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:meldrum.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
Tel. 01651 871300
  - Ellon Academy - [ellon.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:ellon.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
Tel. 01358 720715
  - Turriff Academy - [turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:turriff.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
Tel. 01888 563216
- A report on how the funds were used must be submitted by June 2025  
Communities who do not submit a report will not be eligible for any future round of funds.

- There is no time limit within the year for use of the funds, so, for instance, you might offer an honorarium to someone to be an orderly for a whole year, rather than just the summer season, although all funds should be used by **14 March 2025**. We may ask for evidence that funds have been spent, and in accordance with the scheme.
- Any publicity arising from works carried out in accordance with the “Towns and Villages Amenity and Improvement Scheme” should take cognisance of the funding provided by the Banff and Buchan Area Committee.

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