

# West Lothian Development Trust

The West Lothian Development Trust fund is money received from windfarm developments in West Lothian. The purpose of the fund is to assist communities within 10km of any windfarm development.

The fund is administered through the West Lothian Development Trust, a Trust set up to administer and manage the funds. The trust comprises of members from the communities within 10km of the developments, West Lothian Council and the windfarm developers. 70% of all funding received will be spent in communities within 5km of any windfarm development. The remaining 30% will be spent within 10km

The fund supports projects which meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Relieve poverty, advance education or social purposes beneficial to an eligible community.
- Promote and encourage environmental improvement or enhancement.
- Secure investment, create employment, implement training, promote or secure sustainable development.
- Provide or assist in the provision of renewable energy.

The Trust administers two grant funds; one from Blacklaw Windfarm and one from Pateshill Windfarm. Both grant funds have two strands of funding; a small grants fund of up to £2,000 and a main grants fund of up to £25,000. A maximum of 70% intervention rate applies to both grants.

## Eligible areas for the Blacklaw Fund:

## Eligible areas for Pateshill Fund:

5km	Fauldhouse	5km	Stoneyburn
	Fauldhouse		Addiewell
10km	Longridge	10km	Harburn
	Stoneyburn		Breich
	Breich		West Calder
	Addiewell		Fauldhouse
	Whitburn		Longridge
	Greenrigg		Whitburn
			Blackburn

In 2013/2014 the West Lothian Development Trust received nearly £76,000 of funding and distributed £81,574.20.

## Examples of projects supported by West Lothian Development Trust

### **West Calder & Harburn Community Council (WC&HCC)**

In late 2012, WC&HCC organised and carried out a full scale community consultation (funded by Coalfields Regeneration Trust) to find out what the local community felt about their village and how they would like to see things improved.

The results of the consultation were collated and the information gathered was used create a five year plan for West Calder & Harburn. A community development trust was then set up by the community council with the purpose of delivering improvements detailed within the plan.

WC&HCC then applied to West Lothian Development Trust for a grant of £4783 to part fund the cost of an Urban Realm Study to be carried out in the villages.

#### **Urban Realm Study**

The Urban Realm Study was carried out by Glasgow architects Collective Architecture. They undertook further consultation within the village and carried out a significant amount of research in order to complete the study. The final report produced by the architects at the end of the study details 10 large scale projects which would significantly enhance the local area. The community development trust is now actively working to deliver on these ideas.

### **CFINE West Lothian**

CFINE West Lothian are a social enterprise which aims to improve health and wellbeing through supported work placements, volunteering and employability opportunities, all of which bring a range of personal, family and community benefits within disadvantaged and excluded communities. This is achieved and supported through promotion of the consumption of fruit, vegetables, pulses and other healthy products through Community Food Outlets.

CFINE WL also sells fruit and veg on a commercial basis, the profit from which finances the organisation's charitable outcomes. As a social enterprise, all profit is invested in the health and community development work that takes place in disadvantaged, excluded and deprived communities.

An application to WLDT in November 2013 was for a grant of £19026 to fund a development worker and management of a project which would see the expansion of CFINEs food co-ops to additional rural and disadvantaged communities across the west of West Lothian.

## Fauldhouse Community Development Trust (FCDT)



Established in 2006 the FCDT has been able to build resources and assets for the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of Fauldhouse to benefit all of its residents. FCDT act as a catalyst promoting and supporting projects, organisations and individuals who contribute to the continued improvement of the quality of life of all residents.

Projects include:

- A Community Hub in Fauldhouse. The hub offers opportunities to local residents to receive support and guidance to address their needs. It also provides a space for local residents to meet, with a soft play area and community cinema contained within the building.
- A community newsletter delivered to every household in Fauldhouse.
- A Time Bank project which is encouraging volunteering by local residents and giving volunteering hours back to the community.
- Local environmental improvements including filling planters on Main Street and tidying up the war memorial garden.

Membership of the trust and usage of the Hub building has been steadily rising, with residents raising a range of employment, housing, financial, environmental and other issues and concerns on a regular basis.

Most recently funding has been sought for staff costs to build upon the vital community development work already on-going. There will also be a focus on encouraging environmental improvement by organising green events, public consultations on projects, regular community events such as the annual music festival and spring fair, and giving advice to local residents.

If you would like to apply to the West Lothian Development Trust please visit [www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/5159/West-Lothian-Development-Trust](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/5159/West-Lothian-Development-Trust) or alternatively contact Laura Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor St David House, Bathgate, EH48 1TT

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development trust