Regeneration Capital Grant Fund 2026/27

## Expression of Interest

West Dunbartonshire Council is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from local groups that are interested in applying to the Scottish Government’s Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) 2026/27. The RCGF now combines the funding previously delivered through the Vacant and Derelict Investment Programme (VDLIP) and the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) into a single fund.

The RCGF is proposed Scottish Government funding which is still going through their budget approval process. The Council has been asked by the Scottish Government to collect expressions of interest in the local area however submission does not guarantee an award will be made.

The RCGF has been designed to help to address persistent vacant and derelict land as well as supporting locally developed, place-based regeneration projects that involve local communities, helping to tackle inequalities and improving the economic, social, and physical environment of deprived, disadvantaged and fragile remote communities across Scotland.

Please note, community and private organisations cannot and should not apply to the Scottish Government directly for RCGF funding. West Dunbartonshire Council will review the EOI submissions and choose the strongest applications to put forward for the RCGF Stage 1 application.

Projects should:

* focus on areas that suffer from high levels of deprivation and disadvantage
* demonstrate clear community involvement
* deliver large scale transformational change with strong regeneration outcomes
* encourage additional investment and address market failure in communities

The Council encourages any bid to be a minimum of £100k, as the Fund favours more transformational projects. The project must meet all the funding criteria to be eligible, and organisations that can demonstrate match funding may be looked on more favourably.

This EOI form will allow you to provide headline details of your proposed funding bid. The Council will evaluate the projects and select the strongest applications to be developed into Stage 1 RCGF applications.

Please note, you must answer the Gateway Criteria questions for your EOI to be considered. If you answer ‘NO’ to any of these questions, your project would not be taken forward to the application development stage as it is likely to be ineligible for RCGF funding. It is essential that you read the Stage 1 (Expression of Interest) Guidance document prior to submitting your application.

Please complete and return this form to regeneration@west-dunbarton.gov.uk by **9.00am on Monday 9 June 2025**. Groups will be informed whether they have been successful during the week commencing 16 June 2025. Successful groups will be asked to complete the Stage 1 Application, with an initial draft due by **12 noon on Tuesday 24 June 2025**. The Scottish Government’s deadline for the completed RCGF application is **5pm on Friday 27 June 2025**.

## Gateway Criteria Form

The following questions must be completed.

If you answer ‘No’ to one or more of these questions, your EOI will be rejected, and your project will not be explored further by West Dunbartonshire Council for RCGF.

| **Gateway Criteria** | **Tick appropriate box** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Have you read the Scottish Government’s Stage 1 (Expression of Interest) Guidance for the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund?**
 | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **Is your project primarily aimed at providing new infrastructure or enhancing/upgrading existing infrastructure?**

Infrastructure refers to physical structures. Examples include buildings, active travel routes, community halls, gardens, allotments/growing space or other community spaces.  | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **Is your project based within West Dunbartonshire?**

WDC can only apply to RCGF for projects based within West Dunbartonshire. If your project idea is based elsewhere in Scotland, you should contact your local authority. | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **Is your project seeking capital funding?**

Capital funding is used to purchase, build or upgrade fixed assets such as land and buildings. Running costs associated with community assets/buildings are not eligible. Moveable infrastructure such as furnishings and fittings are also not eligible.  | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **Has your project moved beyond the feasibility stage?**

RCGF can only be awarded to projects for which the design is well advanced, with a design team, delivery programme and cost plan in place. | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **Were the local community involved in your project’s design?**
 | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **Will your project help to achieve net-zero targets?**

Project applications should also detail how they are contributing towards the target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2045. | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |
| 1. **If successful, would your project be ready to spend or commit any funding in financial year 2026/27?**

Project end dates may go beyond the funding period outlined in the application; however, it should be clear what the sources of funding for this activity will be. | Yes [ ]  | No [ ]  |

## Expression of Interest Form

| **About your organisation** |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation name** Please include the lead applicant if this is a joint project |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Lead contact (name)** |  |
| **Position in organisation** |  |
| **Contact email address** |  |
| **Contact telephone number**  |  |

| **Tell us about your project** |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project title** |  |
| **Project location**  |  |
| **What will your project do?**Please provide a short summary of what your project is aiming to deliver, no more than 300 words. Your summary should show how you have taken a place-based approach when developing your project. Please note that RCGF funding is not intended to be a primary source of funding for housing projects, major transport projects, hotel or retail developments or flood protection works.Running costs for buildings or community assets are not eligible. |  |
| **How has the local community been involved in the development of your project?** Please provide a short summary of how you have used input from the local community to develop your project.  |  |
| **Who will benefit from your project?**Please provide a short summary of who your project will benefit most, and how you have consulted with the local community.  |  |
| **How much will your project cost?** There is no set minimum funding award. However, based on previous awards, we would be looking to support projects seeking funds of around £100,000 or more. Please provide clear information and evidence around the cost of taking this project forward, and a breakdown of costs that show what the requested grant will be used for.  |  |
| **Do you have match funding in place? Please detail**Projects that can demonstrate match funding will be looked on favourably by the RCGF investment panel. |  |
| **If required, do you have design proposals in place, planning permissions secured etc?**Please provide details of what design work you have done so far, and if you have begun the planning process for your project.  |  |

Please note that organisations are also encouraged to supply the following alongside the completed EOI form:

* Details of site ownership
* Project plans or drawings
* Business plans or feasibility study
* Any relevant photographs

## RCGF Application Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Deadline for submission of EOI  | 9am on Monday 9 June 2025 |
| Notification given on outcome of EOI and successful groups asked to complete Stage 1 Application | by w/c Monday 16 June 2025 |
| Draft Stage 1 Applications to be submitted to WDC for review | 12 noon on Tuesday 24 June 2025 |
| Final Stage 1 Applications submitted to Scottish Government | 5pm on Friday 27 June 2025 |
| Scottish Government assessment panel announce successful applications and proceed to Stage 2 assessment | August 2025 |