

**North  
East  
Arts  
Touring**

# Community Culture & Heritage Fund Guidelines

funded by



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# Community Culture & Heritage Fund

## About North East Arts Touring

North East Arts Touring (NEAT) has been a cornerstone of cultural enrichment in the North East of Scotland since 1985. It is dedicated to bringing professional theatre and community cinema to Aberdeenshire, Angus, Moray, and Aberdeen City.

Initially focused on supporting rural communities through a network of volunteer promoters, NEAT has significantly broadened its scope over the years. In 2013, it launched Scotland's first community cinema network, followed by the Young Promoter Scheme in 2015, designed to empower young people to promote their own cultural programmes and learn transferable arts and event management skills.

NEAT's inclusive approach extends to delivering cultural and heritage community engagement projects, especially targeting rural and deprived communities to ensure equitable access to the arts. The organisation's theatre-in-schools programme exemplifies this commitment by making theatre accessible to rural primary schools.

The substantial increase in participant numbers reflects NEAT's expansive impact and dedication to cultivating inclusive cultural development within communities across the North East.



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# About The Positive Action Grant

## Timeline

Deadline to apply:

**Thursday 31 October 2025 @ 5:30pm**

Activity must be completed by:

**Monday 31 March 2025**



*Scolty Rehearsal with Rachel with Clarsachs  
Glenbuchat Eclectic Events*

## Who can apply for the fund?

Applications can be made by **individuals, clubs, groups** or **societies** that have an interest to develop activity that will take place in and benefit any one of our five target communities of:

**Cuminestown Fettercairn New Deer Rothienorman Strathdon**

There are two different funds depending on the type of applicant:

- an individual - **Small Grant**, of up to £500
- group, club, society - **Large Grant**, of up to £1,000

All project applications should be focused on these vital elements:

- a) supporting and growing cultural or heritage activity within their targeted community.
- b) The activity being inclusive and specifically for the benefit of residents within the targeted community.

# The Five Communities

## Cuminestown Fettercairn New Deer Rothienorman Strathdon

The five communities in question are classified as rural or remote rural. Although some cultural amenities such as libraries or heritage venues are located within a five-mile radius, public transportation is limited, making access to a private vehicle essential. Several of these places have a population of less than 1000 people. Each has a primary school, four of which currently have composite classes. Older children often have to travel long distances to reach the nearest academy. Additionally, each settlement has a residential facility for older individuals owned by Aberdeenshire Council or private sector organisations. The number of individuals aged 70 and older has increased noticeably in certain areas in the past few years, with figures likely to follow the predicted Aberdeenshire trend of a 28% increase in 65+ by 2030.



***Hand Pict by Penny, a creative workshop in Cuminestown***



***Family Christmas arts & crafts session delivered by Holly Cowie in Strathdon***

“

I am entirely happy with the support, guidance, and administrative security that NEAT provide. They have been excellent in taking a first time community film promoter through the different steps in getting a regular community film club working, and their suggestions on delivery, technology, promotion, and inclusivity have been useful and encouraging from the start.

*Charlie, volunteer promoter in Tarland*

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# Large Grant

## Who can apply:

Organisations, Clubs, Groups, Associations & Societies

## Amount:

Up to £1,000

To apply, the applicant must be from or a constituted club, group or society. The grant must be paid into a bank account registered in the group's name (not an individual's account).

A maximum of 35% of the grant can be allocated to fixtures, fittings and repairs.

# Small Grant

## Who can apply:

Individuals

## Amount:

Up to £500

This fund is to support individuals who wish to set up an event, activity or workshop. You do not need to have run any community activity before in order to apply for this grant.



**Rachel Walker &  
Aaron Jones**

**Glenbuchat  
Live Music**

# What you can use the funding for?

The money should be used to positively change your community. While we can support the development of your group, you must ensure that part of your project includes access to public events or activities.

For instance, the money can be utilised for various purposes; this list is not exhaustive:

- **Research and Development**
- **Delivering Projects**
- **Training**
- **Purchasing or hiring of materials and resources**
- **Artistic fees – i.e. tutors, facilitators, Designers, Performers**
- **Travel Expenses**
- **Venue Hire**
- **Marketing**
- **Online subscriptions**
- **Revenue-making ideas.**



**Fettercairn School  
Mural by Paco Graff**

**Fettercairn Primary  
Parent Council**



You do a fantastic job at all times but especially during this pandemic. Living as we do relatively far from cultural centres you bring us that essential part of human enjoyment and development, such joy. Thank you

*Peter  
audience member, Glenlivet*

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# Types of activities we support

Our objective is to help initiatives that improve the overall well-being of individuals and communities, foster skills growth, or create social opportunities that strengthen community cohesion.

We will also support activities or projects already up and running as long as you can demonstrate that the funding will help further the activity. This funding supports various activities or projects within the arts, culture, heritage and creative sectors.

This includes, but is not restricted to:

- **Archives**
- **Gaming**
- **Crafts**
- **Conversation Cafes and Spoken Work**
- **Cultural Education**
- **Dance**
- **Design**
- **Fashion and Textiles**
- **Film and Video**
- **Fine Arts**
- **Heritage**
- **Horticulture**
- **Languages**
- **Music**
- **Photography**
- **Theatre**
- **TV and Radio**
- **Visual Arts**
- **Written Word**

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# What The Funding Won't Support

It is important to note that the fund cannot cover some elements despite our goal of promoting flexibility for community connections:

- **Activities that do not benefit the people or communities of the five areas listed.**
- **Regular business costs.**
- **Contributing to regular salaries**
- **Purchasing of alcohol for public events.**
- **Activities that exclude participation based on individual needs or backgrounds.**

## The Process

### Once your application is submitted ...

You will be given outcome of your application within **two weeks**.

If you are successful you will be **required** to sign a funding agreement form.

Once we receive the signed agreement the first instalment (70% of total grant) will be paid to your nominated bank account within **30 days**.

### Midway through your project ...

You must submit a progress report by **Wednesday 15 January 2024** if you have not already submitted a report before this date.

### Following satisfactory completion of the Progress Report ...

The remaining 30% of your grant will be paid to you within **30 days**. This is so you have the funds available for the remainder of your project.

### At the end of your project ...

You must complete a Final report that covers engagement numbers and learning from the project as a whole.



# The application form

The application form has been designed to be as short and clear as possible.

Please don't worry about using buzzwords or jargon.

Simply tell us the story of your idea, how you will deliver it, and the difference it will make to one or more of the five communities.

If you have any questions, please contact Cameron initially by email. He will be able to help answer any questions or concerns you may have.



 **CLICK HERE**  
to apply



**CLICK HERE**  
to contact  
Cameron



*Clay workshop at Cuminestown Arts Group*



**[www.neatshows.org.uk](http://www.neatshows.org.uk)**

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