Listing of prospective project topic areas considered to be 'on-menu' by UK Government

Briefing for the Orkney community

Issued by Orkney Towns Fund Board

August 2024

The Orkney Towns Fund Board want to get your input into identifying the priorities that the Orkney Towns Fund might address. There are various mechanisms for gathering this feedback, workshops were held in July, the County Show in early August and online and paper-based submissions can continue through to mid-August. If you are interested in feeding back, please look through the UK government priorities listed opposite/overleaf and think about whether and how they apply in Orkney. Please consider where Orkney has key gaps that could and need to be filled and where any additional capacity needed. We would be delighted to hear about key issues or opportunities that you see. In addition, if you have further ideas about possible projects and solutions then those are very useful and needed. All of the gathered feedback will help better inform decisions about how the Orkney Towns Fund moneys might be best spent and invested. Online feedback is also welcomed, you can go to our Orkney Towns Fund Facebook page for more details or link via the QR code on the cover page.

Please note below what you think are the key issues and opportunities affecting Orkney at present and in the near future? To keep up to date use the Orkney Towns Fund Facebook page or the QR code below

- Key issues/challenges...
....

- Key opportunities ....
....

By submitting this form, you consent to us using your contact information to keep you updated about The Orkney Towns Fund project in the future. We are committed to protecting your personal data in accordance the General Data Protection Regulation, 2018 (GDPR). Your information will be stored securely and will not be more widely shared with third parties without your explicit consent.

It will help us to keep you informed of progress if you share your contact details:

Name: Organisation (if relevant):

Email: Address (if no email):

Please describe project ideas and solutions relevant to the key themes that could help Orkney at present and in the near future? To keep updated use the Orkney Towns Fund Facebook page or the QR code below

- Project title ....
....
- Description...
....
....
- Why important ....
....

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To keep you informed of progress and next steps please share your contact details:

Name: Organisation (if relevant):

Email: Address (if no email):

Please return to: OTF c/o Aquatera, Charles Clouston Building, Back Road, Stromness. KW16 3AW.
For further information contact: Jennifer.fox@aquatera.co.uk or call 01856 850088, and ask for OTF team

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What type of project is the funding for?

The UK Government has listed interventions (project ideas) where the case for support has already been agreed simplifying the Long-term Plan process. Ideas outside of those listed below are welcomed but must be supported by an outline business case.

High street, heritage and regeneration

Ideas for place-based regeneration and town centre and high street improvements, which could include better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs

- regenerating a town square or high street
- public realm improvements, for example street furniture or other decorative improvements
- the delivery of outreach, engagement and participatory programmes for community spaces, including youth centres and public libraries

Ideas for new or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects and assets including those that increase communities' resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding, and support for decarbonisation of facilities, energy efficiency audits, and installation of energy efficiency and renewable measures in community buildings (including capital spend and running costs)

- building new or updating existing defences to increase communities' resilience to natural hazards like flooding or coastal erosion

Creation of and, improvement to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments. Improvements to the natural environment and the incorporation of more of these natural features into wider public spaces

- development of a new park, particularly in areas with the least access to greenspace
- development of a new park or community garden
- urban or riparian tree planting
- changes to management of green spaces and verges
- regeneration of existing parks or community gardens, particularly in areas with poor quality parks and gardens
- improving access to existing parks

Ideas for enhanced support for arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities, projects and facilities and historic institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer

- the delivery of events programmes for community spaces, including youth centres and public libraries
- the development, restoration or refurbishment of local natural, cultural and heritage assets and sites

Ideas to support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities

- funding for maker spaces
- funding for local art galleries, museums, libraries for exhibitions
- support for displays for artists to showcase work
- locally led music and theatre performances, tours, author events and film screenings
- funding for cultural, heritage and creative events
- support for outreach, engagement, participatory programmes as part of wider local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities
- support for the establishment and development of cultural, heritage collaborative networks to share knowledge locally

Ideas for the development and promotion of wider campaigns which encourage people to visit and explore the local area

- campaigns promoting the local area and its culture, heritage, leisure and visitor offer to residents and visitors
- campaigns to encourage visitors from further afield to visit and stay in the region, collaborating with other places where appropriate

Ideas for impactful volunteering and social action projects to develop social and human capital in local places

- funding for local volunteering groups, such as youth charities and carer's groups
- support for people to develop volunteering and social action projects locally

Ideas for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together

- renovation and maintenance of existing sports facilities
- support for community sports leagues
- regeneration of an unused area to build sports facilities
- creation of new 3G sports pitches and other sports facilities

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Ideas for investment in capacity building, resilience (which could include climate change resilience) and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups

- funding for community spaces, such as village halls, libraries or community centres for local civil society and community groups to use
- support for people to develop volunteering and social action projects locally

Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities

Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses

- funding to support the establishment and ongoing running of a new open air market business support activity for entrepreneurs

Development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally

- development of local visitor trails and tours
- grants for the development, promotion and upkeep of local tourist attractions
- development of other local visitor experiences based around the local offer

Grants to help places bid for and host international business events and conferences that support wider local growth sectors

- grants to bid for, secure and hold a conference for a leading sector locally

Safety and security

Design and management of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out crime'

- promoting the active use of streets and public spaces throughout the daytime and evening
- improvements to streetlighting
- installation of new CCTV

Engage with Police Force and together consider interventions to focus on visible crime prevention in defined areas places

- hotspot policing
- problem-oriented policing

Measures to prevent anti-social behaviour, crime and reduce reoffending

- sports programmes designed to prevent crime and reduce reoffending
- mentoring
- police-led pre-charge diversion models for young offenders

- focused deterrence strategies
- halfway house programmes

Measures to reduce repeat burglary

- Neighbourhood Watch
- provision of crime prevention advice
- property marking
- target hardening (increasing the security of a property)
- cocoon watch (provision of crime prevention advice, support and guidance to neighbours and surrounding addresses of burgled properties)
- alley gating

Transport and connectivity

Active travel enhancements in the local area

- creation of new foot paths and cycle paths, particularly in areas of health need or social inequalities
- upgrading of existing foot paths and cycle paths, particularly in areas of health need or social inequalities

Bus infrastructure and connections to speed up journeys

- traffic signalling improvements
- bus lanes and corridors
- improved passenger information
- Funding for collaborative approaches with commercial bus operators to improve connectivity and boost economic growth

New, or improvements to road networks to improve access within and to the town

- traffic management improvements to relieve congestion
- road safety
- highway maintenance (including potholes)

Improving rail connectivity and access

- adding stations along existing lines
- improved accessibility and journey quality at and around stations
- improved passenger information

Reducing vehicle emissions

- EV charging facilities
- procuring zero emission buses

Digital infrastructure for local community facilities

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