

Climate fund underwrites community projects

The council's Community Climate Fund was so successful that more funds were added to ensure that as many projects were able to go ahead.

The call was for projects which aim to make Edinburgh a greener city by reducing carbon emissions, encouraging talk about climate change and assisting the city in achieving its net zero carbon targets.

The successful projects were chosen using a participatory budgeting approach in which the public voted for their favourites.

Cllr Cammy Day, Council Leader, said: "I am delighted to see the fantastic progress our local groups have been making to address the impacts of climate change. The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund has provided a great opportunity for communities to develop and choose projects which are contributing to our net-zero agenda. We received a high standard of applications from no less than 56 local community groups which is testament to the ECCF's success.

"My sincerest thanks go to the volunteers at the heart of these projects who give their valuable skills and time to make sure they are such a success. As we work towards our plan to become a net-zero city by 2030, I'm confident that these projects will help us deliver our goals and I look forward to seeing them develop."

The eight successful groups have shared the achievements of their first six months. [Read more here.](#)

Lauriston Farm's Community Outdoor Kitchen was awarded funding of £20,000. The funding has allowed the group to construct two community sheds for tool storage for allotment holders as well as a community kitchen made of mud and straw. Rain fed watering systems have also been fitted to the sheds and kitchen which will allow plot holders to irrigate their crops more easily.

EdinBRIC's, Building Bricks 4 EdinBRIC was awarded funding of £20,000. Following the award, EdinBRIC has used the funds to set up infrastructure and establish a triage for email enquiries and mailing list sign ups. The group has also fostered and encouraged new community groups in areas such as Shandon.

Cargo Bike Movement's Food Sharing Project was awarded funding of £20,000. The project has collected over 37 tonnes of surplus food which goes to the Shrub Co-op Food Bank, directly combatting food insecurity. The group has participated in 19 events, engaging in conversations and offering bike trials to promote cargo bikes to 7,114 people.

Fresh Start's Starter Packs was awarded funding of £20,000. Fresh Start has been supporting people moving on from homelessness into unfurnished tenancies by distributing 10,148 starter packs. The project has also delivered their holiday hunger programme to 272 families who will benefit from Christmas present and food parcels.

SHRUB's Wee Spoke Hub was awarded funding of £20,000. The funding has allowed SHRUB to hire two members of staff, launch a newsletter and hold several events, including eight training workshops. The project has also received three nominations from the SCSP Volunteer Awards.

Rhyze Mushrooms, Micro Mushroom Farms for 3 Community

Cafes was awarded funding of £9,990. The group has been planning and consulting with the community centres they are partnered with to deliver the project. Volunteers have gained valuable DIY experience through helping to build a prototype miniature mushroom farm and the group has also held workshops to introduce residents to mushroom cultivation.

The Edinburgh Remakery's Tech Donation Boxes for Schools was awarded funding of £20,000. Funding has been used to cover ten schools as part of the Tech Donation Box programme for schools, with plans to reach another ten over the next few months. The group has increased awareness of e-waste and the measures we can take to reduce this by delivering interactive talks with pupils. An in-depth video has also been created to explain how students, staff and their families can contribute to the programme by donating old tech and raising awareness.

Porty Community Energy and the Tool Library's Cosy Homes and Cargo Bikes was awarded funding of £10,010. The project has supported community leadership and learning on climate change as well as working on the reduction of the carbon footprint of houses. The group has delivered several practical workshops on topics, such as draught-proofing and insulation services.



Clean Air Day being celebrated by the members of the Transport and Environment Committee by having cargo bike training in the Meadows – and handing on the baton in the Climate Relay PHOTO ©2023 The Edinburgh Reporter