

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Who can apply?

Any Edinburgh-based community, voluntary or non-profit organisation can **apply for up to £20,000** to put ideas into action. Normally these organisations will have one of the following structures:

- Constituted community group or club
- Social Enterprise
- Community interest companies (CIC)
- Registered charity (SCIO)

Informal groups who do not meet the above criteria can still apply but will be required to work with a parent organisation who would submit the application in partnership. If you are not sure or would like to discuss please contact:

communityplanning@edinburgh.gov.uk

How do you apply?

To apply for the funding you must return this form before midnight on 12th February and submit an idea proposal through the [Your Voice platform](#). If your idea fits with the fund's objectives, the community will get to vote for the best idea at the start of March.

(1a) Organisation/group name: Pentlands Eco Network with the support of Currie Community Council

(1b) Project name: *Pentland View Court 'Pocket Park'*

(2) Tell us about your organisation / group (what do you do?) (150 words maximum)

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Pentlands Eco Network (<https://www.facebook.com/pentlandseconetwork/>) is a grassroots community environmental organisation. It was set up as an umbrella organisation to raise awareness of the diversity of environmental groups within the Pentlands area of southwest Edinburgh (namely Balerno, Currie, Juniper Green, and Colinton).

As well as having a local social media presence to advertise events such as litter picks, it has arranged the planting of the Currie Community Orchard in George V Park, Currie. This is a grove of (soon to be) 25 fruit trees to provide environmental benefits and free healthy food for future generations.

The group has also held two 'Big Green Day' events locally, to compliment the Great Big Green Week nationwide celebration of action on climate change.

(3a) Please select the fund criteria which your project relates to (Select all that apply)

- ☐ YES - Create opportunities for community leadership and learning on climate change
- ☐ YES - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions within communities and contribute to the net-zero target for Edinburgh
- ☐ YES - Generate sustainable projects for the benefit of local people to build resilience or adapt to climate change within communities
- ☐ YES - Build relationships between neighbourhoods of different socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds to work together on just, equitable and accessible climate and resilience activities contributing to the cities net zero agenda, also ensuring that activities work towards reducing or removing barriers for disabled people in the transition to net zero.

(3b) Tell us about the project you would use the money for. (500 words maximum)

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Pentland View Court is a parade of shops/food outlets/pharmacy located on the main Lanark Road adjacent to the Pentlands Medical Centre in Currie, a suburban area in southwest Edinburgh. The majority of local housing comprises a 1960s estate. Within Currie, no community centre is obvious; however, Pentland View Court is the closest there is to one. There is a large elderly population in Currie, with associated health issues and loneliness, and also three primary schools and a high school.

There is significant desire locally to create a climate and environmentally-conscious community. Pentland View Court – a visually unlovely (see image) ‘concrete desert’ - offers the opportunity for a practical and educational focal greenspace for local people, and local wildlife.

The *Pentland View Court ‘Pocket Park’* proposes environmental changes to the areas of paving outside the Scotmid and Baynes. These units have the heaviest traffic, and there is enough space; it will bring greater environmental and social cohesion and provide a green corridor for wildlife and people.

At the Scotmid site:

- Two mature productive native Scottish fruit trees, planted within metal guards and tree pits for longevity and to minimise vandalism, with signage giving horticultural information, and inviting harvesting of free healthy local food:
 - These will provide shade for benches below, inviting people into a welcoming space designed to build relationships in a nature setting between local individuals from diverse socio-economic, age and cultural backgrounds.
 - Local primary school children will commit to adopt the trees to ensure fruit is gathered and used – thus limiting maintenance.
 - Tree choice and planting set-up will ensure sustainability given future climate change. The local high school pupils will be consulted on the signage/choice of tree to encourage care/ownership.
 - Trees remove CO₂ from the atmosphere and also emit oxygen, and help towards Edinburgh’s ‘Million Tree’ planting goal. They will

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

provide a vital 'green oasis' here, improve local air quality, and will help wildlife connect to other greenspaces locally. Bird and bat boxes will be erected within the trees to further offer wildlife habitat.

- 1-2 metal benches and a bin:
 - These will offer rest spaces in a shaded location, which will benefit the community in the future with warming global temperatures and associated weather effects.
 - Individuals from diverse backgrounds using the benches can build social links to combat loneliness and foster a sense of community in nature.
 - The benches will have signage with climate change educational messages to enable community learning and awareness.
 - A new bin will ensure maintenance of the site's cleanliness. It will be placed and emptied by the Council.
- A child's play panel will be erected alongside the seating to create a truly intergenerational space, looking to inspire the future generation within this 'pocket park':
 - The 'lion's head selfie' panel will create photo opportunities to encourage young nature lovers and allow parents/carers to share the park's facilities to others and publicise its use and environmental messages.

Baynes site:

- One mature fruit tree and metal bench (as detailed above). Bin exist already.

(4) Describe your project in no more than 30 words (this will be used for publicity)

Pentland View Court 'Pocket Park' will create a tiny urban greenspace: connecting the community of Currie at its centre - with trees, play opportunities, wildlife habitats and climate education.

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(5a) Who do you hope will benefit from this project?

Those that may benefit include:

- Users of the Pentland View Court shops and GP surgery, especially older people and young children – this project encourages the Scottish Government '20-minute neighbourhoods' concept;
- Local high school children who use the area during lunch and after school;
- Local workers, especially keyworkers within the GP surgery enjoying a more pleasant work environment;
- Local wildlife, especially birds and bats, will receive a much needed green oasis;
- Local community members in general will receive a focal point for Currie, that educates about climate change and the environment in a direct way but also provides indirect education through beauty and nature.

(5b) Is your group open to all?

☐ YES!

☐

If no, please explain:

(5c) Will the project have a positive impact on any of the following protected characteristics?

☐ Disability

☐ Marriage
or civil
partnership

☐ Pregnancy
and
maternity

☐ Race

☐ Sex

☐ Age

☐ Sexual
orientation

☐ Religion or
belief

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

☐ Gender
reassignment

Disability – the site is accessible by wheelchair, and the seats and children's panel will be user-friendly for those with limited physical ability. The play panel will not involve any noise to help those with sensory issues. The provision of a greenspace, with trees to muffle road noise and provide sensory sounds of leaves rustling, could benefit those with sensory issues especially children (I have a child with autism, so understand these small but significant benefits that a pleasant space can offer).

Age – The pocket park will provide a space for elderly users of the local GP surgery to sit and rest. It also provides a safe and engaging space for young children.

(6) Where will the project be delivered?

The project is anticipated to be situated on the paved area outside the Scotmid and Baynes shop units at Pentland View Court, Currie, EH14 5NP.

(7)

Project start date: Summer 2023 for groundwork checks, consultation and drawings.

Project end date: Winter 2023-2024 construction.

(8) How many people do you hope will benefit from your project?

Many people - local and passing on the Lanark Road - use this site daily. At a conservative guess 500-1000/day.

(9) Is anyone else working with you on the project?

☐ Yes

☐

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

If yes, please tell us about this:

Pentlands Eco Network is applying in partnership with Currie Community Council as it is not incorporated.

The project is supported by a consortium of local organisations and individuals, which demonstrates the local desire for this proposed project:

- Nether Currie Primary School
- Currie Community High School
- Age Concern UK Climate Change (linked to Heriot Wat University)
- Pentland Men's Shed
- Sue Webber (MSP)
- Neil Gardiner (local councillor)
- Fiona Glasgow (local councillor)
- Stephen Jenkinson (local councillor)
- Joanna Cherry (MP)
- Gordon MacDonald (MSP)
- Graeme Bruce (local councillor)
- Scotmid
- S M Baynes
- Lindsay & Gilmour
- The Meeting Place (65+ community café)
- Dementia Friendly Pentlands
- C&B News (local newspaper)
- Pentland Medical Centre

(10) Do you require permission from anyone or any additional insurance to carry out your project?

☐ Yes

☐

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

If yes, please tell us about this:

The parade of shops consists of individual units owned by a range of landlords. According to the Scotmid property team: “when the individual units were sold off it was decided that the hard landscaped areas in front and yard at rear would be made common to all the units i.e. every owner has a share of the entire area and liable for proportion in line with rateable value.”

Every unit owner will be consulted about the project. The areas for development are proposed to be those in front of the Scotmid and Baynes units, for which permission has been sought and granted in principle, pending full architect design.

Community engagement will also be key to this area's success, and is accounted for in the budget. The budget can also flex according to how much additional funding is granted, by using readymade rather than custom benches, and using council suppliers of the trees and tree pits.

Here follows a list of units with landlords in brackets and the current status of consents (all in principle, pending consultation). The actual land in question belongs to Scotmid/Baynes and their consent has already been given in principle.

- Scotmid – Consent obtained
- Baynes – Consent obtained
- The Lilac Rooms (Scotmid) - Consent obtained
- Lindsay & Gilmour – Consent obtained
- N.B. Pentland Medical Centre – Consent obtained
- Rannaghor – awaiting reply to be involved in consultation
- Mekong Thai – awaiting reply to be involved in consultation
- The Abbots Choice, soon to be Dominos (Angle Park Investments) - awaiting reply to be involved in consultation

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

- Pentland Carpets (Shamin Azad) – awaiting reply to be involved in consultation
- Sofia's Takeaway – awaiting reply to be involved in consultation

(11) Please outline a breakdown of the cost of delivering this project (including VAT).		(12) Do you have additional funding or income from charges which will contribute to this project? If yes, please detail below	
Goods/Equipment/Time etc	£	Source	£
Local architect site drawings including public consultation	£2,500	CALA Homes Community Fund	?£2,000
2x custom metal benches plus signage - Local blacksmith Colin Barr.	£5,500	Scotmid Community Grant	£500
3x tree pits, guards, grills (council advise £2,000/tree including labour)	£8,000 (have included contingency)	Keir Construction	?£1000

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

1x Wicksteed lion play panel	£702 (£585 +VAT)	Scotmid Orchard Grant	£250
Wooden bird and bat boxes and wooden tree signage (Pentland Men's Shed)	£300	Edinburgh Council Million Trees funding	Possible tree supply
New bin and 3x trees (Edinburgh City Council)	-	Edinburgh Community Climate Fund	£20,000
3x mature Scottish native fruit trees (approx. £145 each)	£522 (£435+VAT)		
Landscaping (rough quote from local firm Lessels Landscaping for installation of pits/trees/benches/play panel)	£2,000		
Total Expenditure	£19,524	Total income	£23,750

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023