

## 2024-25 YLAG Fund Specific Objectives and Criteria

### Introduction

This document sets out objectives and criteria specific to the 2024-25 YLAG Fund, which forms part of the Outer Hebrides Community Led Local Development (OH CLLD) programme.

**A total of £10,000 is available and each applicant may apply for up to £4,000.** Applicants may submit several applications as long as their total request does not exceed £4,000. Match contributions, financial or in-kind, are encouraged but not essential.

If considering an application, we recommend that you contact the OH CLLD Coordinator ([ohclld@cne-siar.gov.uk](mailto:ohclld@cne-siar.gov.uk)) at an early stage to discuss your project and ensure its eligibility, although this is not essential for your application to be considered. Please also contact the CLLD Coordinator if you have any queries about this fund or the application process, or are unable to provide any of the evidence requested. **Please note that the latest date for submitting queries or discussing issues is Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024.** The Guidance on Completing your 2024-25 YLAG Fund Application provides further detail and guidance about how to complete the application form.

### What will we fund?

The YLAG fund is designed by young people for young people. In order to be eligible, projects must demonstrate that they:

- significantly benefit young people (those below 30) in their area;
- are achievable within the given timescale;
- have a legacy/ long-term impact;
- provide good value for money; and
- align with at least one of the following YLAG priorities:
  - empowering young people;
  - dùthchas & dualchas;<sup>1</sup>
  - entrepreneurship;
  - mental health; and
  - personal & professional development.

Applications which demonstrate a particularly benefit to young people who are care-experienced, disabled, affected by poverty or part of a marginalised group will be regarded preferentially, as will projects supporting Gaelic language and culture.

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<sup>1</sup> These two Gaelic terms are not easily translated into English but encompass a wide range of activities, sentiments and attitudes related to life in the Outer Hebrides. They could cover activity geared towards sustainability and environmental goals, traditional skills and activities, or Gaelic language and heritage.

## Who can apply?

The proposed project must benefit young people who reside in the Outer Hebrides. Applicants must be a constituted not-for-profit voluntary organisation, social enterprise, community development company/trust, or similar. Applications from individuals, sole traders, political organisations, private businesses, public sector bodies, unconstituted groups or organisations outwith the Outer Hebrides will not be considered.

## Required Documentation

As part of your application, you will be required to provide:

- a copy of your governing document, such as a constitution, Memorandum Of Understanding, Set of Rules or equivalent;
- if relevant, proof of your registered Scottish Charity status;
- a copy of your most recent annual accounts;
- a recent bank statements;
- a detailed budget indicating what your grant will be spent on;
- the date you expect to start and complete the project by (starting no earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 and completing no later than 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025).

Please urgently contact the Outer Hebrides CLLD Coordinator if you are unable to provide any of the above documents at present. We may still be able to consider your application.

## Wider Requirements

We are unable to fund any [items ineligible for CLLD funding](#).

YLAG funding can be used for either capital or revenue costs, however, it **cannot** be used as match-funding towards larger capital costs. In general, capital expenditure is expenditure which results in:

- the acquisition or creation of an asset; or
- enhances the value or life of an asset already owned; and
- improves and not merely maintains the original state of the asset.

An asset is an item which is expected to last for more than a year and is intended for continuing use by the applicant.

Successful applicants will have to demonstrate that proper **quotations and procurement procedures** were carried out to ensure that value for money is achieved. This will generally involve securing three quotes and opting for the cheapest or being able to demonstrate why another procurement route should be deemed acceptable.

Any CLLD funding awarded will normally be paid retrospectively once the applicant submits a claim supported by evidence of expenditure. If this is likely to impact your ability to deliver your project, please contact the CLLD Coordinator as early as possible and prior to submitting your application.

All work funded by CLLD must be delivered in line with the Scottish Government's [Fair Work First](#) principles and in particular the requirements for payment of at least the real Living Wage and appropriate channels for effective workers' voice.

Any CLLD funding awarded must be compliant with the Subsidy Control Act 2022. It is likely that, if there is an element of subsidy, it will be provided under the Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) provisions of the Subsidy Control Act 2022 (previously known as De Minimis State Aid under EU law), which enables an applicant to receive up to a maximum level of subsidy without engaging the subsidy control rules. This allowance is £315,000 in total over the current and preceding two financial years. Should your application be (fully or partially) successful and the intervention deemed a subsidy, any funding awarded to you from this fund will be relevant if you wish to apply, or have applied, for any other subsidy. It will be your obligation to comply with, and to demonstrate compliance with, subsidy control legislation.

Successful applicants must agree to cooperate in use of their project in possible promotional and learning materials, including the use of photography and video filming. As part of the final project report, successful applicants will be asked to provide visual (photo or video) material as well as wider information about the progress CLLD funding allowed them to make, which may be used for promotional purposes. Should you be successful in gaining YLAG funding, please keep this in mind during the course of the project and gather suitable materials at appropriate times (e.g. taking pictures or videos at an event connected to the CLLD-funded project). Applicants may also be contacted individually to requests their support with learning or promotional activity, such as site visits or case studies.

## Key project dates

- Applications must be submitted no later than **midnight on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024**.
- Applicants will be made aware of the YLAG's decision as soon as possible. The YLAG aim to reach decisions and inform applicants of these by the end of October.
- Successful projects may commence as soon as the CLLD Coordinator acknowledges receipt of the signed and dated contract.
- All CLLD-funded activity must be completed, funding claimed and an end-of-project report submitted by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

w/c 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	2024-25 OH YLAG Fund launches
9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Final date for enquiries about the Fund
midnight Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Applications close
w/c 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 (indicative date)	Projects informed of YLAG's decision and contracts issued to successful applicants
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	All work must be completed, funding spent and claimed, and final reports submitted

For further information and guidance, please contact the Outer Hebrides CLLD Coordinator by emailing [ohclld@cne-siar.gov.uk](mailto:ohclld@cne-siar.gov.uk).