



## Forth Valley Climate Action Hub Funding for Community-Led Climate Action Climate Leadership Programme 2025-26

FEL Scotland is excited to roll out its innovative Climate Leadership Programme for a second consecutive year. This flexible programme aims to equip a cohort of emerging climate leaders with the skills, confidence and capacity to lead climate action in their communities, while building peer support and unlocking resources. Candidates completing the programme will be awarded a small grant via the organisations they represent to support them to lead and inspire climate action within their community. The Climate Leadership Programme is joined by second rounds of Womens Climate Leadership Fund and First Steps and Next Steps grants. Grants are available to eligible FEL member organisations only.

### What is the Climate Action Hub?

FEL Scotland is one of more than 20 organisations and partnerships funded by Scottish Government to deliver Climate Action Hubs at a regional level. Climate Action Hubs are a ground-breaking initiative from Scottish Government's Net Zero campaign designed to empower communities to increase climate awareness and deliver their own climate actions. Hubs offer a range of support to meet local priorities and needs, from helping people to better understand what is happening to our environment, how they may be impacted and what they can do to adapt to changes, to learning from others who are taking steps to mitigate or adapt in their own parts of Scotland. Hubs aim to both inspire communities and provide knowledge, connections and practical support.

Forth Valley Climate Action Hub, hosted by FEL Scotland, networks with communities across the region to support them to respond to the climate emergency at a local level. Providing small grants for community-led climate action is one of the ways we do this.

FEL Scotland is grateful to **Foundation Scotland** for its investment into Forth Valley Climate Action Hub which has helped to make a third consecutive year of grant giving possible

### How much can I apply for?

Community groups represented by participants who complete the Climate Leadership Programme are invited to apply for up to £1,000



## **What is the aim of the programme?**

The Climate Hub Leadership Programme aims to bring together a small cohort of participants for a flexible training itinerary focused on climate adaptation to boost community resilience. Participants who graduate by completing the minimum attendance requirements of the programme are eligible for a small grant of £1,000, payable to the constituted group they represent. The aim of the grant is to contribute towards the ongoing delivery of climate actions, public engagement or awareness raising in participant communities.

The programme will focus on how we adapt to our changing climate to ensure our communities are better prepared for its impacts at a local level.

## **How is the programme structured?**

The three-part curated programme will comprise of:

1. Practical knowledge and skills
2. Leadership skills
3. Place based learning & inspiration

Participants are required to attend at least three workshops or events and participate in one or more peer sharing or action planning session in order to graduate from and become eligible for the grant. These events can be selected from the Hub's full list of events which will take place throughout the year. This flexible approach means participants can tailor their learning to their priorities and interests, as well as to their schedules.

## **What can participants expect to achieve?**

- An enhanced peer network
- Increased knowledge on specific areas of climate adaptation
- Enhanced leadership capacity and resilience

## **What is the deadline?**



Applications close 12pm, 12 September 2025

## **Who Can Apply?**

This fund is open to FEL Scotland members based in Clackmannanshire, Falkirk or Stirling Council boundaries, including any area of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park that fall under Stirling Council. Constituted community groups, community councils, community development trusts, community interest companies (CICs) and similar not-for-profit groups with governance in place that meet all eligibility criteria may apply.

Joining FEL Scotland as a member is free. Register at [FELScotland.org/membership](https://FELScotland.org/membership).

If you are unsure if your group is eligible, please get in contact via [Climate@FELscotland.org](mailto:Climate@FELscotland.org) and we'll be happy to discuss this with you.

If you are based in the Argyll and Bute area of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, please contact, ABCAN, who will share details of the support they offer. Email ABCAN at [Jamie@act-now.org.uk](mailto:Jamie@act-now.org.uk)

## **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible the lead applicant organisation should be an FEL member and provide evidence of all the following:

- A bank account in the organisation's name (not an individual's name)
- A committee with at least 3 unrelated members
- A constitution or similar governing document
- Most recent audited signed accounts, or similar evidence of financial management
- Most recent bank statement

If your group isn't able to provide accounts or any of the other documents requested, please get in touch to discuss alternatives. Assistance can be provided by our partner Third Sector Interfaces, CTSI (Clackmannanshire); CVS (Falkirk); and SVE (Stirling) all of which can also provide advice and practical support around governance.

## **Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

Please note that it is a condition of grant that the recipient organisation has a policy and procedure in place relating to the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (PCVA). Guidance on PCVA can be found at:

<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>



A sample PCVA policy and further support and guidance is available at:  
<http://www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services/resources/>

### **What costs are eligible?**

Eligible costs include:

- Venue or equipment hire including catering
- Marketing & promotion
- Material and supplies
- Reasonable travel costs (excluding flights)
- Engagement tools
- Fees relating to learning exchange visits
- Volunteer expenses
- Training costs
- Commissioning research
- Fees of consultants or specialists where essential to achieving project aims

We may ask for evidence that best value is achieved for any single purchases exceeding £500+  
If you are not sure what costs are eligible, please get in touch.

### **What costs are not eligible?**

- Salary costs are not eligible
- Capital costs or contribution to larger capital costs in other projects you may be running are not eligible. Capital costs are defined as a cost incurred on the purchase of land, buildings, construction and equipment to be used in the production of goods or the rendering of services.
- Costs incurred out with the funded project, or incurred prior to the project start date are not eligible

### **What are the important dates?**

- Applications open on 19 August 2025
- The closing date for applications is 12pm, 12 September
- Applicants can expect to hear if their submission has been successful within two weeks



## **Accessibility and inclusion**

Should you encounter any difficulties with the online form an alternative option is available. You can complete the form in a Word format and submit it via email. If this is necessary, kindly inform us, and we'll be happy to assist.

FEL commits to commitment to equity, diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) in its work and the Forth Valley Climate Action Hub. If you need support around EDI in relation to your proposal, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

## **Questions?**

For assistance with your application please get in touch with your Climate action Hub officer at FEL or [climate@felscotland.org](mailto:climate@felscotland.org)

The Climate Hub team can help you with planning for future funding with tips and helpful resources, please get in touch if you'd like more support.

We're here to support your community's efforts to address climate change. Apply and let's work together to make a difference.

## **How do I apply**

Please complete the form on at [Climate – FEL Scotland](#). The form will be available here from 19 August. Please note you will be required to upload a budget template for any grant applied for.

A template [budget can be downloaded here](#).

We recommend completing the form on a laptop or desktop computer rather than on a mobile device. A version of the application form can be supplied to you as a word document if you have technical problems. If you would like a word version, or need any help with completing the form please email [climate@felscotland.org](mailto:climate@felscotland.org)