Tyne & Esk
Rural Communities
Development Fund

2026/27 Programme Allocation Report

Distribution of £204,511.91 Approved Across 19 Rural Community Initiatives

Executive Summary

The 2026/27 Tyne & Esk Rural Communities Development Fund programme received 68 applications and was nearly four times oversubscribed. A total of 19 projects were approved for funding across Midlothian and East Lothian, representing a combined investment of £204,511.91. The allocation comprises 4 Capital projects valued at £50,159.00 (24.5%) and 15 Revenue projects valued at £154,352.91 (75.5%). Funding supports community infrastructure, health and wellbeing, youth development, family counselling, employability, and local economic growth.

1. Regional Funding Distribution

Local Authority / Area	Projects	Capital Funding	Revenue Funding	Total Award
Midlothian	8	£14,959.00 (1)	£79,598.91 (7)	£94,557.91
East Lothian	9	£35,200.00 (3)	£44,904.00 (6)	£80,104.00
Joint East & Midlothian	2	£0.00 (0)	£29,850.00 (2)	£29,850.00
Total Programme	19	£50,159.00 (4)	£154,352.91 (15)	£204,511.91

2. Midlothian Projects (£94,557.91 Total)

Midlothian was awarded £94,557.91 across 8 projects (1 Capital, 7 Revenue), heavily weighted toward young people, community wellbeing, mental health, and tourism growth.

Project Name	Type	Main Beneficiary	Approved Award
Capital Improvements to The LEAP	Capital	Community	£14,959.00
Bagpipes for Learners	Revenue	Young People	£2,430.00
Wellbeing Matters	Revenue	Young People	£10,022.08
Social Spark in the Welfare Park	Revenue	Community	£14,989.81
MYPAS Family Counselling	Revenue	Families & Young People	£15,000.00
Play in Mind	Revenue	Young People	£14,506.00
Take Life Up a Gear	Revenue	Young People	£15,000.00
Midlothian Tourism & Hospitality Conference 2027	Revenue	Business	£7,651.02

3. East Lothian Projects (£80,104.00 Total)

East Lothian received £80,104.00 across 9 projects (3 Capital, 6 Revenue), focusing on local hall infrastructure, accessible transport, battery storage, and family/carer support.

Project Name	Type	Main Beneficiary	Approved Award
Macmerry Miners Welfare Accessibility Project	Capital	Community	£5,200.00
Accessible Community Outreach & Transport Vehicle	Capital	Community	£15,000.00
East Linton Community Hall Battery Storage System	Capital	Community	£15,000.00
Forge & Equip Inclusive Practical Skills Programme	Revenue	Community	£14,000.00
Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Choir	Revenue	Community	£1,580.00
North Berwick Summer Project	Revenue	Community	£5,259.00
Investing in Essential Capital Equipment for Health & Wellbeing	Revenue	Community	£15,000.00
Dunbar ASN Community Collective Administration Role	Revenue	Families	£3,785.00
East Lothian Carers Adventure Wellbeing Group	Revenue	Families	£5,280.00

4. Joint Midlothian & East Lothian Projects (£29,850.00 Total)

Two cross-border Revenue projects were approved to serve residents in both local authority areas, delivering mental health services and rural skills pathways.

Project Name	Type	Main Beneficiary	Approved Award
Stable Minds	Revenue	Families & Community Wellbeing	£14,850.00
Youth-Led Rural Skills Pathways Pilot	Revenue	Young People & Business Skills	£15,000.00

5. Funding Breakdown by Primary Theme

All 19 approved projects address key community priorities across five main thematic areas:

Primary Theme Area	Number of Projects	Key Focus & Description
Community	10	Facility accessibility, community halls, renewable battery storage, accessible transport, choir, and summer activities.
Young People	5	Mental health support, bagpipe tuition, outdoor learning, cycling initiatives, and play therapy.
Families	3	Family counselling, additional support needs (ASN) administration, and carer adventure wellbeing.

Primary Theme Area	Number of Projects	Key Focus & Description
Business	1	Midlothian Tourism & Hospitality Conference 2027 supporting regional business growth.
Cross-cutting (Young People / Families / Business)	2	Joint mental wellbeing support (Stable Minds) and rural/green skills pathways.

Conclusion & Outlook

The Tyne & Esk Rural Communities Development Fund 2026/27 allocation successfully deploys £204,511.91 to strengthen local physical assets and essential community services across East and Midlothian. With 68 applications received, demand remains robust, underscoring the vital role of rural funding in driving regional resilience, youth opportunity, and community wellbeing.