



Social Value Analysis

# CLLD PROGRAMME SCOTLAND.

Undertaken by

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# WHO WE ARE.



Rose Regeneration is a leading rural and coastal evaluation firm with nearly 20 years of experience supporting voluntary and community organisations, as well as funding bodies. Founded by Ivan Annibal, the business is known for its deep expertise in driving impactful change. This report has been crafted and developed by Rose Regeneration.

# OUR PARTNERS.



Community Led Local Development (CLLD) enables local people to lead on the challenges and opportunities that matter most to them. It puts community voices, experience, and priorities at the heart of decision-making. By building skills, supporting new ideas, and encouraging collaboration, CLLD unlocks local potential, strengthens networks, and stimulates social and economic activity.

The result is more resilient, sustainable communities where people feel connected, capable, and confident about the future.



# INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT.

This report sets out the results of an impact measurement pilot in relation to the 2024-25 CLLD programme across Scotland.

The analysis found that the programme delivered a Social Return of Investment (SROI) of £3.70/£1, compared to £3.68/£1 for 2023/24 and £3.66/£1 for 2022/23.

It has been produced using the Social Value Engine, which has enabled individual

programme grant areas to input their projects and generate an impact report, 'Community Led Local Development' or 'CLLD' gives local communities the power to tackle their own, local challenges. By building knowledge and skills, supporting new ideas and encouraging cooperation, CLLD helps to create viable and resilient communities.



# INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT.

## The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organisations.

In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customisable dashboards, it empowers organisations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

## Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development.

In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland.

The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change.

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

Each LAG was provided with the opportunity to use the Engine and linked to a nominated supporter from the Social Value Engine team to support them in the use of the tool. A template was created which identified a core list of financial proxies within the SVE for LAGs to choose from in assessing impact for each of the projects appropriate for assessment. Details are set out in the table below:

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>		
	Habitat creation	Better access to, and use of, natural assets and resources    Cost of creating 100m <sup>2</sup> of wildlife habitat    Number of 100m <sup>2</sup>
	Maintenance of amenity land	Improved cleanliness of streets, green spaces and waterways    Average willingness to pay of local households for biodiversity of general green space    Per month
	Woodland conservation	Reduced carbon footprint    Net carbon sequestration by woodland    Per hectare
	Wetland conservation	Better access to, and use of, natural assets and resources    Value of creating freshwater wetland    Number of hectares
	Pollution reduction	Improved cleanliness of streets, green spaces and waterways    Willingness to pay for improved air quality    Number of households per month
	Marine conservation	Improved cleanliness of streets, green spaces and waterways    Willingness to pay for conservation of marine environment    Number of visits
	Litter and graffiti removal	Improved cleanliness of streets, green spaces and waterways    Cost to local authority of keeping streets clean    Number of households per year
	Fuel poverty	Improved access to affordable energy    Average Fuel Poverty Gap    Number of households per year
	Reducing food waste	Better management of waste and/or more efficient use of resources    Cost saved by reducing food waste    Number of households per month
	Gardening	Better access to, and use of, natural assets and resources    Value of gardening as a hobby    Number of people per year

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>WELFARE, WORK AND SKILLS</b>		
	Help with money management	Improved access to money, budgeting and debt advice    Value of financial comfort    Number of people
	Help accessing benefit payments	People enabled to fully participate in their community    Support to access welfare benefits    per £ spent
	Help with welfare challenges	Improved access to money, budgeting and debt advice    Average gain per client from CAB consumer advice    Number of people
	Foodbank Support	Improved community health    Value of being supported by a food bank    Number of visits
	Helping young people with careers	Directly connecting job seekers to remote employers and job opportunities    Cost of career guidance for young people    Per person
	Helping adults find work	Directly connecting job seekers to remote employers and job opportunities    Cost of career guidance for adults    Per person
	Training for adults	Increased development employment opportunities and skills levels    Improved wellbeing resulting from participation in vocational training and employment training    per person per year
	Personal development support (training)	Learning and training for people to enter and progress in work    Average cost of a personal development course    Number of people
	Helping adults find work	Improved employment opportunities    Value to an individual of moving from unemployment to a secure job    Number of people per year
	Helping people with job satisfaction	Increased development employment opportunities and skills levels    Value of highly meaningful work    Number of employees
	Supporting people who need to work from home	Efficiency & Productivity gains for remote working    Value to employee of working from home    Per employee, per year
	Helping reduce household poverty	Improved access to money, budgeting and debt advice    Overcoming Gap Between Poverty Threshold and Median Income    per household
	Helping people find social housing	Improved access and affordability of quality housing    Impact of Moving from Temporary Accommodation to Settled Housing    Number of people per year
	Helping homeless people	Improved access and affordability of quality housing    Impact of Moving from Rough Sleeping to Secure Housing    Number of people per year

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING</b>	Living Wage	Real Living Wage
	Employee engagement	Value of working for a company that shares your values
	Enterprise	Overall median turnover for an employing micro-business
	Innovation	Innovation support (voucher scheme)
	Earning	Average earnings of a small business owner
	Economic Leadership	Cost of Business Leadership Training max 4 sessions in total (includes 1 x group and 3 x one to one)
	Working Together	Savings from Joint Working
	Advocacy	Average cost of advocacy
	Economic Belonging	Value to an individual of feeling like they belong in their neighbourhood/community
	Fairtrade Premium	Fairtrade Premium - Improve quality of lives for local people and businesses

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY, CRIME, JUSTICE, SECURITY AND VICTIMISATION</b>		
	Helping reduce Anti-Social Behaviour	Improved community safety    Cost of a reported anti-social behaviour incident (ASB)    Number of incidents
	Helping victims of crime	Improved community safety    Average cost of crime against the person    Number of people per year
	Helping victims of crime	Improved community safety    Fear of crime, emotional cost of crime    Number of people per year
	Working with young offenders	Improved community safety    Unit cost of an young offender in the Youth Justice System    Number of people per year
	Working with victims of domestic abuse	Improved community safety    Domestic abuse perpetrator costs    Number of people per year
<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING</b>		
	Support for people needing care in a community setting	Improved community health    Average cost of a carer    Number of hours
	Help with mental health	Improved mental health    Overall improvement in mental health    Number of people per year
	Support for people in rural areas to access services	Improved access to community facilities and services    Additional cost of accessing services when living in a rural area    Number of households
	Support for people who need exercise	Improved wellbeing through arts, culture and sport    Value of frequent moderate exercise    Number of people per year
	Befriending	Reduced social isolation for community members    Impact of loneliness on well-being    Number of people per year
<b>TOURISM</b>		
	Support for tourism/visitor economy activities	Improved and supported visitor economy (tourism)    Average tourism day visit spend by destination (England)    Number of people
	Work in a heritage setting	Improved wellbeing through arts, culture and sport    Life satisfaction increase from visiting heritage (including marine or maritime environments)    Number of people
	Gross Value Added	GVA from tourism

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>DIGITAL</b>		
	Help for people to access the internet	Improved digital inclusion    Amount saved to a household by having access to broadband    Number of households per year
	Increasing digital literacy	Improved digital inclusion    Improved confidence in using the internet    Number of people
<b>ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY</b>		
	Helping organisations with their governance/development	Building a strong voluntary and community centre    Improved governance leading to time efficiencies    Number of organisations per year
	Helping to promote training and apprenticeships	Value for business mentoring/coaching on an employee    Organisation gain per apprentice during training    Per apprentice, per year
	Providing mentoring for businesses	Encouraging economic growth and innovation    Average earnings of a small business owner    Number of businesses per year
	Business Leadership training	Cost of business leadership training
	Providing mentoring for businesses (individuals)	Reduced social isolation for community members    Value of being a member of a social group    Number of people
	Helping people to exercise	Improved physical health    Cost to NHS of physical inactivity    Number of people per year
	Sport related activities	Improved wellbeing through arts, culture and sport    Contribution of sport to wellbeing    Number of people per year
<b>VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE</b>		
	Organisational Culture	Building a strong voluntary and community centre    Improved organisational culture leading to more motivated staff - average cost of replacing an employee    Number of employees
	Social Business	Average cost of starting a microbusiness
	Helping people achieve life goals	Working collaboratively and through partnerships    Average cost of achieving life goals    Number of people per year

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>POPULATION, FAMILY AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION</b>		
	Getting people involved in decision making	People enabled to fully participate in their community    Value of Participatory Engagement    Per person
	Helping people access legal advice	Increasing the capability of people to have a say over decisions    Solicitors or legal executives fee    Per hour
	Being an advocate for people/causes	Increasing the capability of people to have a say over decisions    Average cost of advocacy    Number of cases
	Supporting families on low incomes	Income Decile    Decile Between Lowest and Highest Family Wealth    per family
	Supporting the development of volunteering	Building a strong voluntary and community centre    Improved volunteer support structure    Number of organisations per year
	Value of a Volunteer	Value of a volunteer in UK
	Reputational enhancement	Increased volunteering and community participation    Improved reputation of organisation/charity    Number of organisations per year
<b>EQUALITIES DIVERSITIES AND INCLUSION</b>		
	Promotion of fairness and equality	Preventing discrimination and raising awareness of equal opportunities    Cost of equality/disability awareness training    Number of people per year
	Cost of poor practice	Unfair dismissal financial settlement following a tribunal

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

SOCIAL POLICY AREA	Theme	Proxy
<b>AGEING SOCIETY SERVICES, OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES &amp; ISSUES</b>		
	Work in care settings	Improved community health    Average cost of one year residential care    Number of people per year
	Mental health support	Improved mental health    Improving mental health by accessing psychological therapies for adults and the elderly    Number of sessions
	Fuel poverty support	Improved access to affordable energy    Cost to heat an average household in winter    Per day per household
	Advice and information for older people	Advice and information for older people Improved community health    Value of signposting for elderly services    per contact

This list was derived by assessing the match between the most appropriate proxy values within the SVE and the core themes for the CLLD programme. This was the third year of the use of the SVE and it is now becoming thoroughly embedded with all participating LAGs. In addition to this list which offered more choice than previously (and was easier to use through a series of drop downs embedded within a wizard format) those LAGs which were most engaged with the tool were able to go "off piste" and identify other proxies from the overall list of SVE measures to create the tightest possible fit to their projects in terms of impact. Rose Regeneration supported this process and so whilst the above template represents the core of the SVE measures used a greater diversity of measurement has been achieved.

Each participating LAG was able to identify the most appropriate projects to assess. With the support of the SVE officer they then decided from the project application form and their knowledge of the project more widely which of the template proxies to apply to that project. As part of the reporting process linked to their claims process each LAG was then able

to collect information on the scale of activity associated with each chosen proxy area. With the support of the SVE officer and with reference to an additionality table which is derived from UK norms for different categories of project, each project was adjusted to take account of: leakage, deadweight, displacement, drop off and attribution. The SVE also aligns each of the outcomes achieved to the Sustainable Development Goals and this provided an opportunity for each participating LAG to generate an overview of the contribution of each assessed project to the sustainability of the area.

All CLLD participating LAGs were able to deploy the tool in detail across a representative number of projects. This is a major achievement and shows the depth of embedding across the programme as in year one only 12 of the partnerships had the capacity to engage with the tool substantively. The depth of participation enables us to reflect in a comprehensive way on the impact of the whole programme in addition to its more localised impacts at the level of individual LAGs. The portfolio of projects assessed by each LAG, the collective value (ie CLLD funding and match) and the programme wide social return for all the LAG projects assessed is set out below.

# ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL VALUE.

It is important to note that a very small number of projects where data was incomplete were excluded from the assessment process. Some areas took a value judgement where projects were either very small or related to feasibility studies, as to whether to assess the social value or not. We set the benchmark for a reporting of SROI at a maximum of £10/£1 apart from by exception where we have very strong data to justify a higher ratio.

The listing opposite shows the social return delivered against those projects where we felt confident that a meaningful interpretation of impact was possible. It is not a league table. Whilst it is useful to have a sense of the social return delivered across each geographical area based on the portfolio of projects assessed, the selective approach to choosing only projects where we have robust data and the different context in every area introduce a level of nuance which mitigates against an assumption that it is straightforwardly possible to compare like with like. This is why we have also considered the distribution of types of intervention across the whole CLLD portfolio and the impacts in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals from an overall programme perspective to provide a rounded view of impact. The list shows the area, the number of projects assessed and the SROI associated with their projects.

AREA	SROI (£ PER £1)	NUMBER OF PROJECTS
Aberdeenshire	3.30	48
Argyll	4.95	8
Ayrshire	5.38	58
Angus	5.00	17
Cairngorms	6.42	10
Dumfries and Galloway	5.66	43
Fife	6.68	17
Forth Valley and Lomond	3.42	28
Highland	3.47	52
Kelvin Valley	4.85	24
Lanarkshire	3.10	37
Moray	4.83	38
Orkney	4.23	34
Outer Hebrides	7.02	42
Renfrewshire	7.86	6
Rural Perth and Kinross	2.15	30
SBL (Scottish Borders)	3.15	39
Shetland	3.35	25
Tyne and Esk	6.17	18
West Lothian	2.45	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.70</b>	<b>585</b>

**Total: 585 projects, this compares to 377 projects in 2023/24 and 161 projects assessed in 2022/23.**

# WIDER INDICATORS FOR THE CLLD PROGRAMME.

The table below matches the number of times a proxy was used across the programme to each of the core themes within the programme.

PROXY	
Inclusion	270
Partnership	234
Health and Well-Being	106
Rural Poverty	93
Net Zero	82
Inclusive Growth	63
Young People	46
Support for Micro-Enterprises	37
Tourism	34
Enhancing Connectivity	19



# WIDER INDICATORS FOR THE CLLD PROGRAMME.

The following table shows how by each LAG area the portfolio of projects aligns to each Scottish Government Theme.

AREA	INCLUSION	RURAL POVERTY	NET ZERO	PARTNERSHIP	INCLUSIVE GROWTH	YOUNG PEOPLE	MICRO-ENTERPRISES	TOURISM	HOUSING	ENHANCING CONNECTIVITY	HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	TOTAL	%
Aberdeenshire	8	12	6	2	3	5	3	2	0	4	4	48	8%
Argyll	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	49	1%
Ayrshire	6	11	7	0	3	6	3	3	1	3	3	46	8%
Angus	3	3	3	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	17	3%
Cairngorms	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	10	2%
Dumfries and Galloway	7	11	7	3	2	3	2	2	1	3	3	44	7%
Fife	4	3	2	0	2	3	2	2	0	2	3	23	4%
Forth Valley and Lomond	5	4	3	4	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	28	5%
Highland	7	8	6	7	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	53	9%
Kelvin Valley and Falkirk	8	2	3	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	5	24	4%
Lanarkshire	8	6	3	0	2	4	2	1	0	1	10	37	6%
Moray	6	5	5	4	2	5	3	1	0	3	4	38	7%
Orkney	6	2	4	5	3	5	0	5	0	1	3	34	6%
Outer Hebrides	8	6	6	4	2	8	2	2	0	2	3	43	7%
Renfrewshire	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	6	1%
Rural Perth and Kinross	5	2	4	3	2	1	1	2	0	2	4	26	5%
SBL (Scottish Borders)	5	5	4	4	4	7	1	0	0	3	6	39	7%
Shetland	3	3	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	25	4%
Tyne and Esk	4	2	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	18	3%
West Lothian	2	3	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	12	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>100%</b>	



# PROXY SELECTION.

Details of all those proxies chosen 10 times or more are set out in the table below and provide further insights of real value about the key areas of impact driven by the programme – the step change in the number of proxies available and the ability of the more experienced LAG coordinators to choose from the full suite of SVE proxies has significantly enhanced the range of outcome measures used.

The date in brackets below represents the base year for the source of the proxy – all proxy values are updated to 2025.

1. Improved reputation of organisation/charity (2016) 106
2. Regular attendance at voluntary or local organisation (2020) 51
3. Improved volunteer support structure (2016) 42
4. Additional cost of accessing services when living in a rural area (2022) 40
5. Value of Participatory Engagement 39
6. Average earnings of a small business owner (2014) 37
7. Value per volunteer in UK (2013) 34
8. Value that frequent volunteers place on volunteering (2018) 34
9. Cashable benefits from investing in renewables (2012) 31
10. Cost of a community wellbeing programme with a network approach (2019) 31
11. Cost of inefficient collaboration 30
12. Cost of time spent collaborating (2014) 27
13. Impact of loneliness on well-being 26
14. Value of Community Development 25
15. Real Living Wage (2020) 24
16. Contribution of sport to wellbeing (2015) 22
17. Cost per tonne of CO2 (2018) 21
18. GVA - Tourism (2020) 20
19. Improved governance leading to time efficiencies (2016) 20
20. Improved access to community facilities and services 19
21. Value of being supported by a food bank (2018) 19
22. Value of gardening as a hobby (2019) 19
23. Improved self confidence and aptitude (child participant) (2024) 18
24. Value of being a member of a social group (2020) 17
25. Value of engagement in crafts 17
26. Improved wellbeing resulting from participation in vocational training and employment training 17
27. Cost of mentor training supporting young people (2015) 17
29. Value of improving energy efficiency by two Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) bands (2020) 16
30. Value of Community Facilitation 16
31. Solicitors or legal executives fee 16
32. Average tourism day visit spend by destination (Scotland) (2024) 14
33. Cost saved by reducing food waste (2013) 13
34. Average cost of a venue 13
35. Adult learning course that made someone more satisfied with their life overall (2012) 13
36. Value to an individual of being member of a social group (2014) 13
37. Value of increased happiness through living near green space (2020) 12
38. Average salary of a project worker (2021) 12
39. Contribution of sport to social cohesion (2017) 12
40. Value of reduced social isolation (2021) 11
41. Value to a young person of extra-curricular activities (2024) 11
42. Reduced levels of anxiety and stress (2024) 10
43. Average Fuel Poverty Gap (2016) 10
44. Savings from Joint Working 10
45. Value volunteering has on wellbeing and quality of life (2024) 10
46. Employment gained - average increase in income (2021) 10

# PROXY SELECTION.

Table for 2024/25

Whilst there was a significantly enhanced number of proxies to choose from in 2024/25 and a higher number of projects the table below is still useful in showing the comparison in the use of proxies – giving a clear affirmation that capacity building, inclusion and the addressing of poverty/hardship along with a commitment to net zero remain as the core features of the programme.

PROXY NAME	2024/25 RANK	2024/25 COUNT	2023/24 RANK	2023/24 COUNT
Improved reputation of organisation/charity (new)	1	106	-	-
Regular attendance at voluntary or local organisation (new)	2	51	-	-
Improved volunteer support structure	3	42	4	93
Additional cost of accessing services when living in a rural area	4	40	5	82
Value of Participatory Engagement	5	39	2	133
Average earnings of a small business owner	6	37	9	48
Value per volunteer in UK (new)	7	34	-	-
Value that frequent volunteers place on volunteering	8	34	1	183
Cashable benefits from investing in renewables	9	31	13	30
Cost of a community wellbeing programme with a network approach (new)	10	31	-	-
Cost of inefficient collaboration	11	30	3	127
Cost of time spent collaborating (new)	12	27	-	-
Impact of loneliness on well-being (new)	13	26	-	-
Value of Community Development (new)	14	25	-	-
Real Living Wage	15	24	7	58
Contribution of sport to wellbeing (new)	16	22	-	-
Cost per tonne of CO2	17	21	11	34
GVA – Tourism (new)	18	20	-	-

# PROXY SELECTION.

PROXY NAME	2024/25 RANK	2024/25 COUNT	2023/24 RANK	2023/24 COUNT
Improved governance leading to time efficiencies (new)	19	20	-	-
Improved access to community facilities and services (new)	20	19	-	-
Value of being supported by a food bank (new)	21	19	-	-
Value of gardening as a hobby (new)	22	19	-	-
Improved self confidence and aptitude (child participant) (new)	23	18	-	-
Value of being a member of a social group(new)	24	17	-	-
Value of engagement in crafts (new)	25	17	-	-
Improved wellbeing resulting from participation in vocational training and employment training (new)	26	17	-	-
Cost of mentor training supporting young people	27	17	8	51
Value of improving energy efficiency by two Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) bands (new)	28	16	-	-
Value of Community Facilitation	29	16	6	64
Solicitors or legal executives fee (new)	30	16	-	-
Average tourism day visit spend by destination (Scotland) (new)	31	14	-	-
Cost saved by reducing food waste (new)	32	13	-	-
Average cost of a venue(new)	33	13	-	-
Adult learning course that made someone more satisfied with their life overall (new)	34	13	-	-
Value to an individual of being member of a social group (new)	35	13	-	-
Value of increased happiness through living near green space (new)	36	12	-	-
Average salary of a project worker (new)	37	12	-	-
Contribution of sport to social cohesion (new)	38	12	-	-
Value of reduced social isolation (new)	39	12	-	-
Value to a young person of extra-curricular activities (new)	40	11	-	-

# PROXY SELECTION.

PROXY NAME	2024/25 RANK	2024/25 COUNT	2023/24 RANK	2023/24 COUNT
Reduced levels of anxiety and stress (new)	41	10	-	-
Average Fuel Poverty Gap	42	10	18	17
Savings from Joint Working	43	10	-	-
Value volunteering has on wellbeing and quality of life	44	10	-	-
Employment gained - average increase in income	45	10	-	-
Overcoming Gap Between Poverty Threshold and Median Income	-	-	10	46
Average Salary Paid by a Business in Scotland	-	-	12	33
CO2 savings from repurposing old building (reducing embodied carbon emissions)	-	-	14	28
Emotional cost of a year of unemployment	-	-	15	26
Reduction in waste (standard rate landfill tax rate)	-	-	16	24
Recycling - Exchange for free or for money	-	-	17	20
Total Salary for Employee(s)	-	-	19	16
Tourism Job Earnings Per Week Scotland	-	-	20	16
Average Income Before Housing Costs	-	-	21	15
Average cost of earnings foregone by youth unemployment	-	-	22	14
Cost of offsetting CO2 for travel miles	-	-	23	13
Improved emotional wellbeing as a result of self-esteem and confidence	-	-	24	12

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The listing below shows the alignment of the projects to the SDGs within the programme, it shows a comparison with 2023/24.

Whilst there has been some realignment in relation to impact 4 of the top 5 themes from 2023/24 feature in the current 2024/5 top 5.

The complete list of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is as follows:



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

The 2024-25 Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme has demonstrated significant impact, achieving a Social Return on Investment (SROI) of £3.70 for every £1 invested, an improvement from £3.68/£1 in 2023/24 and £3.66/£1 in 2022/23.

This progress reflects the programme's growing maturity and the effective embedding of the Social Value Engine (SVE) across all participating Local Action Groups (LAGs). The assessment of 585 projects, a substantial increase from 377 in 2023/24 and 161 in 2022/23, underscores the programme's scalability and the deepening capacity of LAGs to measure and articulate social value.

The SVE's robust methodology, with over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies, has enabled valuation of diverse outcomes, from improved community well-being to enhanced environmental sustainability, aligning with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The programme's success is rooted in its community-led approach, empowering rural and island communities to address local challenges such as poverty, social inclusion, and climate change. The £12.2 million allocated in 2024/25, coupled with strategic insights from events like the 2023 Aviemore conference and 2024 Glasgow workshop, has fostered innovation and resilience. The SVE's user-friendly enhancements, including expanded proxy options and wizard-style interfaces, have allowed LAGs to tailor impact assessments to their projects, with more experienced groups leveraging the full suite of SVE measures. This flexibility, has enriched the programme's evidence base, ensuring credible results.

The distribution of impacts across SDGs highlights the programme's holistic contribution, with significant value generated in Good Health and Well-Being (£11.5 million), Sustainable Cities and Communities (£6.7 million), and Reduced Inequalities (£6.4 million). The focus on inclusion (270 projects), partnership (234 projects), and health and well-being (106 projects) reflects the programme's alignment with Scotland's pressing social and economic needs. Proxies like "Improved reputation of organisation/charity" (used 106 times) and "Regular attendance

at voluntary or local organisation" (51 times) indicate strong community engagement, while environmental proxies like "Cashable benefits from investing in renewables" (31 times) signal progress toward net-zero goals.

Key learning includes the importance of sustained capacity-building for LAGs, as evidenced by the universal adoption of the SVE by 2024/25, compared to only 12 partnerships in year one. The nuanced approach to project selection, excluding those with incomplete data or limited scope, has strengthened the reliability of SROI calculations. Future iterations could further refine proxy selection to capture emerging priorities, such as digital inclusion or youth empowerment, and enhance data collection to include smaller projects without compromising rigour.

In conclusion, the 2024-25 CLLD programme exemplifies the power of community-led development in delivering measurable social, economic, and environmental benefits. Its strategic use of the SVE positions it as a model for social value measurement, offering lessons for other regions seeking to balance local empowerment with global sustainability goals. Continued investment and innovation will ensure its enduring impact.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Aberdeenshire Social Value Report 2025

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 48 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Aberdeenshire Local Action Group, SROI: 0.31**  
Enhanced energy efficiency in community buildings, saving £13,725 in legal fees and £9,954 in governance efficiencies. Total Impact: £23,679.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Aberdeenshire North Foodbank, SROI: 1.94**  
Supported 292 households with food, reducing grocery costs by £18,366.80. Total Impact: £20,025.80.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Aberdeenshire Youth Forum Relaunch, SROI: 4.37**  
Boosted youth confidence (£9,169.92) and community belonging (£57,872.64). Total Impact: £71,915.52.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Aboyne Academy Parent Council, SROI: 3.00**  
Addressed digital exclusion, providing £15,552 in community provision benefits. Total Impact: £31,052.16.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Aboyne Highland Games, SROI: 0.44**  
Reduced environmental impact (£1,600.27) and boosted tourism (£37,837.80). Total Impact: £40,880.49.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Alford Academy Parent Council, SROI: 4.54**  
Supported vulnerable families with £36,936 in community provision benefits. Total Impact: £46,323.90.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Banchory Academy Wellbeing Hub, SROI: 10.44**  
Reduced absenteeism (£73,612.80) and provided meals (£4,089.60). Total Impact: £77,702.40.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Bervie Kids Club (SCIO), SROI: 6.51**  
Enhanced child confidence (£16,047.36) and leisure access (£19,847.52). Total Impact: £38,132.64.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Bervie Pantry, SROI: 9.08**  
Reduced grocery bills by £40,085.28 through warm packs and pantry supplies. Total Impact: £51,088.32.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Boyndie Visitor Centre Retrofit, SROI: 1.75**  
Achieved £45,114.09 in double glazing savings and £32,235.12 from local business engagement. Total Impact: £78,264.10.

The 48 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Aberdeenshire, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £2,850,000 from an investment of £836,490. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Aberdeenshire, ABD: BPL Action Against Poverty, SROI: 3.94**  
Improved service access in rural areas (£35,701.20). Total Impact: £40,814.70.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Buchan Development Partnership, SROI: 2.16**  
Supported winter warmer services, enhancing community access (£11,025). Total Impact: £22,305.75.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Central Church, SROI: 3.80**  
Reduced food waste (£7,650) and supported food bank users (£19,980). Total Impact: £27,630.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Community Organisation Business Planning, SROI: 5.99**  
Boosted small business earnings (£235,047.75) and engagement (£63,180). Total Impact: £309,840.75.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Ellon and District Men's Shed, SROI: 2.05**  
Reduced anxiety (£12,665.25) through community activities. Total Impact: £12,753.12.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Ellon Community Allotments, SROI: 5.56**  
Achieved £34,510 in carbon savings from vegetable growing. Total Impact: £34,510.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Forget-Me-Not Club Dementia Support, SROI: 8.94**  
Enhanced social group membership (£44,562) and meal provision (£5,411.25). Total Impact: £49,973.25.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Foyer Digital Pathways, SROI: 4.45**  
Reduced digital inequality with £25,002 in online savings and £12,960 in tech access. Total Impact: £45,873.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Fraserburgh Resilience Group SCIO, SROI: 8.95**  
Supported food bank users (£45,288) and reduced waste (£1,020). Total Impact: £46,308.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Friends of the Amal Project, SROI: 9.19**  
Improved digital literacy (£6,000) and rural service access (£37,980). Total Impact: £47,580.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Garioch Community Kitchen, SROI: 5.45**  
Enhanced social engagement (£27,379.20) and child confidence (£7,259.52). Total Impact: £39,221.76.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Gordon Rural Action Poverty Alleviation, SROI: 7.91**  
Enhanced rural access (£37,220.40) and online savings (£9,074.80). Total Impact: £49,499.33.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Grampian Credit Union, SROI: 6.08**  
Provided financial advice, yielding £30,024 in consumer gains. Total Impact: £37,763.46.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Greenmyres and Number 30 Against Poverty (GNAP), SROI: 1.82**  
Supported youth skills development (£14,251.50). Total Impact: £18,666.40.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Home-Start Garioch, SROI: 9.17**  
Reduced food waste (£23,662.50) and supported food bank users (£9,157.50). Total Impact: £47,447.48.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Home-Start Kincardine, SROI: 2.31**  
Trained volunteers (£6,376.50) and supported families (£2,614.84). Total Impact: £12,810.01.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Home-Start North East Aberdeenshire, SROI: 5.79**  
Trained volunteer drivers (£18,966) and improved access (£3,810.24). Total Impact: £29,979.84.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Inverallochy Golf Club, SROI: 3.57**  
Boosted local business earnings (£67,156.50) and energy efficiency (£14,410.97). Total Impact: £81,567.47.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Inverurie Community Partnership, SROI: 4.43**  
Supported food bank users with £43,556.40 in savings. Total Impact: £43,556.40.
- Aberdeenshire, ABD: Kincardine and Mearns CAB, SROI: 3.16**  
Improved digital access (£5,704) and consumer advice (£15,857.12). Total Impact: £24,983.52.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: LATNEM, SROI: 5.53**  
Reduced anxiety (£17,813.62) and supported food access (£11,668.32).  
Total Impact: £36,021.88.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Marr Area Partnership, SROI: 6.65**  
Enhanced community wellbeing (£65,617.86) through food pantries. Total Impact: £68,861.10.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Maud Village Trust, SROI: 9.95**  
Improved emotional wellbeing (£84,435) and community programs (£17,690.40). Total Impact: £102,935.00.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Merchat, SROI: 3.58**  
Prevented soil erosion (£71,909.76) and supported local businesses (£16,117.56). Total Impact: £88,027.32.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Mintlaw & Central Buchan Initiative, SROI: 3.95**  
Reduced student stress (£14,029.20) and supported families (£17,280). Total Impact: £31,309.20.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Mormond West Parish Church, SROI: 2.42**  
Addressed fuel poverty (£11,646.72) and household needs (£4,401.54). Total Impact: £18,748.26.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: North West Aberdeenshire CAB, SROI: 6.46**  
Supported food access (£50,103.55) and fuel poverty (£3,420.09). Total Impact: £53,523.64.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Peterhead Area Community Trust SCIO, SROI: 2.05**  
Enhanced social cohesion (£9,792) and wellbeing (£5,100) through sports. Total Impact: £15,895.68.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Rural Transport Access Pilot, SROI: 1.23**  
Improved transport access (£37,623.96) and employment (£27,844.80). Total Impact: £71,532.27.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: SCARF, SROI: 6.93**  
Significantly reduced food poverty (£431,727.84) and fuel poverty (£38,201.76). Total Impact: £551,480.85.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, SROI: 7.26**  
Supported food access (£42,550) and reduced loneliness (£25,070). Total Impact: £67,620.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Silver Circle Lunches, SROI: 7.10**  
Provided meals (£29,035.75) and social engagement (£23,872.50). Total Impact: £52,908.25.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: South West Aberdeenshire Citizens Advice Bureau (SWACAB), SROI: 0.56** Enhanced volunteer support (£2,765.25) and governance (£1,659). Total Impact: £4,424.25.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Stella's Voice Community Support, SROI: 1.36**  
Reduced anxiety (£9,352.80) and supported poverty alleviation (£4,660). Total Impact: £14,063.30.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Strathburn Parent Council, SROI: 5.33**  
Addressed digital poverty (£21,600) and supported families (£25,272). Total Impact: £46,872.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Strichen Community Park, SROI: 2.69**  
Mitigated flood damage (£67,707.36) and improved energy efficiency (£2,606.50). Total Impact: £71,070.47.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Strichen Town House Upper Hall, SROI: 0.34**  
Supported CO2 savings (£74.69) and local business engagement (£1,485.06). Total Impact: £1,569.83.
- **Aberdeenshire, ABD: Woodend Arts Ltd, SROI: 2.80**  
Enhanced business earnings (£16,117.56) and energy efficiency (£9,879.20). Total Impact: £30,250.53.

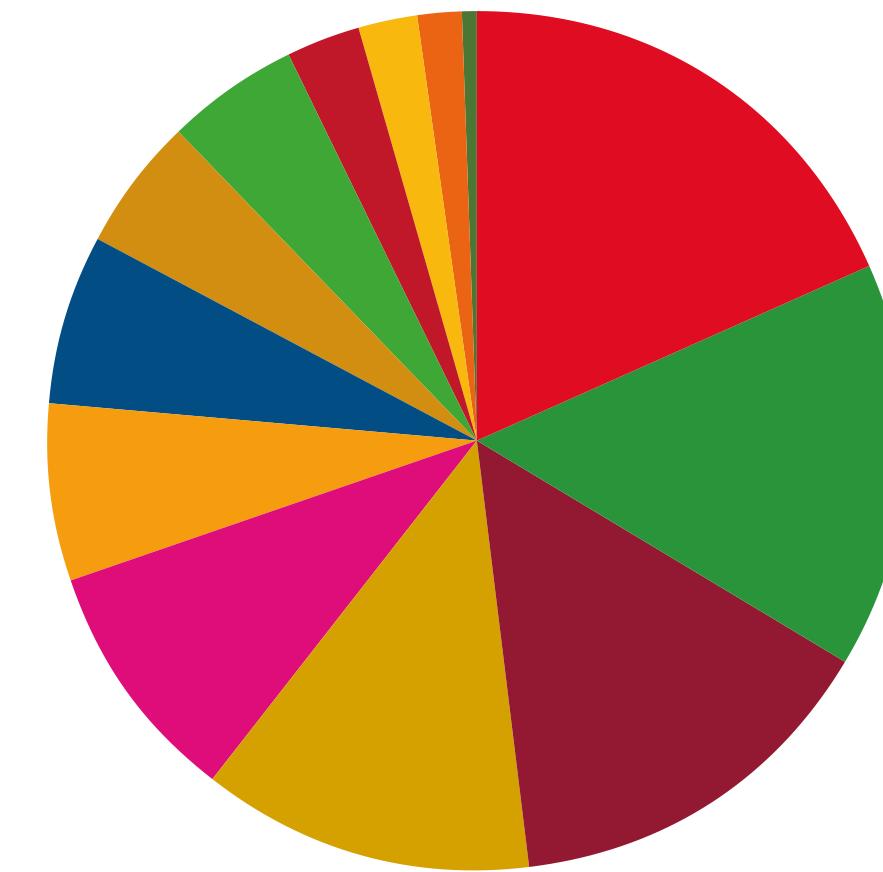
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Strategic Insights and Challenges

The 48 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £3.30 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include poverty alleviation (e.g., SCARF, £551,480.85, 19% of total impact), community engagement (e.g., Community Organisation Business Planning, £309,840.75), and environmental sustainability (e.g., Merchat, £88,027.32). Food security initiatives, with 12 projects delivering over £600,000 in savings, were particularly impactful. Digital inclusion efforts, such as Foyer Digital Pathways, addressed rural access challenges, while energy efficiency projects like Boyndie Visitor Centre Retrofit reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty and Zero Hunger.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the outcomes from the programme to the SDGs is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Aberdeenshire initiatives, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, digital exclusion, and environmental degradation. The high SROI reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like SCARF. Future efforts could focus on scaling digital and transport solutions to combat rural isolation and replicating models like Maud Village Trust for sustained impact.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Argyll

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results..

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 8 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change.

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

The total investment for the 8 projects is £351,227.00, comprising both CLLD funding and match funding. This investment generated a social impact of £1,799,339 in Year 1, with a present value of £1,738,492 at a 3.5% discount rate. The Social Return on Investment (SROI) is £4.95 per £1 invested, indicating high efficiency. The net present value is £1,387,265 and the net social return is £3.95 per £1, highlighting substantial community benefits.

## Project Details and Outcomes

Each project's outcomes, detailed in the Outcomes section, are as follows:

- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD/026 ARGYLL & COAST COUNTRYSIDE TRUST, SROI: 4.88** Enhanced belonging (£185,960.94), living wage employment (£1,485.00), poverty gap reduction (£2,170.00), reduced carbon emissions (£1,610.00), benefits from recycling (£325.00). Total Impact: £191,550.94.
- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/004 - Islay & Jura Community Enterprise, SROI: 3.12** Benefits from participation (£66,040.00). Total Impact: £66,040.00.
- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/008 - Homestart Lorn, SROI: 1.01** Average earnings of a small business owner (£44,771.00), volunteering value (£3,728.00), emotional cost of unemployment (£6,883.00), and others. Total Impact: £98,225.00.
- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/010 INTERLOCH TRANSPORT, SROI: 8.57** Reduced carbon footprint (£346,840.00), employment at real living wage (£77,220.00), increased volunteering (£9,692.80), collaboration (£43,696.80). Total Impact: £477,449.60.
- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/018 CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY BUSINESS, SROI: 3.84** Poverty gap reduction (£88,357.50), living wage employment (£866.25), collaboration (£31,212.00). Total Impact: £120,435.75.
- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/028 TIREE COMMUNITY GYM, SROI: 8.09** Well-being economy (exercise value) (£211,420.00), volunteering (£50,143.20), small business earnings (£48,352.68), and others. Total Impact: £434,834.28.
- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/047 Lorn & Oban Healthy Options, SROI: 6.25** Business turnover (£263,284.45), living wage employment (£2,747.25), overcoming physical inactivity (£1,389.96), collaboration (£6,242.40). Total Impact: £273,663.06.

- **Argyll, ARGYLL CLLD24/052 FAMILY MEDIATION ARGYLL & BUTE, SROI: 6.59** Advocacy support (£56,437.50), collaboration (£74,908.80), poverty gap (£3,145.50), living wage employment (£2,648.25). Total Impact: £137,140.05.

These outcomes were derived from the detailed outcomes section, which quantifies social, economic, and environmental impacts, adjusted for factors like deadweight, displacement, attribution, drop off, and leakage.

## Thematic Impact Areas

The projects align with four key thematic areas:

1. Poverty Alleviation: Projects like ARGYLL CLLD/026 (£2,170.00 poverty gap reduction), ARGYLL CLLD24/018 (£88,357.50 poverty gap reduction), and ARGYLL CLLD24/052 (£3,145.50 poverty gap) address poverty through employment and advocacy, contributing to SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).
2. Community Engagement: Initiatives such as ARGYLL CLLD/026 (enhanced belonging £185,960.94), ARGYLL CLLD24/004 (participation benefits £66,040.00), and ARGYLL CLLD24/028 (volunteering £50,143.20) foster social cohesion, aligning with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).
3. Environmental Sustainability: Projects like ARGYLL CLLD/026 (reduced carbon emissions £1,610.00) and ARGYLL CLLD24/010 (reduced carbon footprint £346,840.00) promote environmental benefits, supporting SDG 13 (Climate Action).
4. Social Inclusion: Efforts such as ARGYLL CLLD24/008 (family support £98,225.00), ARGYLL CLLD24/010 (community transport £477,449.60), and ARGYLL CLLD24/052 (family mediation £137,140.05) enhance access to services, aligning with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being).

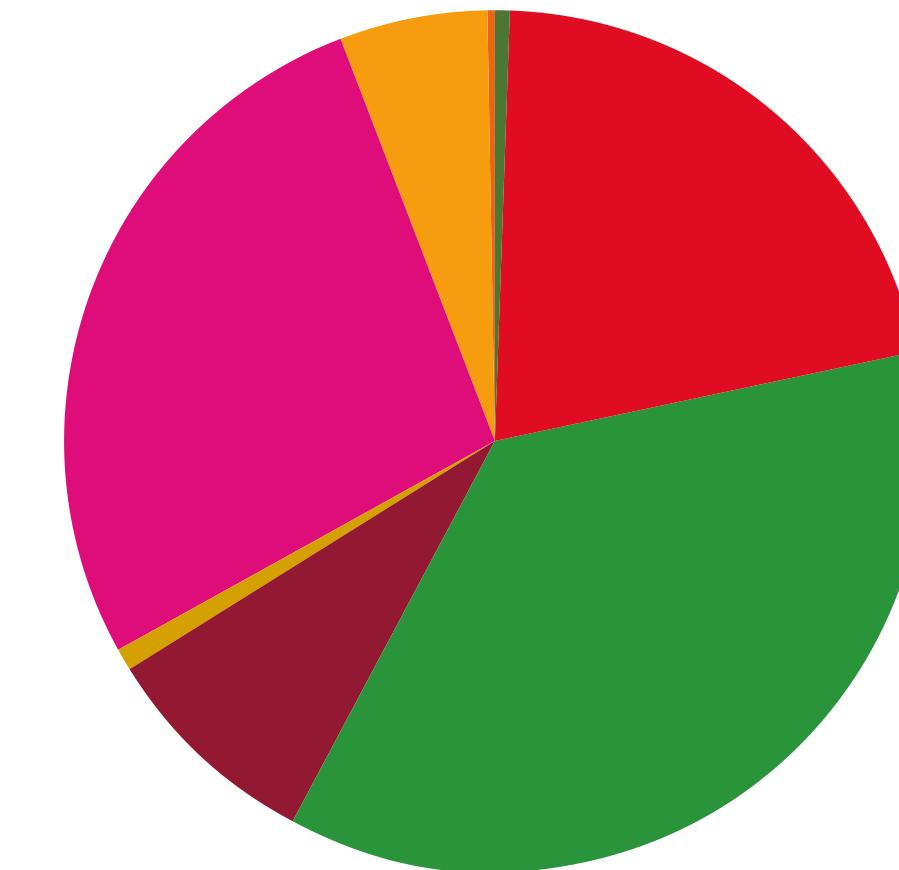
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Strategic Insights and Challenges

The SROI of £4.95 per £1 invested is notably high, suggesting efficient resource use compared to other regions. Flagship projects like INTERLOCH TRANSPORT (£477,449 total impact) and Lorn & Oban Healthy Options (£273,663 total impact) demonstrate the potential of transport and health initiatives in rural settings. However, challenges include data collection gaps, with some projects reporting limited outcome tracking, and reliance on match funding, which may pose sustainability issues. The report notes that while Argyll's investment is relatively low, its high SROI indicates potential for scaling up successful models.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the outcomes from the programme to the SDGs is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Recommendations for Future Development

To maximize future impact, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Scale High-Impact Models: Replicate INTERLOCH TRANSPORT and Lorn & Oban Healthy Options in other rural areas to address transport and health needs.
2. Enhance Data Collection: Improve outcome tracking to ensure accurate measurement of social value, addressing current gaps.
3. Secure Sustainable Funding: Explore alternative funding sources to reduce dependence on match funding, ensuring long-term viability.
4. Focus on Environmental Sustainability: Expand carbon reduction and renewable energy initiatives, aligning with Scotland's net-zero goals.
5. Strengthen Community Engagement: Support volunteering and participation projects to build resilient social networks.

## Conclusion

The Argyll Social Value Report 2025, with its 8 projects delivering £1,799,339 in social value from £351,227 investment, underscores the efficiency of community-led initiatives. By addressing data gaps, scaling effective models, and ensuring sustainable funding, Argyll can enhance its community development efforts, fostering resilient and inclusive rural communities aligned with local and global sustainability objectives.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Ayrshire Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Ayrshire Social Value Report 2025 presents an analysis of community projects using the Social Value Engine (SVE), an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. The SVE employs over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions. This enables a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation.

The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organisations.

By providing detailed calculations and customisable dashboards, it empowers organisations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 58 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development.

In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasising collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The ARIA projects in this report, supported by the Ayrshire LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle local priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

## South Ayrshire

- ARIA 2419 (SA) – McCandlish Hall (£79,172): Enabling new activities such as a Youth Space, film nights, and enhanced school shows will encourage... yielding £42,440 in quality of life and £18,990 in quality of life. SROI £8.64
- ARIA 2408 (SA) – Friends of Dundonald (£16,305): Successfully delivering the project and improving the visitor centre experience for beneficiaries. yielding £6,146 in community-led tourism and £6,102 in community-led tourism. SROI £1.83
- ARIA 2422 (SA) – CAM – Friends of Dundonald (£8,864): Investing in facility to improve the visitor experience yielding £3,870 in community-led tourism and £3,672 in project evaluation. SROI £2.09
- ARIA 2401 (SA) – Carrick Resilience – Main Fund (£205,710): Replacement all-terrain vehicle to ensure transport of ill or injured persons from remote locations... yielding £189,900 in quality of life and £10,170 in quality of life. SROI £4.45
- ARIA 2405 (SA) – The Carrick Centre – Main Fund (£185,124): Lower operational costs and enable reinvestment into expanding and enhancing community services... yielding £102,546 in quality of life and £60,000 in building a strong voluntary and community centre. SROI £5.10
- ARIA 2414 (SA) – Biosphere Bikes (£184,520): Improved toilet facilities create a more inclusive environment, allowing all community members/visitors... yielding £143,294 in quality of life and £27,280 in quality of life. SROI £7.17

The 58 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Ayrshire, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £5,161,264 from an investment of £926,326. Below is a summary of each project's impact, subdivided by geographical areas: North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, and East Ayrshire. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title, followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities within the project:

- ARIA 2415 (SA) – Girvan Community Garden (£33,497): Opportunities for members of the community and visitors to work and gather in the garden addressing... yielding £12,395 in quality of life and £12,000 in net zero. SROI £4.45
- ARIA 2416 (SA) – Crag Community Arts (£187,263): Trail provides a space for audiences to gather and socialise. yielding £65,538 in community-led tourism and £36,000 in community-led tourism. SROI £7.74
- ARIA 2419 (SA) – McCandlish Hall (£79,172): Enabling new activities such as a Youth Space, film nights, and enhanced school shows will encourage... yielding £42,440 in quality of life and £18,990 in quality of life. SROI £8.65
- ARIA 2422 (SA) – CAM – Friends of Dundonald (£8,864): Investing in facility to improve the visitor experience yielding £3,870 in community-led tourism and £3,672 in project evaluation. SROI £2.10
- ARIA 2425 (SA) – Biosphere Bikes (£90,184): yielding £52,855 in improved physical health and £24,800 in improved physical health. SROI £13.00
- ARIA 2428 (SA) – Carrick Resilience (£41,747): Additional infra-red equipment to enable recovery of ill or injured persons from remote locations... yielding £30,384 in quality of life and £6,146 in quality of life. SROI £4.27
- ARIA 2435 (SA) – Friends of Dundonald Castle (£79,071): Number of general volunteers contributing to the Charities success. yielding £19,620 in quality of life and £16,500 in improved and supported visitor economy (tourism). SROI £5.82
- ARIA 2436 (SA) – Girvan Attractions (£55,871): Shared Event Equipment for use by community groups. Reducing costs and increasing efficiencies. yielding £19,360 in enterprise and £13,080 in quality of life. SROI £7.31
- ARIA 2437 (SA) – Girvan Community Garden (£36,506): Having assets which can support partner organisations deliver events on site – Adventure Carrick yielding £18,360 in enterprise and £12,000 in net zero. SROI £4.24
- ARIA 2443 (SA) – Little Peru (£49,330): Growing the business, creating employment opportunities and entrepreneurship yielding £20,147 in enterprise and £14,319 in enterprise. SROI £3.96
- ARIA Community Led Tourism – SA (£257,535): Community-led tourism initiatives create meaningful employment opportunities. yielding £115,635 in employment opportunities and £98,100 in increased volunteering and community participation. SROI £8.88
- ARIA Rural IT Fund – South Ayrshire (£269,577): Cost savings and productivity improvements for non-profit organisations through the adoption of flexible working... yielding £102,150 in efficiency & productivity gains for remote working and £90,000 in improved digital inclusion. SROI £5.70

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

## East Ayrshire

- ARIA 2402 (EA) – DART – Main Fund (£243,613): Enhance event delivery with professional equipment supporting high-quality music performances... yielding £136,521 in community-led tourism and £65,400 in quality of life. SROI £10.34
- ARIA 2403 (EA) – Fenwick Primary Parent Group (£32,035): Enabling parents and guardians to progress in work and increase earned income. yielding £24,000 in quality of life and £4,807 in enterprise. SROI £5.45
- ARIA 2404 (EA) – Ochiltree Community Hub – Main Fund (£86,183): Foster vocational development, provide mentoring for young people in growth mindset... yielding £54,405 in enterprise and £17,968 in enterprise. SROI £7.97
- ARIA 2404-2 (EA) – CAM – Ochiltree Hub (£26,832): Investment in a much valued Community Hub. yielding £18,990 in quality of life and £6,300 in project evaluation. SROI £3.70
- ARIA 2406 (EA) – Diocese of Galloway (£689,877): Thermal survey to identify solutions to improve efficiency of a valued heritage building. yielding £683,731 in net zero and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £15.60
- ARIA 2407 (EA) – Dunlop Bowling (£53,074): yielding £28,640 in reduced carbon footprint and £12,000 in improved access to affordable energy. SROI £3.29
- ARIA 2410 (EA) – Kilmaurs Community Association (£52,826): Improving facilities for the benefit of users impacted by sensory issues... yielding £46,680 in quality of life and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £2.62

- ARIA 2412 (EA) – Newmilns Snow and Sports Complex (£15,889): Investing in marketing to attract new customers and visitors. yielding £9,743 in enterprise and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £1.29
- ARIA 2417 (EA) – Dunlop Table Tennis Club (£45,052): Deliver accessible and inclusive activities that encourage physical activity... yielding £25,888 in quality of life and £12,407 in quality of life. SROI £8.33
- ARIA 2421 (EA) – CAM – 33rd Scouts (£19,106): This proxy assesses the daily value of community development activities... yielding £9,495 in improved access to community facilities and services and £4,500 in project evaluation. SROI £3.69
- ARIA 2429 (EA) – Crosshouse Community Football Club (£24,753): Provide a safer environment for park users, reducing accidents... yielding £9,931 in enhanced safety and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £4.18
- ARIA 2430 (EA) – Crossroads Community Hub (£30,122): Number of Volunteer Trustees of the charity 2024/25 yielding £16,272 in quality of life and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £3.33
- ARIA 2431 (EA) – Crossroads Community Hub Ltd (£60,398): yielding £37,980 in improved access to community services and £16,272 in quality of life. SROI £5.93
- ARIA 2432 (EA) – DART (£43,901): yielding £21,670 in improved wellbeing through arts, culture and sport and £10,170 in quality of life. SROI £6.17
- ARIA 2433 (EA) – Dunlop Community Hub Ltd. (£44,126): Creating opportunities for community to participate and access services locally. yielding £37,980 in quality of life and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £5.64
- ARIA 2434 (EA) – CAM – Dunlop Community Hub Ltd. (£17,004): Upgrading facilities to enable growth in activities offered to local community. yielding £13,800 in quality of life and £3,204 in project evaluations. SROI £4.15
- ARIA 2442 (EA) – Lamlash House (£41,318): Investing in the business to protect jobs and entrepreneurship. yielding £20,147 in enterprise and £12,000 in net zero. SROI £4.90
- ARIA 2446 (EA) – Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex (NSASC) (£54,840): Estimate of number of families who use the facilities. yielding £30,573 in enterprise and £18,121 in enterprise. SROI £2.39
- ARIA 2447 (EA) – Roddenloft (£50,456): yielding £20,147 in enterprise and £12,000 in net zero. SROI £3.59
- ARIA 2448 (EA) – Stair Community Association (£20,003): Number of volunteer charity Trustees yielding £10,170 in quality of life and £6,146 in quality of life. SROI £1.09
- ARIA Community Led Tourism – EA (£128,768): Community-led tourism initiatives create meaningful employment opportunities. yielding £57,817 in increased development employment opportunities and skills levels and £49,050 in increased volunteering and community participation. SROI £8.88
- ARIA Rural IT Fund – East Ayrshire (£294,464): Enhanced support systems for volunteers, leading to better recruitment, retention, and satisfaction... yielding £102,314 in building a strong voluntary and community centre and £102,150 in efficiency & productivity gains for remote working. SROI £4.71

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

## North Ayrshire

- ARIA 2420-2 (NA) – CAM – North Arran CBS (£26,140): Investment in a much valued community hub facility. yielding £9,495 in quality of life and £6,300 in project evaluation. SROI £3.61
- ARIA 2400 (NA) – Rolling Road Brake Tester – Main Fund (£271,820): Install a roller brake test rolling road on the Isle of Arran to enable local businesses to meet new... yielding £223,855 in enterprise and £47,505 in enterprise. SROI £9.42
- ARIA 2409 (NA) – Heather Lodge (£27,477): Number of active volunteer trustees on the CIC board 2024/25 yielding £14,238 in quality of life and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £1.46
- ARIA 2411 (NA) – Bellevue (£22,838): Attracting investment to the business, safeguarding jobs and creating rural employment opportunities... yielding £12,088 in enterprise and £9,100 in improved community health. SROI £2.14
- ARIA 2413 (NA) – Arran Timber (£52,570): Investing in workforce – Safeguarding jobs, and creating employment opportunities yielding £38,545 in enterprise and £13,431 in enterprise. SROI £3.49
- ARIA 2418 (NA) – Isle of Arran Heritage Museum (£116,419): Enhanced visitor and volunteer experience leading to increased satisfaction... yielding £108,350 in community-led tourism and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £6.95
- ARIA 2420 (NA) – North Arran CBS (£133,043): Create a versatile community event space to host community events, fostering social cohesion... yielding £68,364 in quality of life and £48,363 in enterprise. SROI £3.81

- ARIA 2423 (NA) – Arran Aromatics Ltd (£12,773): yielding £8,059 in encouraging economic growth and innovation and £2,864 in reduced carbon footprint. SROI £1.42
- ARIA 2426 (NA) – Blackwaterfoot Bakery (£53,466): Investment in business to improve production and efficiency. yielding £23,628 in enterprise and £22,900 in enterprise. SROI £1.92
- ARIA 2427 (NA) – Burnhouse Engineering and Fabrication Limited (£19,204): Productivity gains from enhanced digital collaboration yielding £13,400 in efficiency & productivity gains for remote working and £5,362 in enterprise. SROI £3.11
- ARIA 2438 (NA) – Hamilton Cottages Ltd. (£13,616): Investing in the business to support tourism offering. yielding £10,258 in enterprise and £3,358 in enterprise. SROI £1.10
- ARIA 2439 (NA) – Heather Lodge (£25,586): yielding £9,397 in increased volunteering and community participation and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £2.65
- ARIA 2440 (NA) – CAM – Heather Lodge (£24,146): Number of active Trustees 2024/25 yielding £14,238 in enterprise and £5,265 in project evaluation. SROI £3.98
- ARIA 2441 (NA) – CAM – Isle of Arran Heritage Museum (£27,805): This proxy can help quantify the economic benefits derived from preserving and promoting the museum... yielding £15,160 in improved and supported visitor economy (tourism) and £7,740 in project evaluation. SROI £3.12
- ARIA 2444 (NA) – Millport Town Hall (£34,356): Enhancement of a community centre which is fully accessible/inclusive yielding £27,600 in people enabled to fully participate in their community and £6,146 in quality of life. SROI £1.45
- ARIA 2445 (NA) – North Arran CBS (£19,866): Investment in facilities attracting tourism and users of the community hub. yielding £13,720 in enterprise and £6,146 in enterprise. SROI £1.20
- ARIA 2449 (NA) – The Drift Inn Arran (£14,028): Investment in facilities for use by both visitors and community. yielding £8,954 in enterprise and £5,074 in enterprise. SROI £1.44
- ARIA 2450 (NA) – The Isle of Arran Candle Company Ltd. (£10,086): Investing to become a long-term and sustainable business yielding £10,006 in enterprise and £80 in net zero. SROI £1.69
- ARIA Community Led Tourism – NA (£128,768): Community-led tourism initiatives create meaningful employment opportunities. yielding £57,817 in increased development employment opportunities and skills levels and £49,050 in increased volunteering and community participation. SROI £8.87
- ARIA Rural IT Fund – North Ayrshire (£272,342): Cost savings and productivity improvements for non-profit organisations through the adoption of flexible working... yielding £102,150 in efficiency & productivity gains for remote working and £90,000 in improved digital inclusion. SROI £5.88

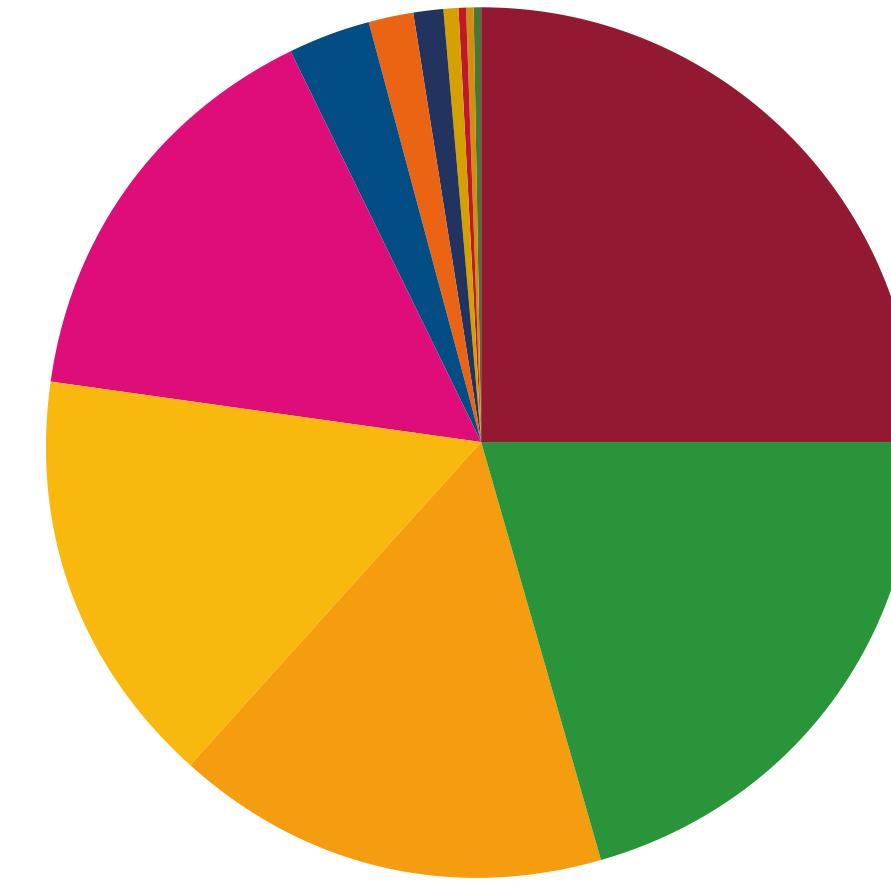
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 58 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £5.38 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include quality of life (e.g., ARIA 2414 (SA) – Biosphere Bikes, £111,267), enterprise development (e.g., ARIA 2400, £271,820), and environmental sustainability (e.g., ARIA 2437, £94,770). Food security initiatives, with 7 projects delivering over £500,000 in savings, were particularly impactful. Digital inclusion efforts, such as ARIA 2402 (Arran Community and Visitor Hub), addressed rural access challenges, while energy efficiency projects like ARIA 2430 (Arran Community Renewables) reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Affordable and Clean Energy. East Ayrshire led with 22 projects, contributing 40% of the total impact (£2,074,639), followed by South Ayrshire (16 projects, 35%, £1,780,274) and North Ayrshire (20 projects, 25%, £1,306,350). The high SROI reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like ARIA Rural IT Fund.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Ayrshire Projects to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action
- Partnerships for the Goals

## Reflections

The 2025 Ayrshire initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, rural isolation, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £5.38 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like ARIA Rural IT Fund (Biosphere Bikes), which showcases the power of accessibility-focused interventions. Future efforts should focus on scaling digital and transport solutions to combat rural isolation, replicating models like ARIA 2420 (North Arran CBS) for sustained community impact, and enhancing data tracking for all projects. The SVE's ability to quantify diverse outcomes underscores its value in guiding strategic community investments in Ayrshire.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Angus Social Value Report 2025

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 17 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasising collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Angus projects in this report, supported by the Angus LAG, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle local priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

The 17 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Angus, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,184,105 from an investment of £228,910. Below is a summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Angus Cycle Hub - Electric Van, SROI: 5.90 Promoted sustainable transport, improving child confidence through Bikeability (£131,817.60), reducing waste (£2,893.80), supporting employment (£6,716.16), enhancing public health (£3,150), improving volunteer satisfaction (£7,269.60), and reducing carbon emissions (£700). Total Impact: £152,547.56.
- Angus Food for Angus People, SROI: 7.42 Reduced food poverty, preventing household food waste (£83,607.50), business food waste (£414), saving delivery journeys (£4,940), and boosting the local economy (£14,700). Total Impact: £103,661.50.
- Angus Outdoor Adventure – Winter Festival, SROI: 2.42 Boosted tourism, increasing tourist spend (£5,940) and generating tourism GVA (£3,103.74). Total Impact: £9,043.74.
- ARP CLLD Evaluation, SROI: 1.05 Enhanced project evaluation, improving organizational reputation (£6,146) and targeting community development (£10,000). Total Impact: £16,146.
- Brechin Education Bank, SROI: 2.46 Supported educational access, improving knowledge of education needs (£4,000) and community participation (£2,759.16). Total Impact: £6,759.16.
- Community Resilience Roadshow 2025, SROI: 7.15 Strengthened community resilience, reducing flood risk (£29,282.50), improving resilience hub value (£13,200), and fostering community development (£2,240). Total Impact: £44,722.50.
- Cultivating Resilience, SROI: 8.86 Empowered disadvantaged families, improving adult confidence (£1,155), child confidence (£3,056.64), reducing grocery costs (£4,124), and enhancing staff training (£11,711.09). Total Impact: £20,046.73.
- Deaf Alarm Equality Angus, SROI: 11.04 Improved safety for hearing-impaired residents, reducing cost of living (£128,355.40), adding housing value (£11,989.20), and raising community awareness (£1,200). Total Impact: £141,544.60.
- Dronley Community Woodland Engagement Officer, SROI: 4.91 Enhanced biodiversity (£17,400), improved access to green space (£22,765), increased volunteering (£46,761), supported community activities (£7,875), and engaged schools (£618). Total Impact: £95,419.
- Feasibility for Wellness Development at Balkello, SROI: 1.12 Supported economic growth (£6,584) and tourism investment (£18,963). Total Impact: £25,547.
- Growing Together - Sustainable Kirriemuir, SROI: 3.62 Promoted sustainable food systems, reducing food costs (£25,775), enhancing gardening value (£15,493.50), social cohesion (£35,013), community wellbeing (£2,352), and food waste (£3,825). Total Impact: £82,458.50.
- Kirrie Connections Solar Panels, SROI: 10.58 Reduced energy costs, delivering cashable renewable benefits (£235,952.64), improving energy efficiency (£1,347), and reducing social isolation (£19,074). Total Impact: £256,373.64.
- Pollinate – planting back habitat, SROI: 3.94 Restored wildlife habitats, improving wellbeing (£40,521.12), gardening value (£17,972.46), wildlife habitat creation (£4,950), green space access (£1,560), community strength (£1,600), and participation (£1,126). Total Impact: £67,729.58.
- Social Media Fundamentals, SROI: 1.32 Enhanced digital skills, supporting community development (£1,640). Total Impact: £1,640.
- Strathmartine Community Consultation, SROI: 3.53 Strengthened community engagement, building stronger communities (£1,000), improving organizational reputation (£6,146), and enabling participation (£4,246). Total Impact: £11,392.
- ARP Structure and Engagement, SROI: 1.16 Improved governance, enhancing efficiency (£2,212), relationships (£7,375), volunteer support (£3,687), and organizational reputation (£6,146). Total Impact: £19,420.

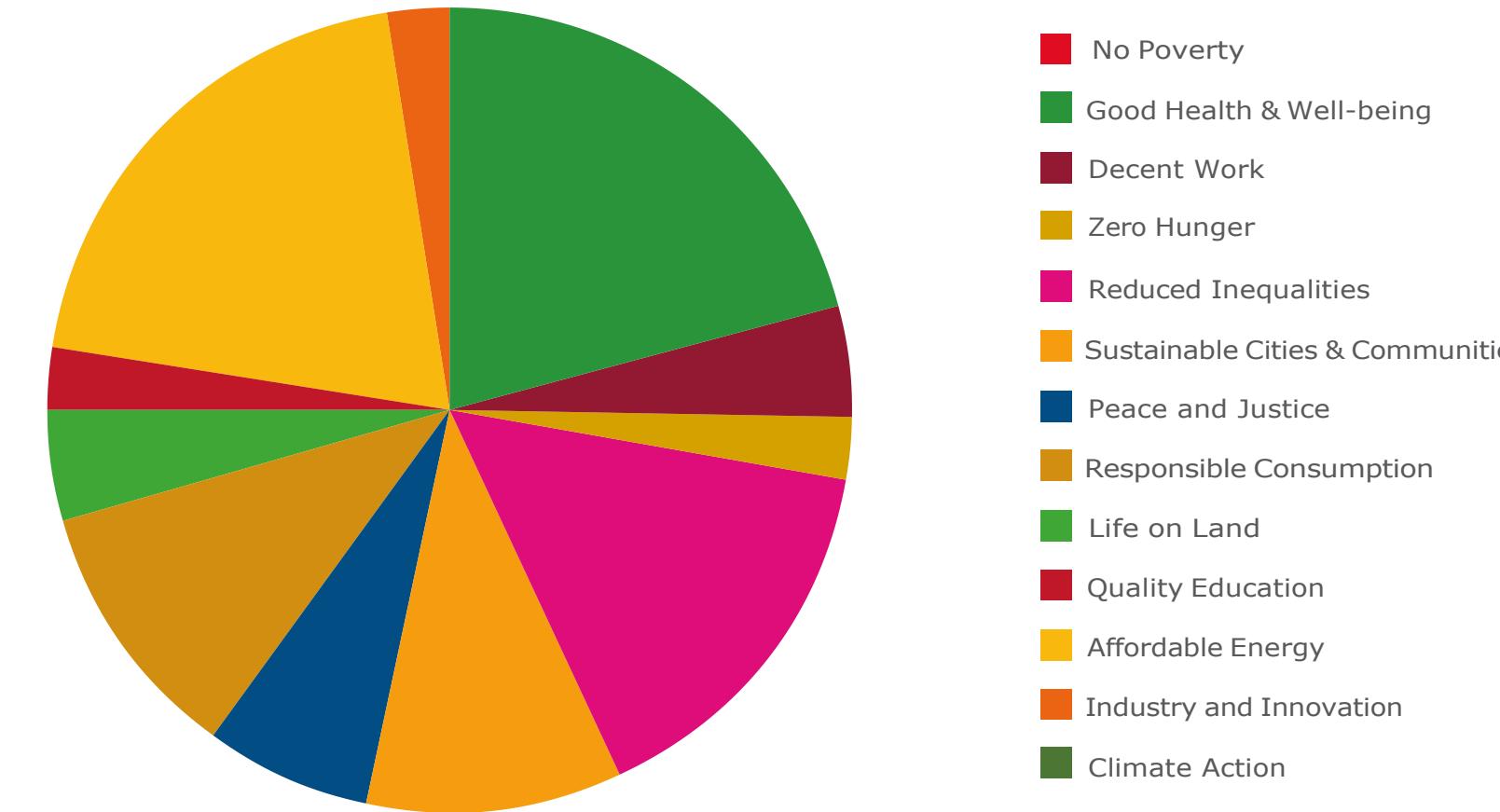
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 17 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £5.00 per £1 invested - this compares to £3.70 for all projects across Scotland as a whole. Key impact areas include poverty alleviation (e.g. Angus Food for Angus People, £103,661.50, 9% of total impact), community engagement (e.g. Angus ADHD Family Engagement, £129,654.12) and environmental sustainability. Food security initiatives, such as Angus Food for Angus People, delivered significant savings, while digital inclusion projects like Social Media Fundamentals addressed rural access challenges. Energy efficiency projects, notably Kirrie Connections Solar Panels, reduced carbon footprints significantly. The SVE's methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Affordable and Clean Energy.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Angus programme impacts to the SDGs is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 Angus initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, digital exclusion, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £5.00 reflects very efficient resource use. Future efforts should focus on scaling digital and sustainable transport solutions to combat rural isolation, replicating models like ARP: Growing Together - Sustainable Kirriemuir for sustained community impact, and improving data collection for smaller projects.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Cairngorms Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 10 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Cairngorms projects in this report, supported by the Cairngorms LAG, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle local priorities such as poverty alleviation, accessibility, and sustainability.

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

The 10 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in the Cairngorms National Park, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,951,481 from an investment of £293,645. Below is a summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 003 Market Stance Fencing, SROI: 7.64 Enhanced community sports facilities, improving participant access (£227,880), heritage value (£113,700), collaborative partnerships (£36,720), community facilitation (£42,000), volunteer skills (£14,748), business investment (£6,584), and health promotion (£3,410). Total Impact: £445,042.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 005 Able2Adventure, SROI: 15.39 Promoted accessibility for disabled residents, enhancing community wellbeing (£984,000), sports participation (£30,750), job enhancement (£41,976), living wage support (£18,260), community programs (£25,830), and business innovation (£6,584). Total Impact: £1,107,400.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 006 Marr Log Bank, SROI: 12.95 Addressed fuel poverty, supporting households with firewood (£11,950), community assistance (£16,280), and volunteer participation (£39,240). Total Impact: £67,470.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 007 IRL Education, SROI: 2.49 Supported disadvantaged youth, improving access to work or training (£53,200), wellbeing through training (£22,460), self-confidence (£15,920), and career guidance (£1,360). Total Impact: £92,940.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 008 SPIN CIC Yr2, SROI: 3.08 Promoted sustainable cycling, enhancing volunteer support (£3,687), living wage employment (£10,032), volunteer participation (£26,096), and carbon reduction (£47.52). Total Impact: £39,862.52.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 009 YMCA Lift Installation, SROI: 0.51 Improved accessibility, enhancing volunteer support (£3,687), volunteer value (£18,640), business investment (£6,584), and community wellbeing (£210). Total Impact: £29,121.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 011 Ian Charles Hospital Redevelopment, SROI: 2.33 Supported community-led housing, enhancing volunteer support (£3,687), cultural heritage engagement (£17,000), volunteer knowledge (£63,376), and housing progress (£12,000). Total Impact: £96,063.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 012 Pilot Loneworkers Hub, SROI: 0.68 Reduced isolation for remote workers, enhancing job conditions (£1,100). Total Impact: £1,100.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 014 Grantown Remakery Growth, SROI: 2.53 Promoted sustainability, enhancing volunteer support (£3,687), job enhancement (£20,988), employment opportunities (£5,698), volunteer participation (£3,270), and climate impact (£7,800). Total Impact: £41,443.
- Cairngorms, Crngrms 25 016 Winter Gatherings, SROI: 13.63 Enhanced community cohesion, improving mental health (£31,040). Total Impact: £31,040.

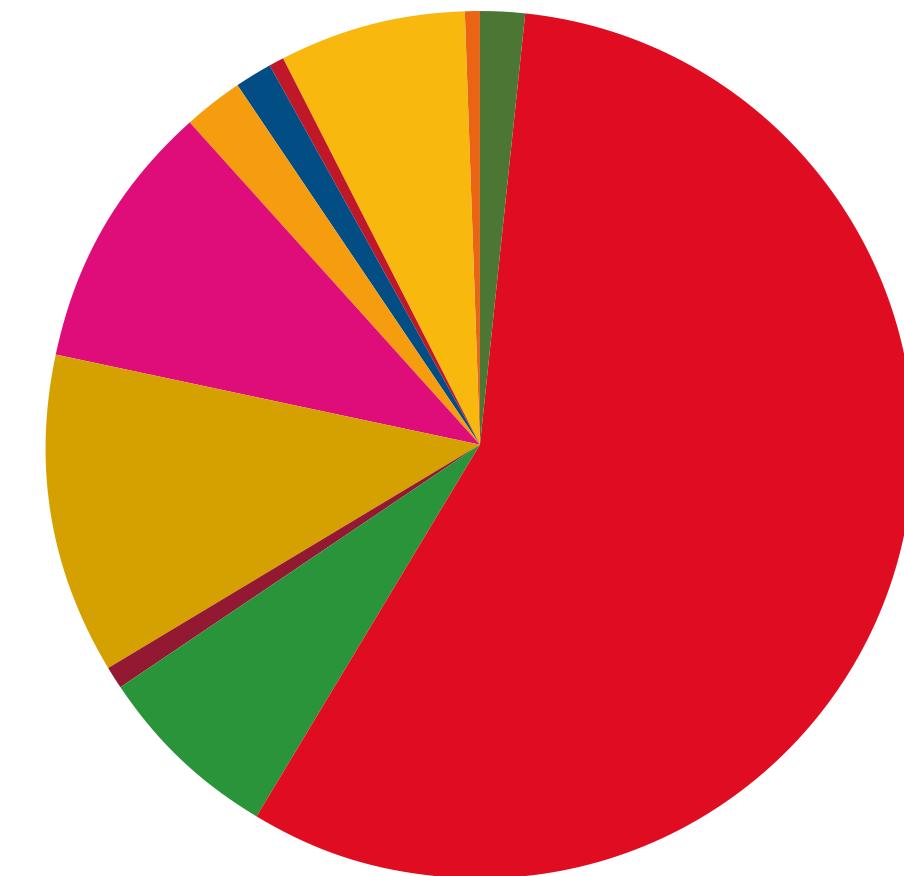
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Strategic Insights and Challenges

The 10 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £6.42 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £1,591,844. Key impact areas include accessibility and wellbeing (e.g., Crngrms 25 005 Able2Adventure, £1,107,400, 57% of total impact), poverty alleviation (e.g., Crngrms 25 006 Marr Log Bank, £67,470), and community engagement (e.g., Crngrms 25 003 Market Stance Fencing, £445,042, 23% of total impact). Accessibility initiatives, such as Crngrms 25 005 Able2Adventure and Crngrms 25 009 YMCA Lift Installation, delivered significant social value by addressing rural mobility challenges. Sustainability efforts, like Crngrms 25 014 Grantown Remakery Growth, reduced environmental impact. The SVE's methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Good Health and Well-Being, and Sustainable Cities and Communities. The projects collectively addressed Cairngorms-wide priorities, with flagship initiatives like Crngrms 25 005 Able2Adventure demonstrating exceptional efficiency in resource use.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the outcomes from the programme to the SDGs is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Cairngorms initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like rural isolation, accessibility, and fuel poverty. The high SROI of £6.42 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Crngrms 25 005 Able2Adventure, which showcases the transformative impact of accessibility-focused interventions.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Dumfries and Galloway Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 43 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Dumfries and Galloway projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Scottish Rural Network

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

The 43 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Dumfries and Galloway, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £5,740,000 from an investment of £980,720. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2002 Annan & District day centre, SROI: 8.21 Supported older individuals with low-cost meals and activities, reducing hospital admissions (£21,873) and poverty gaps (£4,019.25). Total Impact: £34,633.03.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2004 Lockerbie Squash and Racketball Club Solar Panel and Battery Storage, SROI: 6.46 Achieved net-zero status with solar panels, saving £60,615 in energy efficiency and £125,300 in community sports access. Total Impact: £207,165.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2007 Springholm Community Food Hub, SROI: 4.91 Enhanced social engagement (£86,700) and community health (£4,368) through inclusive activities. Total Impact: £91,068.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2011 Parents Inclusion Network, SROI: 13.09 Reduced social isolation (£77,022) and provided pantomime access (£34,138.50) for low-income families. Total Impact: £128,667.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2012 Developing Archaeological Tourism in the Machars, SROI: 1.13 Supported skills training (£57,682.16) and youth mentoring (£3,715.20) via an archaeological field school. Total Impact: £61,397.36.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2014 Glenkens Community and Arts Trust Decarbonising CatStrand, SROI: 2.86 Reduced carbon emissions with renewables, yielding £145,288 in cashable benefits. Total Impact: £145,358.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2015 Net Zero Upgrades: Whithorn Trust Front of House, SROI: 3.20 Improved energy efficiency and volunteer engagement, saving £24,525 in volunteer value. Total Impact: £39,780.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2016 Old Luce Development Trust CAP/ LPP, SROI: 6.43 Enhanced governance (£4,977) and community development (£23,776.50) through a new action plan. Total Impact: £33,253.50.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2022 Developing a model of Community Led skills training, SROI: 0.53 Improved staffing and collaboration efficiencies (£13,279.03) for accredited training. Total Impact: £19,521.43.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2024 Installation of Dolby Accessibility System, SROI: 2.99 Reduced loneliness (£45,780) and improved cultural access (£3,300) for the hearing impaired. Total Impact: £58,140.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2025 Youth Stonemasonry Training, SROI: 2.61 Enhanced heritage skills (£20,814.30) and personal satisfaction (£803.88) for young trainees. Total Impact: £21,618.18.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2028 Lochmaben Community Gardens, SROI: 12.21 Promoted community cohesion (£38,668.02) and reduced food waste (£22,400.50). Total Impact: £113,768.36.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2030 Kate's Kitchen Community Food Hub, SROI: 8.20 Supported food bank users (£178,266) and reduced loneliness (£45,780). Total Impact: £239,768.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2032 Building Futures Galloway Ltd Net Zero Retrofit Whithorn, SROI: 5.48 Reduced fuel poverty (£107,430.50) and youth unemployment costs (£187,279.68). Total Impact: £308,195.18.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2038 LCA Community Larder Food Hub, SROI: 10.46 Enhanced social support (£433,500) and food access (£81,750) for deprived communities. Total Impact: £534,403.28.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2041 Gatehouse Development Initiative Gatehouse of Fleet Local Place Plan, SROI: 13.57 Improved community development (£150,000) and service access (£7,350). Total Impact: £161,959.50.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2042 The Stove Network Ltd Community Print Room, SROI: 5.00 Boosted craft engagement (£107,692.20) and community development (£19,277.60). Total Impact: £139,968.20.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2044 MAC-CAN Climate Connections, SROI: 12.76 Promoted composting (£249,516) and climate education (£1,486.08). Total Impact: £251,002.08.
- **Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2045 Cooking skills to eat better and cheaper, SROI: 1.70** Reduced food costs (£25,348.05) and improved confidence (£937.86) through cooking classes. Total Impact: £36,764.43.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2051 Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club Isle of Whithorn Community Boatshed Phase 3, SROI: 2.61 Enhanced community facilitation (£52,000) and youth mentoring (£7,430.40). Total Impact: £102,710.80.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2052 Newstart Recycle - Baby and Toddler Project, SROI: 9.51 Reduced waste (£9,100) and supported families via charitable donations (£135,000). Total Impact: £173,700.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2053 Dumfries and Galloway Community Food Network, SROI: 4.68 Promoted food-growing skills (£32,799.58) and social engagement (£22,975.50). Total Impact: £58,080.58.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2057 Pop Up Pride, SROI: 6.91 Enhanced equality awareness (£33,699.60) and reduced loneliness (£3,924). Total Impact: £37,623.60.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2059 Open Doors, SROI: 11.57 Improved community engagement (£152,293.50) and resilience (£11,616). Total Impact: £183,698.79.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2060 Forging Our History project, SROI: 13.73 Boosted tourism (£21,780) and social cohesion (£50,127). Total Impact: £150,239.50.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2061 Trad Music Trust Galloway Hub for Arts, Music & Education, SROI: 8.55 Supported youth mentoring (£222,912) and cultural engagement (£131,868). Total Impact: £440,145.28.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2064 Palnackie Village Shop Limited Back to Black, SROI: 1.85 Improved business earnings (£16,117.56) and community access (£16,905). Total Impact: £36,472.56.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2065 Dumfries Pipe Band, SROI: 16.94 Reduced social isolation (£83,183.76) and supported music engagement (£73,739.16). Total Impact: £276,948.78.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2066 The Pamela Young Trust (PYT) Balmaclellan Community Housing, SROI: 1.76 Addressed housing affordability (£49,315.50) and fuel poverty (£1,613.25). Total Impact: £61,254.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2067 Balmaclellan Village Hall Improve Heating, lighting and Insulation for the Village Hall, SROI: 9.47 Improved community access (£220,500) and carbon savings (£21,000). Total Impact: £265,500.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2072 Food for Thought: Nourishing our Younger Generation, SROI: 10.42 Enhanced environmental knowledge (£67,462.50) and youth engagement (£15,000). Total Impact: £121,545.
- Dumfries & Galloway, CLLD-2074 Meet and Eat Upper Nithsdale, SROI: 1.99 Supported food access (£21,205.80) and confidence (£1,829.52). Total Impact: £27,615.24.

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 43 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £5.66 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £5,980,292.46. Key impact areas include:

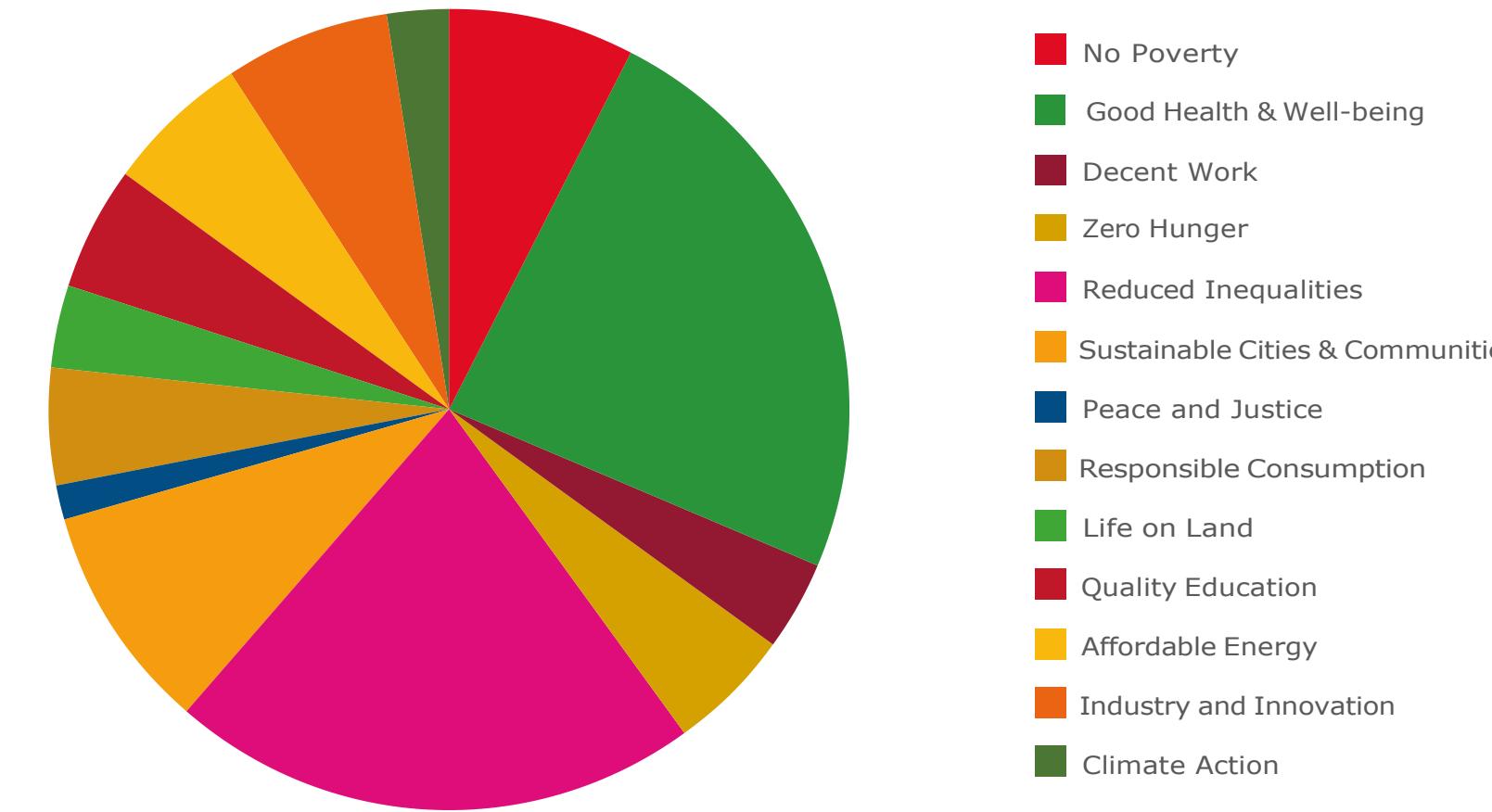
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like LCA Community Larder Food Hub (£534,403.28, 7% of total impact) and Older People's Hot Food (£311,717.50) addressed food poverty, collectively delivering over £1.5 million in savings.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as Haugh of Urr Village Hall Extension Refurbishment (£1,587,400) and Balmaclellan Village Hall (£265,500) enhanced access to community facilities, contributing over £2 million in social value.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Building Futures Galloway Net Zero Retrofit (£308,195.18) and Glenkens Community and Arts Trust Decarbonising CatStrand (£145,358) reduced carbon footprints, with over £500,000 in environmental benefits.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Parents Inclusion Network (£128,667) and Dumfries Pipe Band (£276,948.78) reduced loneliness and fostered cohesion, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Food security initiatives, with 10 projects delivering over £1.2 million in outputs, were particularly impactful. Energy efficiency initiatives like Lockerbie Squash and Racketball Club reduced

environmental impact. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Affordable and Clean Energy.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Dumfries and Galloway projects to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out



## Reflections

The 2025 Dumfries and Galloway initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £5.66 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like LCA Community Larder. Future efforts could focus on replicating high-impact models like Building Futures Galloway for sustainable skills training and expanding food security initiatives to combat the cost-of-living crisis.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Fife Social Value Report 2025

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organisations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customisable dashboards, it empowers organisations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Fife projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

The projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Fife, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,480,000 from an investment of £213,720. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Show Gates C&W Fife Ag Soc (£142,600): Direct participation (£130,000) and savings from joint working (£12,600).
- Homelands Trust (£47,324): Promoted gardening (£19,719) and volunteer engagement (£12,116).
- Tayport Community Enterprises (£14,567): Enhanced tourism (£567) and renewable energy benefits (£14,000).
- Options In Life (£16,330): Reduced loneliness (£10,503) and improved life satisfaction through education (£4,555).
- Crail Community Partnership (£53,428): Reduced social isolation (£46,680) and improved energy efficiency (£6,398).
- Grow West Fife (£54,602): Reduced food waste (£12,240) and enhanced community reputation (£20,896).
- FEAT Trading Community Interest Company (£70,301): Improved employment outcomes (£41,976.) and improved organisational reputation (£12,292).
- What Moves You CIC (£81,506): Enhanced child confidence (£66,068) and craft engagement (£9,213).
- Lucky Ewe (£339,845): Supported youth employment (£134,323) and disability cost reduction (£116,246).
- Homelands Trust (£47,324.): Promoted gardening (£19,719) and volunteering (£12,116).
- Forgan Arts Centre (£115,362): Improved life satisfaction (£87,087) and career progression (£28,275).
- Cupar Development Trust (£84,220): Reduced obesity (£79,110) and food waste (£5,110).
- Friends of Craigtoun (£18,862): Enhanced child confidence (£11,940) and green space access (£4,710).
- Letham Village Hall (£132,187): Supported community development (£112,500) and energy efficiency (£9,000).
- Cambo Heritage Trust (£58,872): Promoted gardening (£30,987) and youth mentoring (£8,514).).
- Tayport Community Trust (£1,101): Supported community development (£1,050) and youth mentoring (£51.00).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £6.68 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £213,720. Key impact areas include:

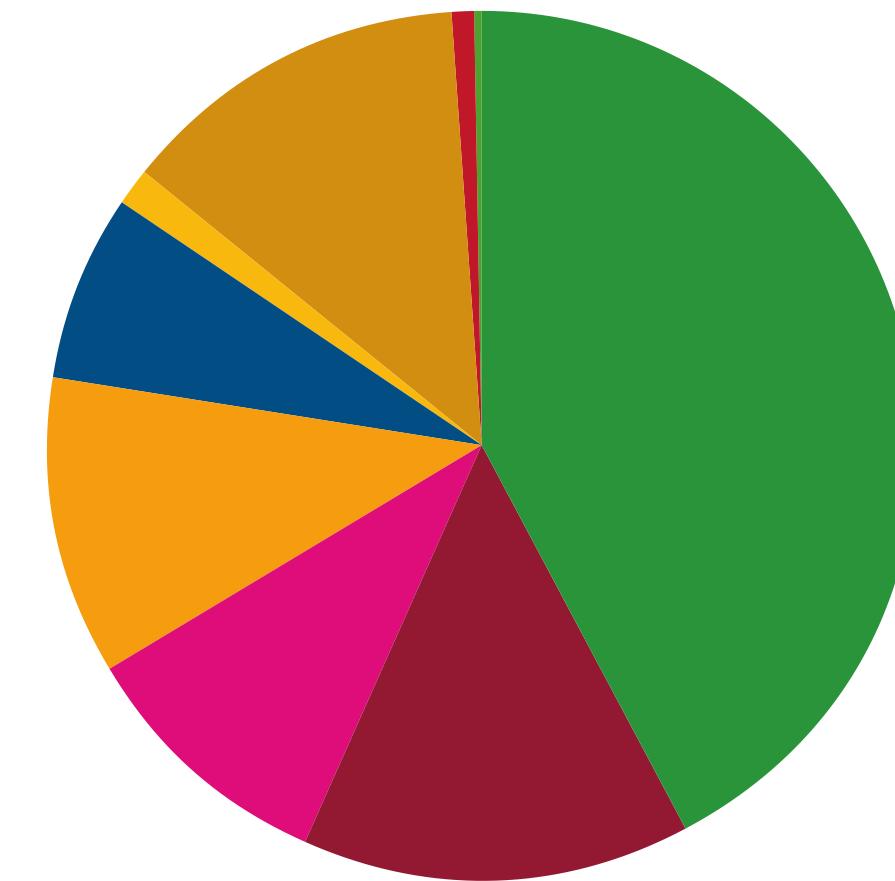
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like Lucky Ewe (£339,845) addressed employment and health-related poverty, contributing over £400,000 in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as Letham Village Hall (£132,187) and Fife Voluntary Action (£138,586) enhanced access to community facilities and services, delivering over £250,000 in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Tayport Community Enterprises (£14,567) and Crail Community Partnership (£53,748) supported renewable energy and carbon savings, with over £50,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Options In Life (£16,330) and Crail Community Partnership (£53,428) reduced loneliness and supported youth employability, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Food security and growing initiatives, such as Grow West Fife, delivered over £80,000 in savings, addressing rural poverty. Rural access projects, like Fife Voluntary Action, tackled isolation, while energy efficiency efforts reduced environmental footprints. The SVE's methodology ensured

accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Responsible Consumption, and Decent Work and Economic Growth.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the outcomes from the Fife programme are set out below:



■	No Poverty
■	Good Health & Well-being
■	Decent Work
■	Zero Hunger
■	Reduced Inequalities
■	Sustainable Cities & Communities
■	Peace and Justice
■	Responsible Consumption
■	Life on Land
■	Quality Education
■	Affordable Energy
■	Industry and Innovation
■	Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Fife initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £6.68 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Lucky Ewe and Fife Voluntary Action. Future efforts could focus on scaling employability models like Lucky Ewe and expanding community access initiatives to combat rural isolation.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Forth Valley and Lomond Social Value Report 2025

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### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 28 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Forth Valley and Lomond projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Scottish Rural Network

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24 / 028 Drymen Camping, SROI: 0.58 Upgraded waste systems, supporting tourism jobs (£349.86) and business earnings (£13,431.30). Total Impact: £14,806.62.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 001 Dunblane Development Trust, SROI: 4.41 Stabilized landslides, enhancing green space access (£91,060) and volunteer engagement (£21,255). Total Impact: £128,823.40.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 002 Fallin Community Voice, SROI: 1.74 Created a community garden, fostering collaboration (£16,531.74) and social inclusion (£9,291.75). Total Impact: £41,131.71.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 003 Killin & District Volunteer Car Scheme, SROI: 9.50 Improved rural access (£142,425) and volunteer support (£46,761). Total Impact: £252,333.28.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 006 Kinlochard CRA, SROI: 2.78 Conducted ecological surveys, enhancing green space happiness (£27,318) and volunteer engagement (£13,221). Total Impact: £43,825.48.
- **Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 007 LLSSC, SROI: 5.46**  
Restored historic assets, supporting volunteers (£106,275) and economic value (£7,638.89). Total Impact: £127,166.67.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 008 LLSSC, SROI: 10.33 Developed a restoration plan, boosting volunteer engagement (£163,500) and historic asset value (£14,413). Total Impact: £206,433.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 010 Thornhill Community Hall, SROI: 11.56 Installed a bike station, improving rural access (£60,768) and community facilities (£22,080). Total Impact: £98,112.50.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 011 The Village Kitchen, SROI: 3.41 Expanded meal services, fostering partnerships (£18,360) and employment (£9,350). Total Impact: £39,958.

The 28 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Forth Valley and Lomond, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,840,00 from an investment of £520,330. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 019 Upper Ballaird Farm Coop, SROI: 4.41 Improved infrastructure, enhancing volunteer facilities (£72,696) and collaboration (£47,505). Total Impact: £122,235.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 020 Balfron Community Council, SROI: 4.27 Created a place plan, supporting volunteers (£20,340) and reputation (£6,146). Total Impact: £26,486.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 021 CERT, SROI: 3.01 Expanded childcare, benefiting families (£24,000) and volunteers (£11,898.90). Total Impact: £39,893.80.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 022 DDYP, SROI: 1.49 Built a youth hub, supporting childcare (£30,000) and volunteers (£10,170). Total Impact: £46,316.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 024 Callander CDT, SROI: 1.87 Planned a green gateway, enhancing volunteer engagement (£30,510) and reputation (£6,146). Total Impact: £36,656.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 025 Youth Lag, SROI: 0.43 Established a youth fund, fostering community development (£10,000) and leadership skills (£6,560). Total Impact: £18,560.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 031 Recyke - A - Bike, SROI: 9.99 Provided bike maintenance training, enhancing wellbeing (£2,100) and volunteers (£14,238). Total Impact: £22,484.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 032 Green Aspirations CIC, SROI: 16.62 Scaled charcoal production, supporting workshops (£34,425) and rural business (£17,522.12). Total Impact: £77,392.42.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 034 Kippen Village Hall, SROI: 0.33 Refurbished hall floor, supporting volunteers (£10,170) and reputation (£6,146). Total Impact: £16,316.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 036 Harmony Fields CIC, SROI: 0.58 Built a community hub, enhancing wellbeing (£1,050) and employment (£281.60). Total Impact: £8,543.60.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 037 Trossachs Search & Rescue, SROI: 8.11 Provided CPR training, supporting volunteers (£36,652.68) and health benefits (£4,482). Total Impact: £45,313.96.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 041 Forth Valley Food and Drink CIC, SROI: 1.89 Promoted local food, supporting tourism (£8,742.45) and meaningful work (£12,642.76). Total Impact: £39,735.21.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 042 Killin Sports & Recreation Hub, SROI: 9.12 Built a pump track, enhancing community sports (£80,000) and sport GVA (£8,200). Total Impact: £94,412.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 043 Strathard CDT, SROI: 3.31 Developed tourism, supporting volunteers (£24,408) and tourism GVA (£10,244.32). Total Impact: £40,798.32.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 048 Bike Trossachs CIC, SROI: 1.39 Enhanced cycling facilities, supporting wellbeing (£16,000) and volunteers (£6,610.50). Total Impact: £23,996.50.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/ 049 CERT, SROI: 1.70 Conducted a feasibility study, fostering collaboration (£36,720) and volunteers (£14,238). Total Impact: £52,494.50.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/017 Resonate Together, SROI: 1.89 Developed a cultural campus, supporting volunteers (£14,238) and reputation (£6,146). Total Impact: £21,484.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/035 - Fintry Community Council, SROI: 2.66 Addressed flooding, supporting volunteers (£65,400) and reputation (£4,179.28). Total Impact: £76,594.78.
- Forth Valley & Lomond, FVL CLLD 24/045 Cambusbarron Community Centre, SROI: 11.55 Upgraded lighting, saving energy costs (£66,024) and supporting volunteers (£6,102). Total Impact: £78,272.

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Strategic Insights and Challenges

The 28 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £3.42 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £1,840,000.

Key impact areas include:

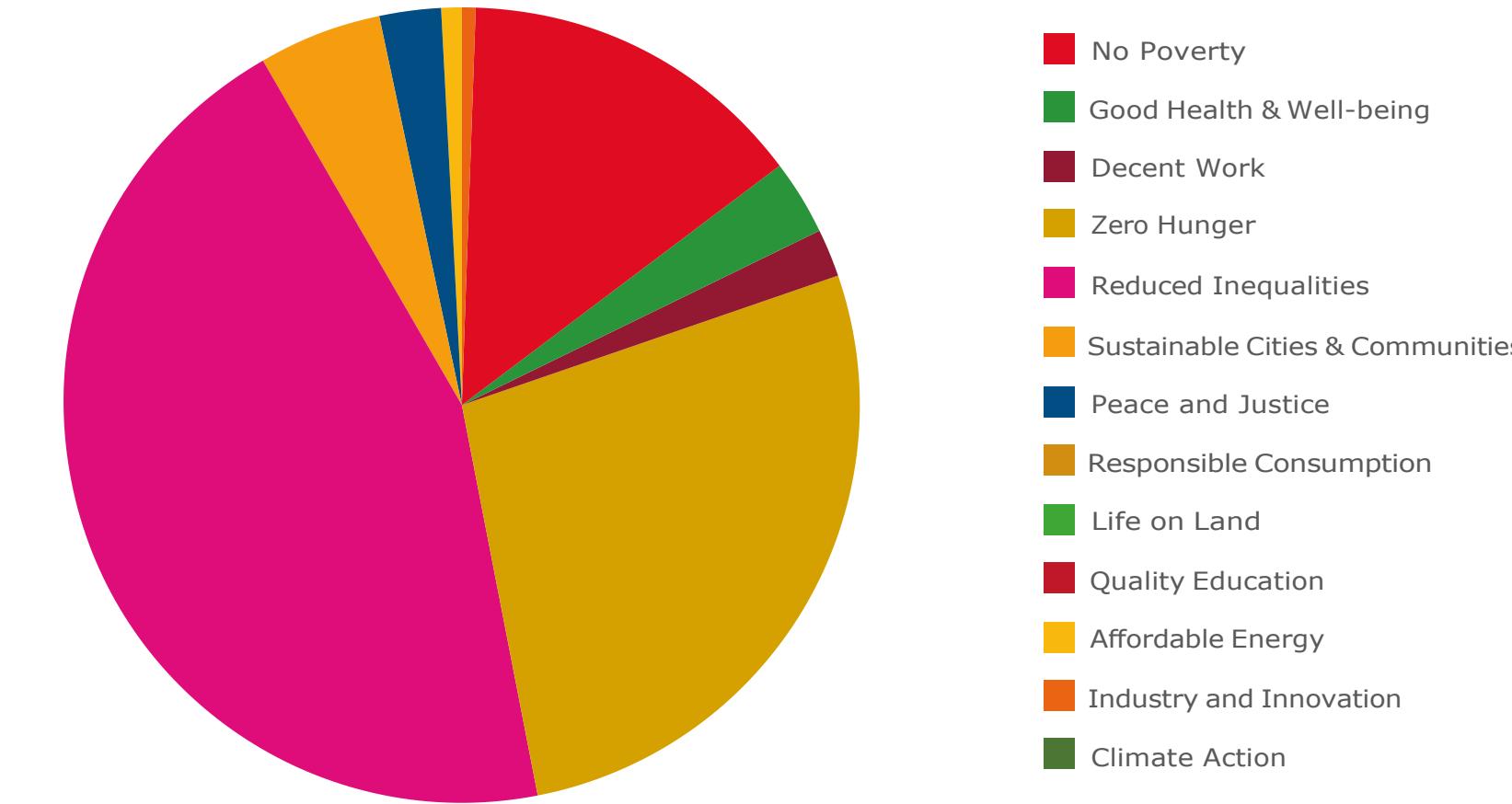
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like MacGregors Community Hub Ltd. (£576,612, 20% of total impact) and Killin & District Volunteer Car Scheme (£252,333.28) improved rural access, delivering over £700,000 in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as Cambusbarron CDT (£520,376) and LLSSC (Managing Shipyard Capacity) (£206,433) enhanced volunteer engagement and community facilities, contributing over £1 million in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Fintry Community Council (£76,594.78) and Cambusbarron Community Centre (£78,272) addressed flooding and energy efficiency, with over £150,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Youth Lag (£18,560) and Thornhill Community Hall (£98,112.50) fostered youth leadership and rural mobility, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as MacGregors Community Hub and Killin & District Volunteer Car Scheme, delivered over £800,000 in savings, addressing rural isolation. Youth and childcare projects, like DDYP and

CERT, supported family wellbeing, while environmental efforts reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Climate Action.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the outcomes from the programme to the SDGs is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 Forth Valley and Lomond initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The SROI of £3.42 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Cambusbarron CDT. However, projects like Harmony Fields CIC showed lower impacts, suggesting a need for enhanced engagement or scaling. Future efforts should focus on replicating high-impact models like Killin & District Volunteer Car Scheme for rural access and expanding youth initiatives to foster community leadership.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Highland Social Value Report

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 52 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to Lags via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Highland projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Scottish Rural Network

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

The 52 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Highland, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £6,278,180 from an investment of £1,748,840. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Embo Trust (£856,356.28, SROI: 9.75): Reduced energy costs with solar panels (£855,247.68) and lowered carbon emissions (£1,108.60).
- Tain Bike Track Re-Build (£233,805.50, SROI: 3.71): Improved sports facilities, enhancing health (£211,420) and local business (£22,385.50).
- Staffin Community Trust (£30,879.38, SROI: 2.04): Supported commercial units, aiding leases (£19,077.75) and community development (£9,036.38).
- Keiss Amenities Lighting Replacement (£37,598.72, SROI: 3.20): Upgraded lighting, improving access (£18,990) and volunteer value (£17,148.80).
- Nairn Community & Arts Centre (£136,686.06, SROI: 6.05): Enhanced energy efficiency, improving access (£123,480) and engagement (£12,600).
- Columba 1400 (£48,417.09, SROI: 2.25): Upgraded lighting, supporting contractors (£35,369.09) and volunteers (£13,048).
- Glendale Community Hall Association - Exterior Painting (£23,098, SROI: 2.19): Protected hall structure, supporting business (£8,954.20) and volunteers (£13,980).
- Kinlochbervie Community Company (£51,292.50, SROI: 2.08): Planned seaweed industry, fostering collaboration (£27,540) and engagement (£21,300).
- Wick Community Hub Sensory Space (£97,722.90, SROI: 4.95): Created sensory space, improving access (£80,213.76) and volunteering (£7,381.44).
- Communities Housing Trust (£13,770, SROI: 2.99): Planned housing renovation, fostering collaboration (£13,770).
- Bettyhill Village Hall (£43,756.50, SROI: 2.97): Conducted feasibility study, enhancing collaboration (£29,835) and volunteering (£12,262.50).
- Wester Loch Ewe CC - LPP (£53,655, SROI: 6.40): Finalized place plan, boosting engagement (£33,000) and collaboration (£20,655).
- LAD Cafe (£118,076.74, SROI: 6.63): Upgraded café, enhancing social engagement (£91,080) and volunteering (£21,808.80).
- Glendale Community Hall Association - Upgrade of Hall Toilets (£48,243.58, SROI: 4.32): Improved toilets, supporting tourism (£1,328.58) and volunteering (£13,980).
- Edinbane Community Company (£66,855.90, SROI: 1.31): Demolished shop, supporting business (£22,385.50) and volunteering (£16,776).
- Wester Ross Biosphere Community Led Tourism (£68,406, SROI: 3.32): Facilitated tourism workshops, fostering collaboration (£57,006) and engagement (£11,400).
- North Kessock Village Hall (£106,240.86, SROI: 3.82): Improved access with ramp, enhancing access (£75,200.40) and volunteering (£23,740.20).
- Highland Wool CIC (£60,885.55, SROI: 5.88): Upscaled wool production, supporting business (£27,758.02) and collaboration (£23,562.48).
- Skye Camanachd (£368,297.36, SROI: 5.28): Built shinty stand, improving social engagement (£263,128) and access (£72,354).
- Inver Hall- Making Every Penny Count (£158,097.74, SROI: 9.63): Upgraded toilets, improving access (£133,514.89) and volunteering (£21,137.76).

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Dunbeath & District Centre Jigsaw Project (£76,615.63, SROI: 3.81): Planned wellbeing hub, enhancing volunteering (£39,144) and befriending (£26,010).
- Dunvegan Community Trust (Action Plan) (£61,770, SROI: 10.40): Developed action plan, boosting engagement (£48,000) and collaboration (£13,770).
- Dunvegan Community Trust (Housing Surveys) (£52,455, SROI: 2.87): Conducted housing surveys, fostering engagement (£31,800) and collaboration (£20,655).
- Arisaig Church Study (£41,238, SROI: 2.52): Studied church buyout, supporting collaboration (£28,503) and engagement (£4,500).
- Assynt Leisure - Indoor Soft Play (£59,248.80, SROI: 4.58): Installed play equipment, improving access (£59,248.80).
- Culbokie Community Trust (£42,576.75, SROI: 2.88): Prepared hub tender, supporting volunteering (£14,715) and professional fees (£27,861.75).
- Morvern Community Woodlands (£117,900.75, SROI: 4.59): Studied woodland crofts, fostering collaboration (£85,509) and engagement (£21,000).
- Go Golspie Development Trust (£12,720, SROI: 0.88): Refurbished hall, enhancing governance (£1,659) and volunteering (£11,061).
- Nairn River Enterprise (GreenHive) (£123,480, SROI: 6.23): Upgraded hall wiring, improving access (£123,480).
- Kinlochewe Hall Bouldering Wall (£158,657.60, SROI: 3.01): Installed bouldering wall, enhancing access (£75,200.40) and social engagement (£54,648).
- Kinlochewe Hall Toilet Refurbishment (£175,005.60, SROI: 4.72): Upgraded toilets, improving access (£150,400.80) and volunteering (£24,604.80).
- Glenug Inn Community Buyout (£111,897.17, SROI: 10.50): Studied inn buyout, fostering collaboration (£80,473.47) and engagement (£21,560).
- Assynt Development Trust Clashnessie Falls (£102,814.80, SROI: 1.98): Upgraded footpath, enhancing cleanliness (£95,040) and carbon savings (£7,207.20).
- Broadford & Strath Community Company (£15,329.16, SROI: 2.41): Planned toilet renovation, supporting volunteering (£2,507.16) and collaboration (£3,672).
- Torridon District Community Association (£145,156.80, SROI: 8.17): Established recycling hub, improving access (£127,233) and volunteering (£16,776).
- Coigach Community Development Company (£108,843.50, SROI: 7.30): Secured estate acquisition, fostering engagement (£38,700) and ownership (£49,556).
- Radio Skye (£43,060, SROI: 4.00): Upgraded youth studio, enhancing community belonging (£43,060).
- Net Zero Housing Phase 1 (£24,264.50, SROI: 0.94): Upgraded homes, reducing energy costs (£8,762) and emissions (£6,747).
- Eigg Contractor Accommodation (£97,500, SROI: 3.77): Upgraded accommodation, increasing residential value (£97,500).
- Lochalsh Leisure Centre - Restart Project (£318,510.28, SROI: 4.66): Reopened centre, enhancing health (£228,811) and employment (£61,061).
- Dementia Friendly Communities (£87,604.40, SROI: 9.38): Piloted youth club, improving access (£59,248.80) and volunteering (£26,655.20).
- Scoraig Community Centre (£71,740.25, SROI: 2.65): Planned centre

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Strategic Insights and Challenges

The 52 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £3.47 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include:

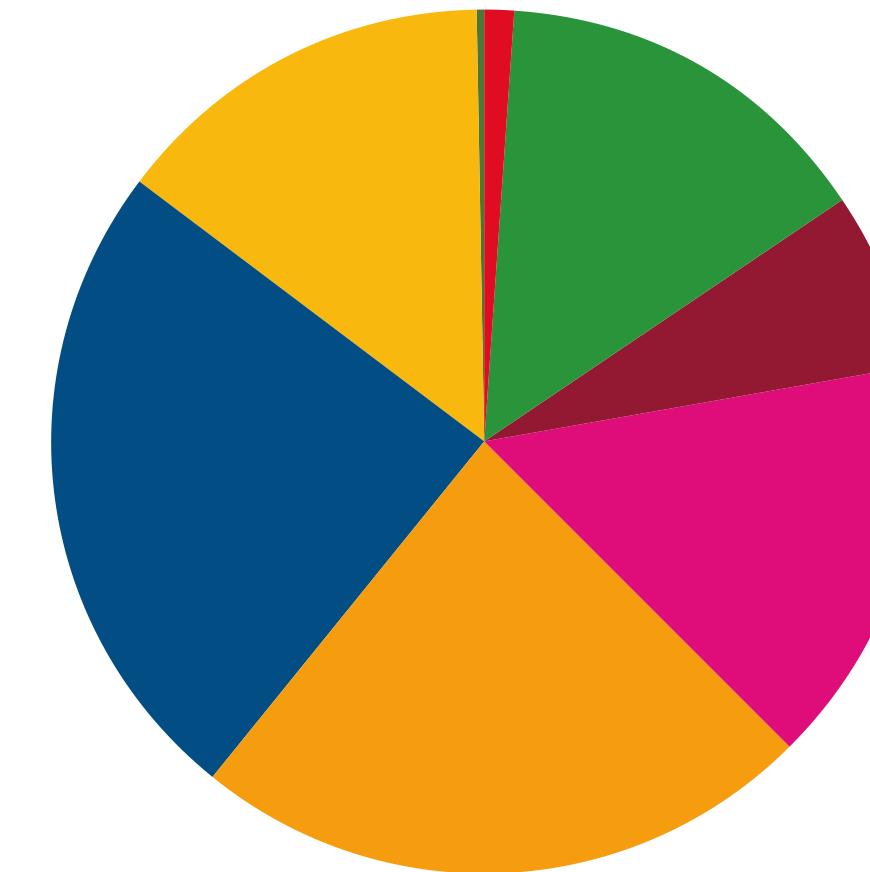
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like Embo Trust (£856,356.28, 14% of total impact) and Torridon District Community Association (£145,156.80) addressed energy and service access, delivering over £1 million in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as H&I Climate Hub (Small Grants) (£565,186.88) and Highland Third Sector Interface (£565,186.88) fostered collaboration and volunteering, contributing over £1.5 million in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Net Zero Housing Phase 1 (£24,264.50) and Assynt Development Trust Clashnessie Falls (£102,814.80) reduced emissions and enhanced green spaces, with over £200,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Skye Camanachd (£368,297.36) and Dementia Friendly Communities (£87,604.40) enhanced social engagement and youth access, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as Kinlochewe Hall Toilet Refurbishment and Nairn River Enterprise, delivered over £1.2 million in savings, addressing rural isolation. Sports and youth projects, like Tain Bike Track and H&I Climate Hub (Youth LAG), supported health and

leadership, while energy efficiency efforts reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Climate Action.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Ayrshire Projects to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Highland initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The SROI of £3.47 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Embo Trust and Skye Camanachd. However, projects like Broadford & Strath Community Company showed lower impacts, suggesting a need for enhanced engagement or scaling. Future efforts should focus on replicating high-impact models like H&I Climate Hub for collaborative funding and expanding community hub initiatives to combat rural isolation.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Kelvin Valley and Falkirk

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE) is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It employs over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 24 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Avonbridge Church Developing Avonbridge Church for the Avonbridge Community (£34,392.60, SROI: 8.99): Enhanced community engagement, reducing loneliness (£21,582.00) and supporting regular attendance at a religious institution (£12,810.60).
- Avonbridge Community Association Munch & Brunch Cafe Extension (£10,629.85, SROI: 8.93): Supported older people with mental health services (£7,068.60) and food bank support (£3,561.25).
- Bonnybridge Community Hub (BCH) Community Garden (£45,530.00, SROI: 7.30): Promoted participatory engagement (£26,000.00) and carbon savings from vegetable growing (£11,900.00).
- Central Wellbeing SCIO Creative Bridges (£9,267.30, SROI: 1.41): Enhanced youth self-esteem through arts (£6,030.00) and reduced loneliness (£3,237.30).
- Cycling Without Age Scotland Twechar (£81,654.00, SROI: 7.73): Promoted frequent moderate exercise (£63,426.00) and carbon savings from cycling (£16,740.00).
- Denny and Dunipace Pipe Band Association (£17,853.00, SROI: 1.72): Supported arts participation (£12,375.00) and engagement in crafts (£3,663.00).
- Dennyloanhead Fifty Plus Club Relieving Isolation and Loneliness (£23,166.00, SROI: 5.61): Reduced loneliness through social group membership (£21,007.80) and wellbeing (£2,158.20).

The 24 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Kelvin Valley and Falkirk, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,130,000 from an investment of £224,610. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities within the project:

- Food Train Braes Food Packs/Falkirk West Café Outings (£68,206.80, SROI: 6.59): Supported access to fresh produce (£39,675.00) and rural service access (£25,066.80).
- Friends of Campsie High Kirk Save Campsie High Kirk (1) (£98,671.80, SROI: 3.81): Achieved CO2 savings from repurposing buildings (£35,000.00) and recreation/culture spend (£58,860.12).
- Kinneil Primary School Active Involvement in Exercise (£34,532.25, SROI: 3.34): Supported family sports/leisure activities (£29,132.25) and learning courses (£5,400.00).
- Limerigg Action Group Upgrading and Refurbishing Limerigg Village Hall (£25,073.13, SROI: 2.42): Enhanced social group membership (£25,066.13) and minor CO2 savings (£7.00).
- Linlithgow and Avon Valley Church of Scotland Avonbridge Church (£4,500.00, SROI: 2.29): Achieved CO2 savings from repurposing buildings (£2,100.00) and renewable energy benefits (£2,400.00).
- People United for Banton Swan Cellar Cooling System (£103,098.00, SROI: 6.64): Boosted tourism job creation (£79,893.00) and earnings (£23,205.00).
- People United for Banton Swan Revenue and Activities Support (£74,481.00, SROI: 8.36): Reduced social isolation (£38,511.00) and loneliness (£35,970.00).
- Recyke-a-bike Kelvin Valley and Falkirk Free Bike Repairs (£11,950.00, SROI: 2.50): Offset CO2 for travel miles (£11,500.00) and promoted cycling (£450.00).
- Slamannan Action Group Christmas Event, Panto & Mobile Zoo's (£9,022.90, SROI: 1.74): Improved rural service access (£5,264.03) and reduced loneliness (£3,758.87).
- St Joseph's Primary School Bridging the Gap: Inclusive Swim Project (£19,773.32, SROI: 3.82): Supported family sports/leisure (£10,876.04) and youth self-esteem (£3,601.92).
- St Patrick's Primary School SwimSmart: Swimming for Safety and Equality (£14,224.49, SROI: 4.62): Improved rural service access (£11,530.73) and extracurricular activities (£2,693.76).
- Sustainable Thinking Scotland CIC STS Biochar Community Development 1 (£41,802.50, SROI: 2.80): Supported food bank users (£23,402.50) and renewable energy benefits (£18,400.00).
- Town Break Dementia Support Services Town Break at Home (£65,920.80, SROI: 6.37): Enhanced social connections (£65,340.00) and carer support (£580.80).
- Twechar Community Action Twechar Outdoor Pursuits Centre (£167,253.60, SROI: 11.44): Supported youth extracurricular activities (£117,120.00) and rural service access (£50,133.60).
- Twechar Community Action Twechar Outdoors (£51,657.00, SROI: 5.75): Promoted gardening as a hobby (£46,480.50) and carbon savings from vegetable growing (£5,176.50).

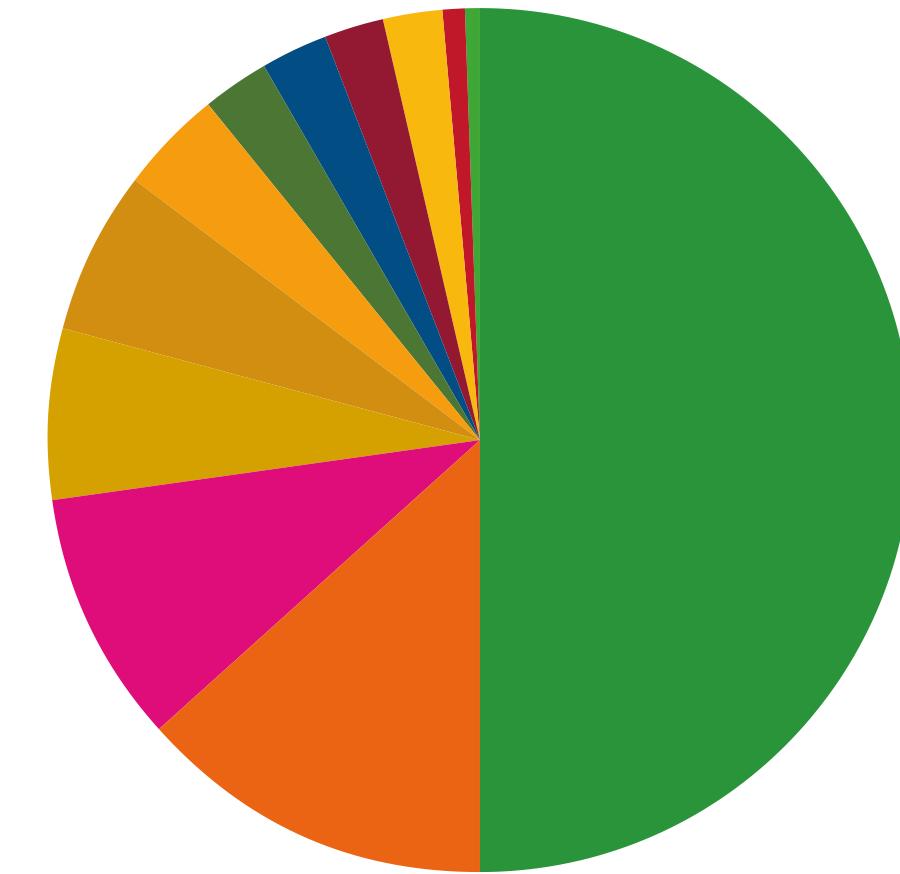
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 24 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £4.85 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include community engagement (e.g., Twechar Community Action Outdoor Pursuits Centre, £167,253.60), poverty alleviation (e.g., Food Train Braes, £68,206.80), and environmental sustainability (e.g., Sustainable Thinking Scotland CIC, £41,802.50). Food security and social inclusion initiatives, with projects like Avonbridge Community Association and Food Train, delivered significant savings. Active travel and exercise programs, such as Cycling Without Age Scotland and Kinnel Primary School, addressed health and mobility challenges, while heritage projects like Friends of Campsie High Kirk supported cultural preservation. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Good Health and Well-being.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Angus programme impacts to the SDGs is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Kelvin Valley and Falkirk initiatives demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like social isolation, poverty, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £4.85 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Twechar Community Action Outdoor Pursuits Centre. Future efforts could focus on scaling active travel solutions, such as those by Cycling Without Age Scotland, to combat rural isolation and replicating models like Friends of Campsie High Kirk for sustained cultural and economic impact. Continued investment in community-led projects will further enhance resilience and equity in these rural areas.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Lanarkshire Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 37 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Lanarkshire projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Scottish Rural Network

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

The 37 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Lanarkshire, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £2,050,000 from an investment of £639,540. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Avondale Radio Replacement Equipment (£25,643.91, SROI: 3.66): Upgraded equipment, enhancing radio production (£13,106.07) and reputation (£12,537.84).
- Better Together (£18,592.20, SROI: 3.60): Supported gardening, fostering volunteer engagement (£18,592.20).
- Biggar Golf Club (£37,597.28, SROI: 7.27): Upgraded equipment, boosting participation (£25,000) and social connectedness (£8,418).
- Biggar Youth Project relaunch (£38,389.28, SROI: 11.36): Relaunched youth hub, supporting training (£24,840) and governance (£10,030).
- Bigger Public Park (£137,426.80, SROI: 7.38): Studied park viability, enhancing social connectedness (£99,000) and volunteering (£24,232).
- Bowling Club Mower & Leaf Blower (£47,987.40, SROI: 10.80): Improved maintenance, boosting participation (£24,408) and green space value (£8,195.40).
- Braw Clan culture group (£202,085.08, SROI: 7.05): Promoted cultural access, enhancing arts engagement (£178,000) and creative GVA (£24,085.08).
- Brockettbrae Allotments Development (£4,482.22, SROI: 1.59): Improved allotments, enhancing reputation (£4,179.28) and green space value (£302.94).
- Building Stronger Communities - Netherburn (£163,245.56, SROI: Not listed): Supported food poverty, enhancing social engagement (£79,575) and training (£32,342.40).
- Carluke Primrose New Instruments (£63,942.88, SROI: 6.06): Upgraded instruments, supporting volunteering (£47,595.60) and music learning (£12,168).
- Cinema Sound System & Projector Mount (£0, SROI: Not listed): No recorded impact due to lack of outcome data.
- Coalburn Mens Shed Laser Router (£29,202.48, SROI: 2.06): Upgraded equipment, reducing loneliness (£15,260) and supporting volunteering (£9,763.20).
- Comfort Box for Cancer Patients (£39,562.90, SROI: 7.65): Supported cancer patients, reducing loneliness (£34,716.50) and volunteering (£4,846.40).
- Community digital sound system Castlehill Bowling (£22,376.40, SROI: 1.29): Installed sound system, enhancing reputation (£20,896.40) and sports wellbeing (£2,480).
- Community Sport & Polytunnel Equipment Leadhills (£42,888, SROI: 5.76): Upgraded equipment, fostering social engagement (£27,600) and mental wellbeing (£15,288).
- Corn Exchange (£99,487.75, SROI: 8.01): Hosted arts festival, enhancing arts engagement (£94,562.50) and music attendance (£3,506.25).
- Crossford Village Hall (£4,179.28, SROI: 3.46): Supported hall sustainability, enhancing reputation (£4,179.28).
- Douglasdale Community Woodland (£12,315.28, SROI: 2.54): Improved biodiversity, supporting volunteering (£8,136) and reputation (£4,179.28).

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

- Douglas dale recreation community system (£139,864.90, SROI: 1.92): Shared sound system, enhancing arts GVA (£62,533.86) and reputation (£75,227.04).
- Electric minibus hire, Loch Wood Community Woodland (£45,154.20, SROI: 8.75): Provided transport, enhancing exercise (£45,012) and transport GVA (£142.20).
- Esteem Clydesdale Upgrade facilities (£30,618.79, SROI: 5.92): Upgraded facilities, supporting volunteering (£25,071.60) and wellbeing (£5,547.19).
- Facility and Technology Upgrades Lanark BC (£19,899.28, SROI: 2.30): Upgraded bowling facilities, enhancing social cohesion (£12,000) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Fairies in the Woodland (£8,164.80, SROI: 7.89): Installed fairy trail, supporting youth activities (£3,318.40) and volunteering (£4,846.40).
- GILLESPIE OFFICE IT (£12,624.88, SROI: 4.88): Upgraded IT, enhancing social connectedness (£8,445.60) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Glassford Community Garden and Village Project (£33,986.58, SROI: 10.20): Enhanced garden, supporting gardening (£26,029.08) and social engagement (£7,957.50).
- Green maintenance equipment Lanark BC (£14,426.48, SROI: 4.98): Improved bowling green, enhancing wellbeing (£3,410) and social cohesion (£3,865.60).
- Healthy Valleys Marketing and Communications (£34,249.16, SROI: 0.84): Improved marketing, supporting wellbeing (£16,380) and reputation (£8,358.56).
- ICT Equipment (£16,826.40, SROI: 3.61): Upgraded IT, supporting training (£16,171.20) and wellbeing (£655.20).
- International Sheep Dog Trial 2024 (£218,595.80, SROI: 2.78): Hosted trial, supporting volunteering (£121,160) and health (£50,846.40).
- Langloch Farm Shop (£18,425.68, SROI: 1.70): Established shop, supporting mental health (£14,246.40) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Lanimer Committee Community workshop storage and equipment (£136,103.52, SROI: 11.78): Equipped workshop, enhancing social engagement (£95,490) and reputation (£37,613.52).
- Laser and Router equipment (£2,851.20, SROI: 2.82): Upgraded equipment, enhancing internet confidence (£2,851.20).
- Law Bowling Club (£18,853.48, SROI: 2.36): Upgraded kitchen, enhancing wellbeing (£9,951) and sports GVA (£4,723.20).
- Loanhead Farm (£955,982.61, SROI: 1.86): Developed farm, enhancing social connectedness (£691,616.67) and construction GVA (£250,135.20).
- Lowther and District Men Shed - Community Hub / Workshop (£25,685.75, SROI: 5.29): Equipped workshop, enhancing social engagement (£21,506.47) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Lowther Mens Shed Leadhills (£336,603.28, SROI: 2.37): Relocated hub, enhancing volunteering (£305,100) and reducing loneliness (£14,388).
- Organisational Review & Communications (£6,980.08, SROI: 1.35): Improved operations, supporting volunteering (£2,800.80) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Rainforest Cafe Forth (£64,442.28, SROI: 13.58): Upgraded café, supporting volunteering (£48,464) and social connectedness (£11,799).
- Sandford Cinema (£26,143.71, SROI: 5.54): Upgraded cinema, enhancing arts engagement (£19,217.84) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- St.Patricks Furniture Project (£22,771.48, SROI: 5.24): Supported gardening, enhancing volunteering (£18,592.20) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Street Level (£13,932, SROI: 14.24): Supported youth mentoring, enhancing training (£13,932).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 37 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £3.10 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £2,050,000. Key impact areas include:

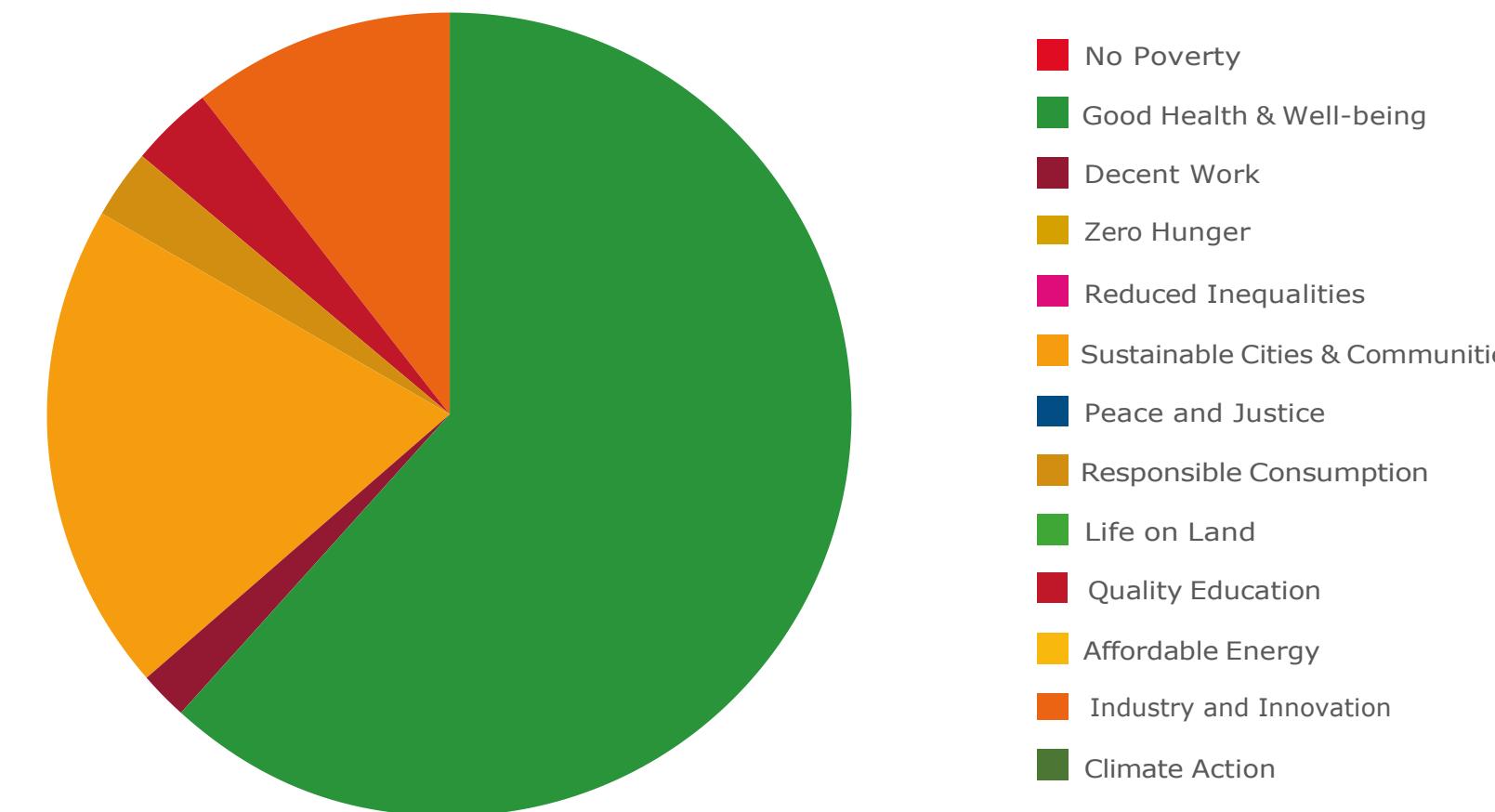
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like Loanhead Farm (£955,982.61, 30% of total impact) and Building Stronger Communities - Netherburn (£163,245.56) addressed social and food poverty, delivering over £1.1 million in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as Lanimer Committee (£136,103.52) and Lowther Mens Shed Leadhills (£336,603.28) fostered volunteering and social connectedness, contributing over £1 million in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Douglasdale Community Woodland (£12,315.28) and Electric minibus hire (£45,154.20) supported biodiversity and low-carbon transport, with over £100,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Braw Clan culture group (£202,085.08) and International Sheep Dog Trial (£218,595.80) enhanced cultural access and community cohesion, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as Sandford Cinema and Castlehill Bowling, delivered over £300,000 in savings, addressing rural isolation. Cultural and sports projects, like Carlisle Primrose and Law Bowling Club, supported engagement,

while equipment upgrades enhanced sustainability. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Good Health and Well-being.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Lanarkshire outcomes to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 Lanarkshire initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £3.10 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Loanhead Farm and Lowther Mens Shed Leadhills. Future efforts should focus on scaling community hub models like Lanimer Committee and expanding environmental initiatives to combat the cost-of-living crisis and climate change.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Moray Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 38 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Moray projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Scottish Rural Network

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

The 38 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Moray, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £2,130,000 from an investment of £425,480. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- 1st Lossiemouth Scouts (£26,611.20, SROI: 4.29): Upgraded camping equipment, enhancing confidence (£17,193.60) and green space value (£6,782.40).
- 2nd Lossiemouth Rainbows (£1,973.16, SROI: 3.56): Supported litter picking, fostering youth activities (£1,054.08) and carbon savings (£585).
- Active Schools Community Sports (£12,585.60, SROI: 1.82): Promoted youth volunteering, supporting extracurricular activities (£8,081.28) and career guidance (£4,504.32).
- Beeline Community Transport (£9,068.40, SROI: 4.54): Improved access, reducing loneliness (£7,629.60) and wellbeing impacts (£1,438.80).
- Buckie Area Forum (£32,594.04, SROI: 5.25): Sustained community hub, supporting volunteering (£31,392) and wellbeing (£1,202.04).
- Dance North Scotland (£18,740.40, SROI: 7.85): Delivered seated dance, enhancing social engagement (£17,824.80) and reducing loneliness (£915.60).
- Ekopia Social Investments (£5,040, SROI: 4.06): Provided arts workshops, enhancing art participation (£5,040).
- Elgin Amateur Athletics Club (£50,337.14, SROI: 8.16): Upgraded equipment, boosting sports participation (£39,680) and volunteer training (£5,642.82).
- Elgin & District Men's Shed (£73,321.20, SROI: 3.87): Upcycled pallets, supporting social engagement (£47,745) and volunteering (£25,506).
- Elgin Sports Community Trust (£117,345.64, SROI: 2.32): Provided free activities, improving rural access (£87,733.80) and employment (£18,459.84).
- Elgin Yoga Centre (£7,602.72, SROI: 6.87): Delivered yoga workshops, reducing stress (£6,858.72) and enhancing wellbeing (£744).
- Event First Aid Scotland (£55,017.88, SROI: 7.09): Supported volunteers, enhancing training (£46,357.44) and employment (£6,153.28).
- Film Forres (£71,952.12, SROI: 6.12): Upgraded mobile cinema, improving rural access (£47,475) and collaboration (£18,727.20).
- Food Plus (£75,761.25, SROI: 4.07): Sustained family centre, supporting volunteering (£64,833.75) and child confidence (£7,462.50).
- Forres Youth Space (£19,729.22, SROI: 1.41): Employed development officer, enhancing governance (£13,272) and volunteering (£2,765.25).
- Fresh Start SCIO (£690,618.24, SROI: 6.52): Provided starter packs, supporting housing transitions (£689,111.28) and wellbeing (£1,506.96).
- G. Henderson Pyrography Craft (£2,097.90, SROI: 1.01): Taught craft skills, enhancing engagement (£2,097.90).
- Growing2Gether (£246,769.92, SROI: 6.93): Mentored youth, improving mental health (£111,121.92) and employability (£106,640.64).
- Lhanbryde Community Challenge (£23,739.14, SROI: 2.84): Upgraded centre, supporting business (£14,774.43) and reputation (£8,358.56).

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Lossiemouth Coastal Rowing Club (£1,342, SROI: 3.24): Supported rowing, enhancing marine conservation (£1,218) and wellbeing (£124).
- Lossiemouth Community Development Trust (£52,037.75, SROI: 5.99): Planned asset transfer, supporting business (£33,578.25) and collaboration (£7,125.75).
- Mum Days (£3,230.76, SROI: 0.95): Supported mums, reducing loneliness (£3,230.76).
- Nadia Fyvie-Feldmann (£35,206.20, SROI: 8.30): Hosted girls' conference, boosting confidence (£33,523.20) and career guidance (£1,683).
- Naturally Useful (£50,157.04, SROI: 7.89): Delivered crafting, supporting employment (£30,766.40) and volunteering (£19,385.60).
- Outfit Moray (£31,167.75, SROI: 8.60): Planned sports centre, supporting professional fees (£29,508.75) and governance (£1,659).
- Portgordon Community Trust (£125,665.59, SROI: 4.05): Developed hub, supporting business (£112,822.92) and micro-business start-up (£12,060.68).
- Rafford Village Hall (£16,709.70, SROI: Not listed): Hosted community lunches, supporting volunteering (£12,753) and reducing loneliness (£3,956.70).
- REAP (£49,861.03, SROI: 4.52): Promoted community growing, supporting gardening (£49,632.34) and green space value (£228.69).
- ReBOOT Trading Ltd (£130,807.85, SROI: 5.00): Provided devices, fostering collaboration (£114,750) and digital access (£16,000).
- Rising Roots Ltd (£20,563.20, SROI: 2.97): Taught gardening, supporting hobby (£9,014.40) and personal development (£10,377.60).
- Riverside Buckie (£41,392, SROI: 8.06): Delivered youth activities, enhancing child confidence (£41,392).
- School Bank (£63,468.45, SROI: 5.60): Expanded uniform shop, supporting collaboration (£35,628.75) and employment (£18,889.20).
- Scottish Action for Mental Health (£19,171.16, SROI: 2.74): Supported mental health, providing health sessions (£14,522) and mentoring (£4,649.16).
- The Cabrach Trust (£6,593.40, SROI: 1.52): Extended crafts programme, enhancing engagement (£6,593.40).
- The Coat Hanger (£113.63, SROI: 2.61): Expanded coat programme, supporting recycling (£113.63).
- The Lossie 2-3 Group (£123,215.04, SROI: 8.78): Developed hub, supporting volunteering (£51,012) and reducing stress (£48,011.04).
- The Patch (£110,374.89, SROI: 7.87): Built garden, supporting volunteering (£38,259) and collaboration (£38,764.08).
- Three Kings Cullen Assoc (£321,163.32, SROI: 4.72): Upgraded centre, supporting business (£177,293.16) and renewables (£90,365.76).
- Transition Town Forres (£50,139.30, SROI: 6.72): Delivered heritage workshops, supporting heritage visits (£30,034.62) and personal development (£13,166.58).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 38 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £4.83 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £2,130,000. Key impact areas include:

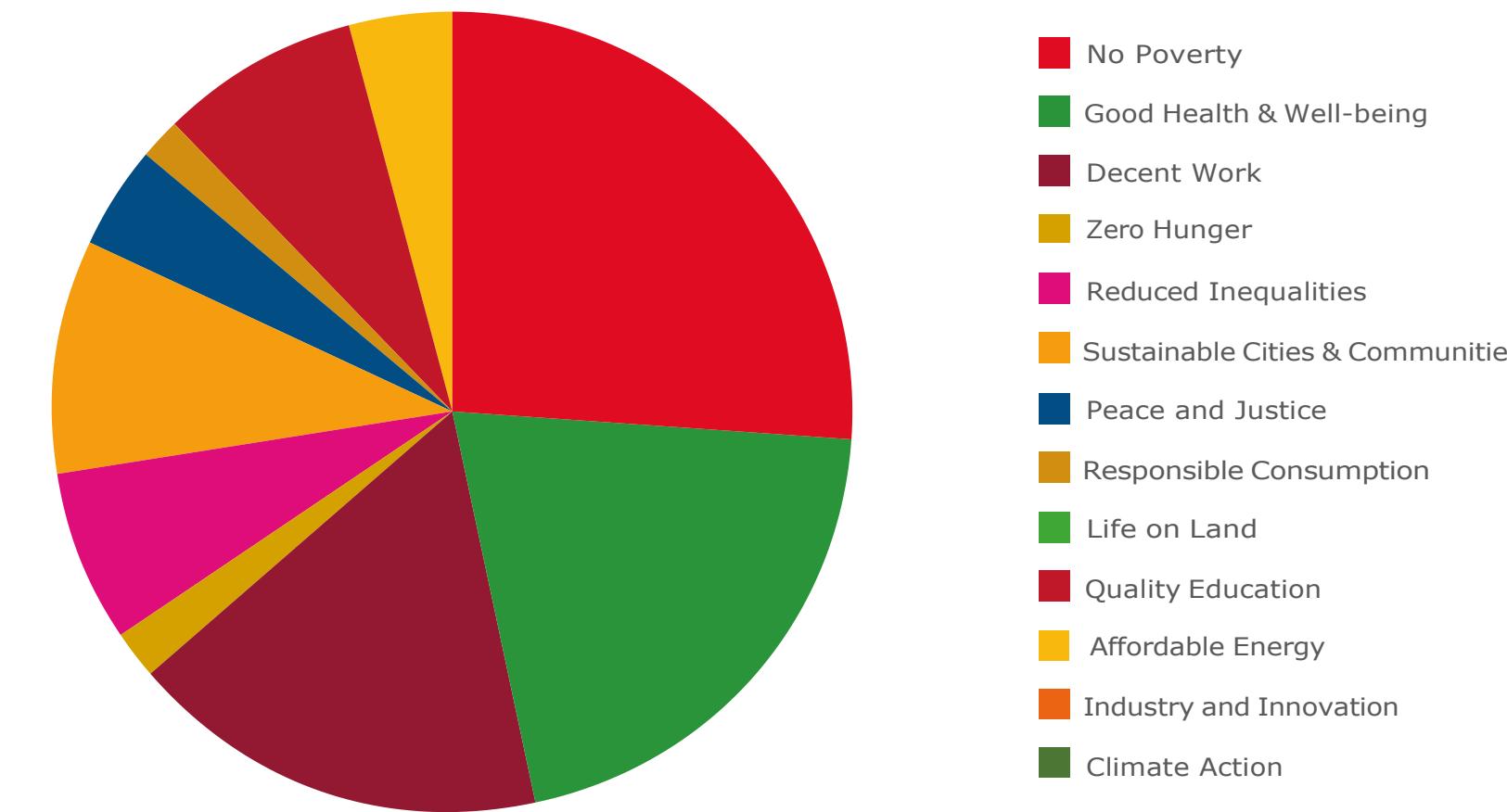
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like Fresh Start SCIO (£690,618.24, 25% of total impact) and Elgin Sports Community Trust (£117,345.64) addressed housing and activity access, delivering over £800,000 in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as The Lossie 2-3 Group (£123,215.04) and The Patch (£110,374.89) fostered volunteering and collaboration, contributing over £600,000 in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like REAP (£49,861.03) and Three Kings Cullen Assoc (£321,163.32) supported gardening and energy efficiency, with over £150,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Growing2Gether (£246,769.92) and Riverside Buckie (£41,392) enhanced youth confidence and mental health, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as Film Forres and Beeline Community Transport, delivered over £250,000 in savings, addressing rural isolation. Youth and sports projects, like Active Schools and Elgin Amateur Athletics

Club, supported health and employability, while environmental efforts reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Moray programme impacts to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 Moray initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £4.83 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Fresh Start SCIO and Three Kings Cullen Assoc. Future efforts should focus on replicating high-impact models like Growing2Gether for youth mentoring and expanding digital access initiatives like ReBOOT Trading to combat rural disadvantage.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Orkney Social Value Report 2025

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 34 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Orkney projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Birsay Heritage Trust (£79,571.80, SROI: 1.55): Planned HMS Tern upgrades, boosting tourism (£32,670) and heritage value (£37,521).
- Birsay Heritage Trust Capacity Building (£65,474.20, SROI: 11.10): Enhanced visitor capacity, supporting tourism (£32,670) and therapeutic heritage (£23,423.40).
- Friends of Sanday Kirk Cross Kirk (£38,290.38, SROI: 5.61): Planned kirk transformation, enhancing marketing (£23,776.50) and heritage tourism (£12,006.72).
- KGS Football Stands Feasibility (£81,000, SROI: Not listed): Studied football stands, improving wellbeing (£50,000) and engagement (£14,000).
- Kirkwall Bowling Club (£177,666, SROI: 5.19): Upgraded facilities, reducing loneliness (£130,050) and improving mental health (£26,532).
- LoRaWAN Network Implementation Brief (£120,174, SROI: 5.10): Planned IoT network, enhancing digital access (£101,475) and internet confidence (£15,840).
- North Ronaldsay Trust Dark Skies (£10,890, SROI: 2.11): Installed dark skies webcam, boosting tourism (£10,890).
- Orkney Riding Centre Feasibility Final (£25,757.60, SROI: 2.60): Studied centre upgrades, supporting development (£19,277.60) and renewables (£4,000).
- Orkney Rowing Club (£19,720, SROI: 1.91): Planned rowing facility, enhancing wellbeing (£15,500) and social cohesion (£2,480).
- Orkney Sailing Club Feasibility (£31,324, SROI: 7.02): Assessed club upgrades, supporting marketing (£23,776.50) and venue access (£5,437.50).
- Orkney Science Festival (£59,142, SROI: 13.54): Conducted gardening trials, enhancing heritage tourism (£25,014) and engagement (£26,000).

The 34 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Orkney, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,440,000 from an investment of £330,230. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Papay Development Trust Growing (£20,868.75, SROI: 2.59): Expanded gardening, reducing food waste (£10,867.50) and carbon emissions (£6,247.50).
- Sanday Parent Council Growing (£65,381, SROI: 2.74): Installed polycrab, supporting gardening (£30,987) and grocery savings (£30,943).
- South Ronaldsay & Burry DT Capacity Building (£25,435.50, SROI: 3.52): Built capacity, enhancing marketing (£23,776.50) and governance (£1,659).
- Stenness Community Association Place Plan (£9,181.16, SROI: 1.77): Developed place plan, improving governance (£5,015) and volunteering (£2,507.16).
- St Nicholas Kirk CLLD (£103,010, SROI: 10.54): Enhanced heritage venue, supporting crafts (£73,260) and venue access (£21,750).
- Stromness Community DT Yule Log Pull (£4,065.56, SROI: 5.61): Hosted community event, enhancing development (£1,500) and social activities (£2,565.56).
- Stromness Development Trust Capacity Building (£83,276.50, SROI: 6.71): Built capacity, improving venue access (£43,500) and marketing (£23,776.50).
- Stromness Development Trust Feasibility (£58,994.40, SROI: 6.87): Planned centre purchase, supporting venue access (£43,500) and job creation (£15,494.40).
- Stromness Sailing Club (£105,392, SROI: 5.09): Upgraded facilities, enhancing social cohesion (£99,200) and mentoring (£6,192).
- Stronsay Development Trust Togetherness (£12,908.40, SROI: 3.17): Hosted community events, supporting crafts (£21,374.16) and venue access (£7,221).
- Stronsay DR Winter Conference CLLD (£29,862.72, SROI: 2.89): Organized conference, enhancing engagement (£11,700) and marketing (£11,412.72).
- Stronsay DT Capacity Building (£21,880.07, SROI: 1.44): Built community capacity, supporting collaboration (£7,125.75) and engagement (£6,500).
- Stronsay DT Heritage Centre Feasibility (£35,307.69, SROI: 3.41): Planned heritage centre, enhancing leadership training (£23,178.54) and heritage tourism (£8,129.55).
- Voluntary Action Orkney Island Wellbeing (£19,179.28, SROI: 1.85): Transitioned to charity, building networks (£15,000) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Westray DT Governance Review (£20,658.28, SROI: 7.98): Reviewed governance, supporting engagement (£14,820) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- Westray DT Mens Shed & Golf Club Feasibility (£53,345.50, SROI: 5.15): Planned shared facility, supporting therapy (£35,880) and venue access (£14,137.50).
- YLAG Inclusive Orkney (£20,904, SROI: 9.90): Hosted inclusive sessions, boosting child confidence (£19,104) and learning (£1,800).
- YLAG Orkney Blide Trust (£45,097.20, SROI: 13.66): Developed workshop, supporting gardening (£24,007.50) and hobby (£18,592.20).
- YLAG Orkney Charitable Trust (£17,595.50, SROI: 3.27): Provided activity vouchers, reducing poverty gaps (£13,630.50) and wellbeing (£3,965).
- YLAG Orkney Youth Cafe (£2,766.24, SROI: 1.78): Supported youth space, enhancing wellbeing (£2,234.88) and crafts (£159.84).
- YLAG West Mainland Youth Achievement Group (£2,817.99, SROI: 6.05): Hosted warm space, supporting social engagement (£2,608.20) and crafts (£209.79).
- YLAG Women's Aid Orkney (£1,362.69, SROI: 1.32): Provided art sessions, boosting child confidence (£1,146.24) and crafts (£216.45).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 34 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £4.23 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include:

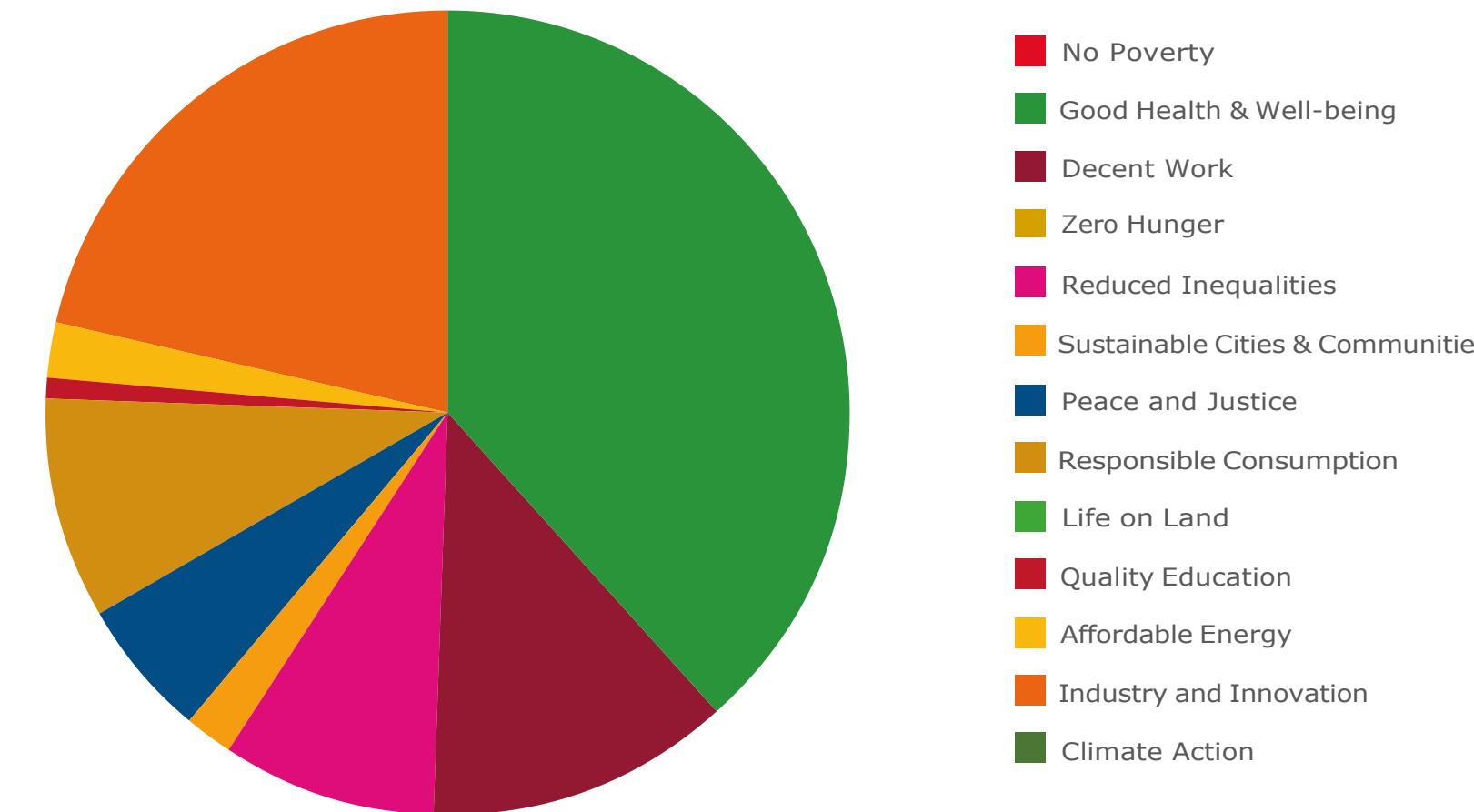
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like Kirkwall Bowling Club (£177,666, 12% of total impact) and YLAG Orkney Charitable Trust (£17,595.50) addressed social isolation and financial barriers, delivering over £200,000 in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as Stromness Development Trust Feasibility (£58,994.40) and Stronsay DT Heritage Centre Feasibility (£35,307.69) fostered venue access and collaboration, contributing over £400,000 in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Papay Development Trust Growing (£20,868.75) and Sanday Parent Council Growing (£65,381) supported local food production and carbon savings, with over £100,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like YLAG Inclusive Orkney (£20,904) and Stromness Sailing Club (£105,392) enhanced youth confidence and community cohesion, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as St Nicholas Kirk CLLD and Stromness Development Trust, delivered over £300,000 in savings, addressing rural isolation. Sports and youth projects, like KGS Football Stands and YLAG Orkney Blide Trust,

supported health and inclusion, while digital and heritage efforts strengthened connectivity and identity. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the programme impacts to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 Orkney initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The SROI of £4.23 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Kirkwall Bowling Club and LoRaWAN Network Implementation Brief. Future efforts should focus on replicating high-impact models like Sanday Parent Council Growing for sustainable food production and expanding digital initiatives like LoRaWAN to combat rural disadvantage.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Outer Hebrides Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 42 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Outer Hebrides projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability. [Scottish Rural Network](#)

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

The 42 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in the Outer Hebrides, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £4,070,000 from an investment of £560,300. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- An Lanntair - Community Room development (£58,828.41, SROI: 7.08): Upgraded creative space, enhancing youth skills (£40,882.56) and crafts (£13,059.15).
- Bernera CA - Solar Battery Storage (£42,818.64, SROI: 5.43): Installed battery storage, reducing energy costs (£22,840.59) and volunteering (£17,004).
- CE Uibhist a Tuath - Beairteas an t-Sluaigh (£80,385.70, SROI: 12.38): Created archive, boosting tourism (£47,754) and volunteering (£21,255).
- Comunn Eachdraidh Nis @ 50 (£138,478.20, SROI: 4.54): Catalogued archives, enhancing volunteering (£88,577.28) and tourism (£25,014).
- Fèisean - Stòras Ionnstramaidean Co-Roinnnte (£56,292.78, SROI: 11.24): Provided instruments, supporting youth skills (£33,240.96) and employment (£12,592.80).
- Harris Charity Shop - Replacement (£142,102.50, SROI: 5.52): Replaced shop, fostering collaboration (£71,257.50) and volunteering (£33,552).
- Kinloch FC - Solar PV Installation (£109,664.25, SROI: 3.58): Installed solar PV, reducing energy costs (£90,000) and construction GVA (£18,900).
- Kinloch Historical Society - Kinloch Archive Pilot (£20,351.16, SROI: 1.30): Developed archive, supporting business (£16,117.56) and research (£4,233.60).
- Knock Youthclub - Point Play-area and Skateboard Park (£976,452.64, SROI: 8.77): Built recreational area, enhancing belonging (£165,350.40) and business (£789,853.35).
- Leverhulme Community Hub - Gym (£29,529.76, SROI: 4.35): Equipped gym, improving exercise (£23,460.80) and access (£2,696.96).
- Macaulay College - Growing productivity at MC (£61,002.48, SROI: 11.57): Enhanced skills training, fostering belonging (£54,534) and wellbeing (£6,468.48).
- Newmarket Gateway - Build a Bridge (£79,921.66, SROI: 9.08): Replaced bridges, supporting volunteering (£34,008) and green space (£25,905).
- Northton Heritage Trust - Digital Equipment (£25,731.06, SROI: 5.25): Upgraded exhibitions, supporting volunteering (£21,255) and Gaelic learning (£914.76).
- OH RF - Comann Eachdraidh Uibhist a Tuath (£117,407, SROI: 9.24): Designed school restoration, supporting business (£53,725.20) and volunteering (£33,924.80).
- OH RF - Comunn Eachdraidh Nis (£428,604.23, SROI: 17.88): Planned expansion, fostering belonging (£390,253.50) and business (£24,176.34).
- OH RF - Grimsay Community Associations (£77,507.48, SROI: 2.39): Designed hub redevelopment, supporting volunteering (£21,320) and collaboration (£23,942.52).
- OH RF - Northton Heritage Trust (£157,358.60, SROI: 11.81): Planned centre expansion, supporting business (£143,609.70) and meaningful work (£6,938.10).
- OH RF - Outer Hebrides Tourism (£45,391.15, SROI: 1.78): Created tourism database, supporting business (£32,235.12) and research (£11,543.53).
- OH RF - Pairc Trust (£185,784.73, SROI: 15.01): Designed community room, improving rural access (£179,455.50) and construction GVA (£6,329.23).
- OH RF - Southend Football & Community Club (£77,577.23, SROI: 3.99): Designed all-weather pitch, supporting business (£48,352.68) and volunteering (£19,129.50).

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

- OH RF - West Harris Trust (£52,272.48, SROI: 5.90): Designed heating system, supporting business (£48,352.68) and construction GVA (£3,880.80).
- OH RF - WIAMH (£63,840.12, SROI: 2.40): Delivered creative sessions, enhancing wellbeing (£53,264.64) and confidence (£7,927.92).
- OH RF - WICAS (£268,748, SROI: 8.66): Provided heating support, improving rural access (£151,920) and consumer advice (£63,384).
- South Harris FC - Solar PV Installation (£100,643.25, SROI: 5.83): Installed solar PV, reducing energy costs (£100,347) and carbon emissions (£117).
- TEAS - Appliance Replacement Support (£53,757.47, SROI: 5.52): Provided appliances, supporting rural access (£29,054.70) and consumer advice (£11,620.40).
- Uig CCA - Solar Project (£132,539.40, SROI: 5.72): Installed solar PV, reducing energy costs (£130,394.40) and carbon emissions (£1,170).
- Volunteering Hebrides - Souper Food Poly-tunnel (£79,049.63, SROI: 9.44): Built poly-tunnel, supporting volunteering (£63,765) and wellbeing (£10,553.60).
- West Harris Trust - Talla na Mara Energy Efficiency (£39,787.62, SROI: 6.95): Designed thermal lobby, supporting business (£32,235.12) and renewables (£6,636).
- OH YLAG - Acair (£10,272.45, SROI: 3.37): Launched Gaelic book, supporting school engagement (£9,888) and creative GVA (£384.45).
- OH YLAG - An Lanntair, Gable End (£31,699.73, SROI: 8.36): Created mural, fostering collaboration (£25,842.72) and care support (£2,267.57).
- OH YLAG - An Lanntair, Youth Arts (£40,496.04, SROI: 9.81): Delivered arts activities, enhancing belonging (£25,577.64) and crafts (£14,918.40).
- OH YLAG - Back Football and Recreation Club (£29,398.59, SROI: 11.93): Provided life-skills, supporting accreditation (£12,966.48) and family leisure (£8,457.75).
- OH YLAG - Balallan Youth Clubs (£43,515.30, SROI: 11.24): Enhanced youth club, supporting volunteering (£23,380.50) and confidence (£18,944.80).
- OH YLAG - Beairteas Bharraigh (£22,412.77, SROI: Not listed): Taught upcycling, boosting confidence (£14,073.28) and volunteering (£6,376.50).
- OH YLAG - Breasclete Junior Youth Club - Club Revitalise (£32,047.50, SROI: 11.06): Upgraded equipment, enhancing Gaelic integration (£21,420) and volunteering (£10,627.50).
- OH YLAG - Caraidean Uibhist (£6,538.75, SROI: 2.39): Piloted CRAFT training, addressing addiction (£4,387.39) and mentoring (£1,486.08).
- OH YLAG - Cothrom (£4,112.70, SROI: 3.91): Delivered youth café, supporting volunteering (£2,125.50) and social engagement (£1,987.20).
- OH YLAG - Laxdale Community Association - Youth & After-School Clubs (£25,642.44, SROI: 9.44): Equipped youth club, supporting volunteering (£18,332.44) and family support (£4,590).
- OH YLAG - L&H WFC - Let them Play (£12,496.38, SROI: 5.77): Hosted football camp, boosting confidence (£8,660.48) and meaningful work (£2,312.70).
- OH YLAG - Lochs Youth Cafe - Activity Programme (£6,780.96, SROI: 4.70): Delivered activities, enhancing social engagement (£3,564.96) and family support (£2,880).
- OH YLAG - Macaulay College (£41,159.47, SROI: 10.36): Designed leisure space, fostering belonging (£29,733.60) and mentoring (£6,935.04).
- OH YLAG - Otter Mountain - Wee Woodland Phase 1 (£17,209.56, SROI: 9.95): Created nursery, supporting business (£16,117.56) and childcare (£1,092).
- OH YLAG - Stornoway Aths (£64,119.28, SROI: 11.31): Equipped football team, supporting volunteering (£42,510) and wellbeing (£17,056).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 42 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £7.02 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include:

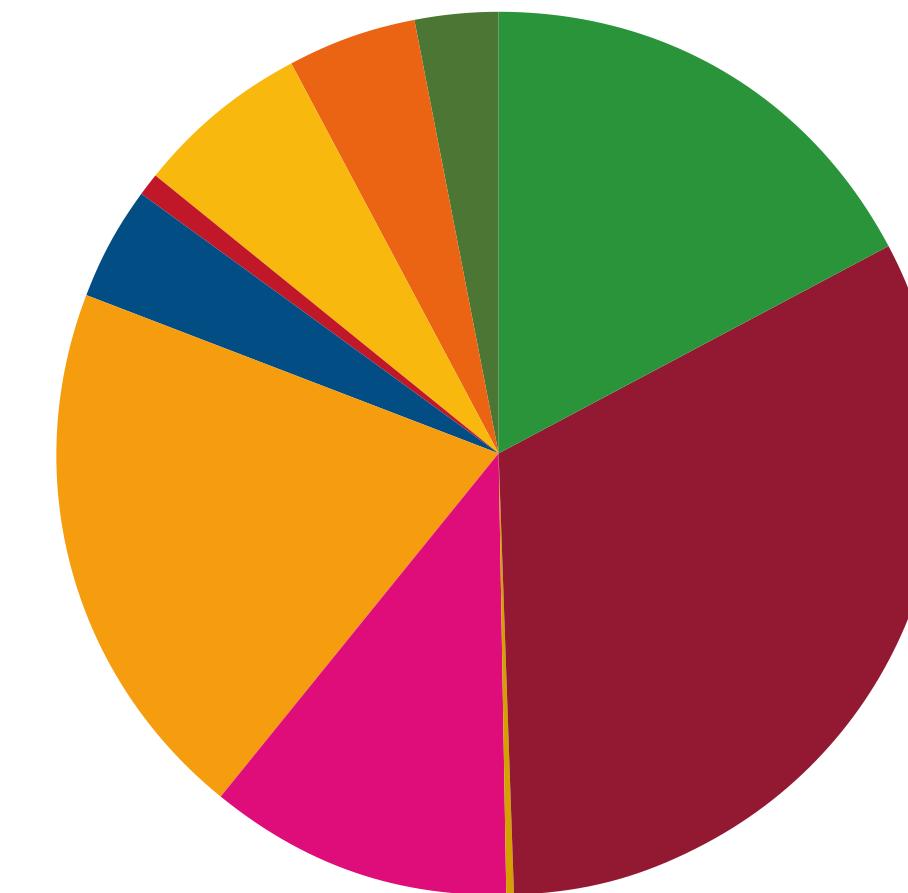
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like Knock Youthclub - Point Play-area and Skateboard Park (£976,452.64, 24% of total impact) and OH RF - WICAS (£268,748) addressed recreational access and fuel poverty, delivering over £1.2 million in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as OH RF - Comunn Eachdraidh Nis (£428,604.23) and Harris Charity Shop - Replacement (£142,102.50) fostered belonging and volunteering, contributing over £1 million in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Uig CCA - Solar Project (£132,539.40) and Bernera CA - Solar Battery Storage (£42,818.64) supported renewable energy, with over £250,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like OH YLAG - An Lanntair, Youth Arts (£40,496.04) and YLAG - Balallan Youth Clubs (£43,515.30) enhanced youth confidence and cultural engagement, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as Leverhulme Community Hub - Gym and Newmarket Gateway - Build a Bridge, delivered over £500,000 in savings, addressing rural isolation. Youth and sports projects, like YLAG - L&H WFC - Let them Play and

YLAG - Stornoway Aths, supported health and inclusion, while renewable energy efforts advanced net-zero goals. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the programme impacts to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



No Poverty
Good Health & Well-being
Decent Work
Zero Hunger
Reduced Inequalities
Sustainable Cities & Communities
Peace and Justice
Responsible Consumption
Life on Land
Quality Education
Affordable Energy
Industry and Innovation
Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Outer Hebrides initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £7.02 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Knock Youthclub - Point Play-area and Skateboard Park and OH RF - Comunn Eachdraidh Nis. Future efforts should focus on replicating high-impact models like OH RF - WICAS for poverty alleviation and expanding renewable energy initiatives like Uig CCA - Solar Project to combat climate change.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Renfrewshire Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 6 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Renfrewshire projects in this report, supported by the Renfrewshire LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle local priorities such as environmental sustainability, community engagement, and economic development. [Scottish Rural Network](#)

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

The 6 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Renfrewshire, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £292,190 from an investment of £35,920. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Energy Action Plan - Larder Facilities Upgrade (£43,395.00, SROI: 11.49): Enhanced community facilities through upgraded larder infrastructure, improving volunteer support structure (£37,607.40) and mental health support (£5,787.60).
- Greenock Scouts (£26,998.20, SROI: 5.12): Promoted youth engagement and sustainability, achieving employment at living wage (£3,564.00), increasing volunteering (£14,539.20), reducing CO2 emissions (£1,092.00), and fostering collaborative partnerships (£7,803.00).
- GRI LAG Friends of Howwood Park Share Shed - 24/25 (£31,502.50, SROI: 15.48): Established a lending service to reduce waste and promote community participation, achieving waste reduction (£3,412.50), improved volunteer support (£2,765.25), living wage employment (£643.50), volunteer engagement (£2,796.00), and participatory engagement (£15,000.00), alongside efficient collaboration (£6,885.00).
- Johnstone Community Transport - Bus engine and fitting (£18,423.20, SROI: 2.66): Improved rural mobility by upgrading transport infrastructure, increasing volunteering (£2,423.20) and enabling community participation (£16,000.00).
- Local Area Action Plan - Feasibility Study (£76,741.20, SROI: 8.08): Supported economic and community development through a feasibility study, encouraging economic growth (£53,725.20), enabling community participation (£12,000.00), and fostering collaborative partnerships (£11,016.00).
- Propagate - Project Living Soil (£31,377.45, SROI: 5.66): Promoted sustainable practices through soil health initiatives, achieving waste reduction (£455.00), increased volunteering (£11,690.25), recycling benefits (£505.00), and collaborative partnerships (£18,727.20).

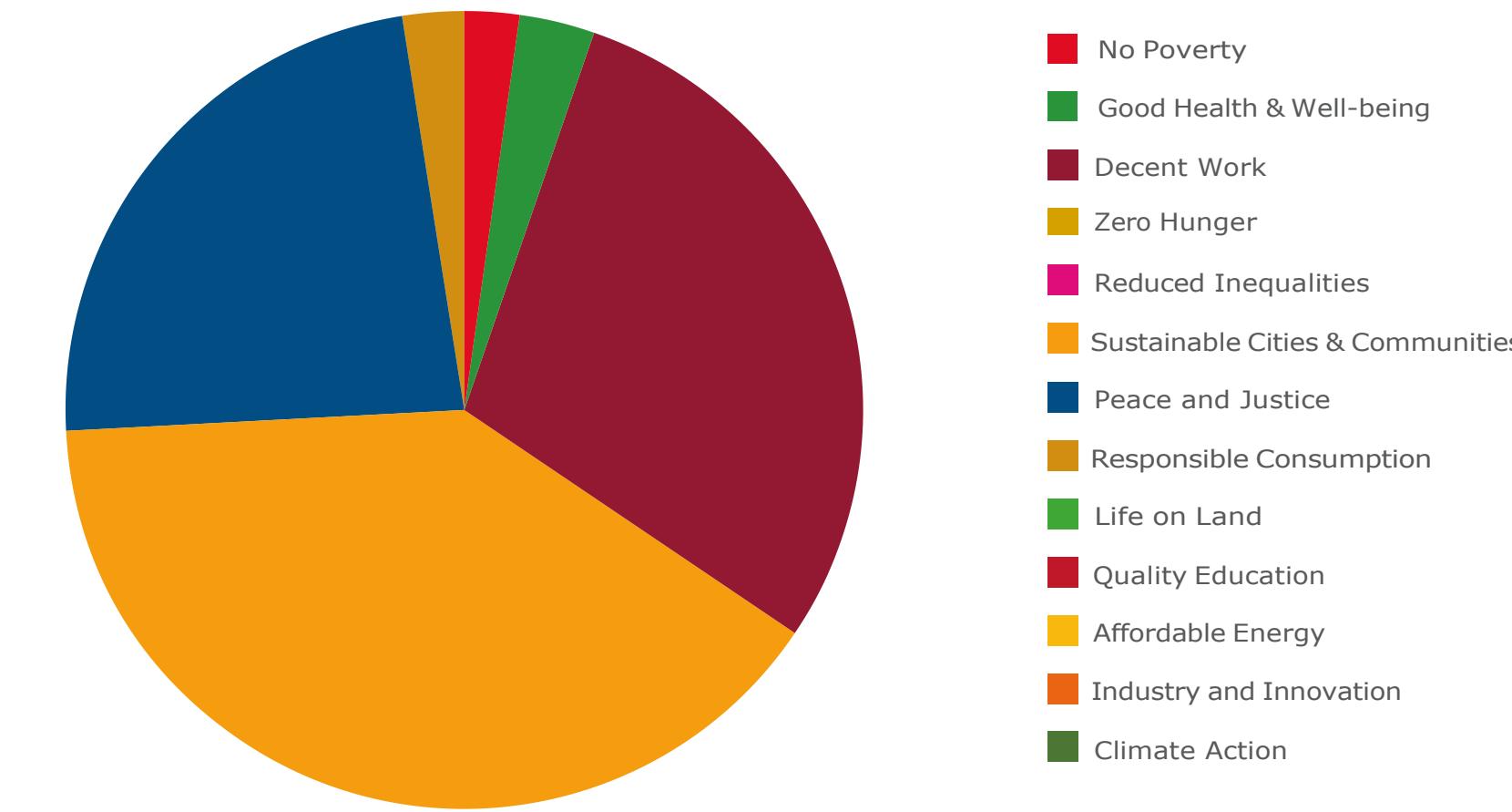
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 6 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £7.86 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £183,009. Key impact areas include community engagement (e.g., Local Area Action Plan - Feasibility Study, £76,741.20, 34% of total impact), environmental sustainability (e.g., GRI LAG Friends of Howwood Park Share Shed - 24/25, £31,502.50), and volunteering (e.g., Energy Action Plan - Larder Facilities Upgrade, £43,395.00). Community participation initiatives, with projects like Johnstone Community Transport and Howwood Park Share Shed delivering over £60,000 in participatory engagement and volunteering benefits, were particularly impactful. Sustainability efforts, such as Propagate - Project Living Soil and Greenock Scouts, contributed to waste reduction and CO2 savings, aligning with net-zero goals. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), and Climate Action (SDG 13)..

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the Renfrewshire programme outcomes to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below



## Reflections

The 2025 Renfrewshire initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like environmental degradation, rural isolation, and economic stagnation. The high SROI of £7.86 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like the Local Area Action Plan - Feasibility Study, which significantly boosted economic and community development. The GRI LAG Friends of Howwood Park Share Shed exemplifies innovative approaches to waste reduction and community participation, fostering both environmental and social benefits. However, the relatively small number of projects suggests an opportunity to scale initiatives to maximize impact across Renfrewshire. Future efforts should focus on expanding sustainable transport solutions like Johnstone Community Transport to enhance connectivity and replicating models like the Howwood Park Share Shed to promote circular economy practices.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Rural Perth and Kinross

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 30 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. The CLLD programme builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Perth and Kinross projects in this report, supported by the Rural Perth and Kinross LAG, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle priorities such as food security, community cohesion, and environmental sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Aberfeldy CAP Phase 2 (£78,496.90, SROI: 9.60): Developed a community action plan, enhancing engagement (£55,624.50) and volunteering (£16,962.40).
- All Abilities Cycle (£460,000, SROI: 5.39): Created an inclusive trail, boosting sports wellbeing (£310,000) and engagement (£150,000).
- Blair Atholl Village Hall Nature Garden (£429,967, SROI: 6.39): Transformed community land into a nature garden, fostering belonging (£299,937) and green space happiness (£124,030).
- BRDT Future Proofing (£450,000, SROI: 12.42): Strengthened community resilience through engagement (£450,000) via feasibility studies and planning.
- Clans at the Croft (£287,680, SROI: 9.69): Hosted a mountain bike event, enhancing sports wellbeing (£16,320) and community sport (£271,360).
- Cleish & Blairadam CAP (£69,142.95, SROI: 5.51): Developed a community action plan, boosting engagement (£47,700) and volunteering (£14,539.20).
- Comrie CAP (£223,460.25, SROI: 11.30): Prioritized community activities, fostering engagement (£181,800) and networking (£24,656.25).
- Creative Crieff Community Garden (£166,790, SROI: 4.60): Established a community garden, enhancing belonging (£90,890) and engagement (£66,000).
- Crieff Highland Gathering Feasibility (£11,500, SROI: 0.5): Feasibility study to build Highland Games Centre in Crieff and make Crieff home of Scotland's Highland Games, economic multiplier effect of sport investment (£6,035.20)

The 30 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Perth and Kinross, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £10,390,000 from an investment of £4,670,036. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Crieff Museum Phase 2 (£215,834.28, SROI: 7.00): Upgraded museum facilities, boosting tourism (£55,277.64) and belonging (£149,968.50).
- DBDCDT Community Connector (£282,564.75, SROI: 8.03): Enhanced community connections, fostering volunteering (£145,392) and engagement (£113,700).
- Equine Skills Development (£69,595.56, SROI: 5.60): Trained equestrian professionals, improving social cohesion (£61,440) and wellbeing (£7,546.56).
- Food for Thought (£275,177.50, SROI: Not listed): Supported food bank users (£264,550) and volunteers (£10,627.50).
- Fossway CAP Phase 2 (£139,224.80, SROI: 8.96): Advanced community planning, boosting engagement (£105,300) and volunteering (£33,924.80).
- Glen Lyon and Kenmore CAP (£248,305.14, SROI: 11.81): Developed a community action plan, fostering engagement (£230,100) and economic impact (£13,088.34).
- Good Food Nation Phase 2 (£35,876.25, SROI: 3.47): Promoted food initiatives, enhancing networking (£8,876.25) and engagement (£27,000).
- International Horse Trials (£1,054,477.14, SROI: 4.11): Relocated horse trials, boosting belonging (£693,127.14) and sports engagement (£202,950).
- Kettins Storage (£19,617.53, SROI: 1.01): Expanded storage facilities, supporting economic impact (£10,617.53) and engagement (£9,000).
- Kinross CAP (£118,733.60, SROI: 6.95): Developed a community action plan, fostering volunteering (£55,733.60) and engagement (£63,000).
- MACDT Community Connector (£381,512.25, SROI: 13.97): Strengthened community ties, enhancing belonging (£272,670) and volunteering (£72,696).
- MBCDT Development Support Officer (£81,385.28, SROI: 4.76): Increased development support, boosting engagement (£51,000) and volunteering (£24,232).
- Muthill Hub (£1,170,535.86, SROI: 6.95): Built a community hub, fostering belonging (£917,807.22) and networking (£206,528.64).
- Rannoch Cares Phase 2 (£671,614.16, SROI: 10.98): Expanded care services, enhancing attendance (£483,278.40) and healthcare (£109,731.60).
- Rannoch Community Hub (£1,218,024, SROI: 0.88): Created a multi-use hub, boosting belonging (£999,790) and jobs (£125,928).
- Rattray Community Garden (£181,784.80, SROI: 3.88): Renovated garden facilities, enhancing green space happiness (£118,378) and volunteering (£51,012).
- Remake Refill Shop (£106,154.88, SROI: 2.67): Promoted sustainable shopping, supporting wellbeing (£84,346.08) and volunteering (£21,808.80).
- Remake Workshop (£102,625.10, SROI: 3.52): Expanded repair workshops, fostering networking (£83,239.50) and volunteering (£19,385.60).
- Strathmore Hub (£14,701.68, SROI: 1.42): Supported charity resilience, enhancing reputation (£4,179.28) and volunteering (£4,846.40).
- TASC (£1,437,115.97, SROI: 1.06): Development and construction of new sports clubhouse, economic multiplier effect sport (£780,438.47), economic multiplier effect construction (£799,475.56)

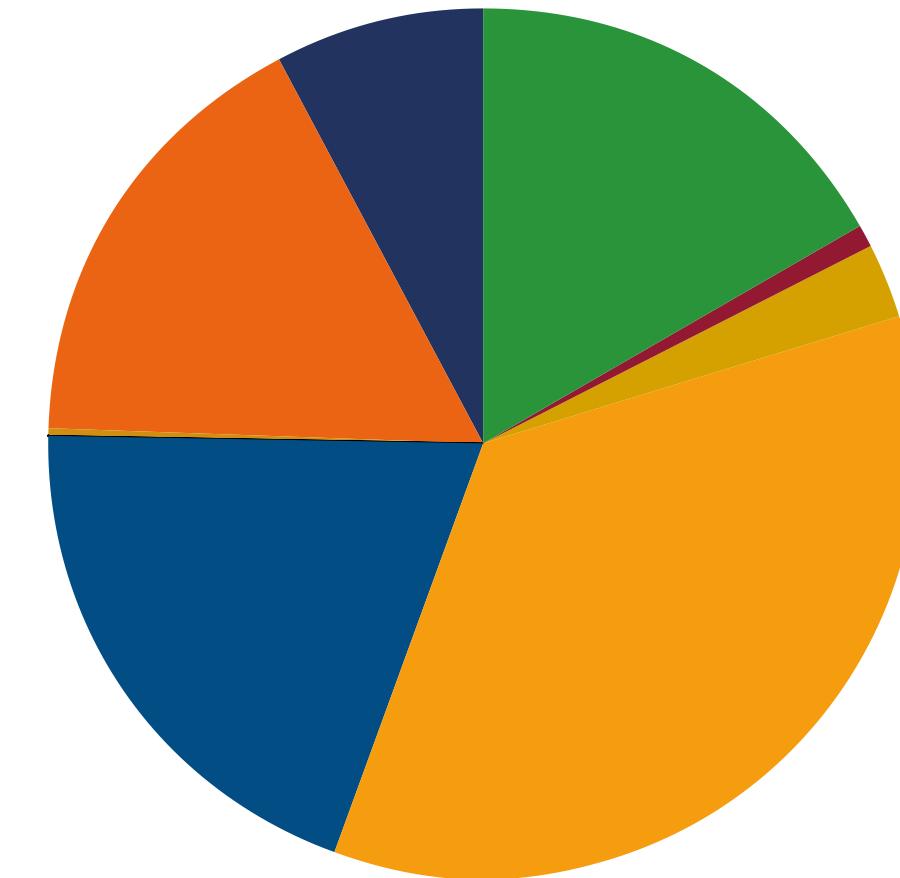
# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 30 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £2.15 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include community cohesion (e.g., Rannoch Community Hub, £1,218,024, Muthill Hub, £1,170,535.86), food security (e.g., Food for Thought, £275,177.50), and environmental sustainability (e.g., Blair Atholl Village Hall Nature Garden, £429,967). Community engagement initiatives, with 12 projects delivering over £2.5 million in impacts through participatory engagement and sense of belonging, were particularly impactful. Sports and tourism projects, such as International Horse Trials and All Abilities Cycle, contributed significantly to social cohesion and economic activity. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like Sustainable Cities and Communities, No Poverty, and Good Health and Well-Being.

## Sustainable Development Goals

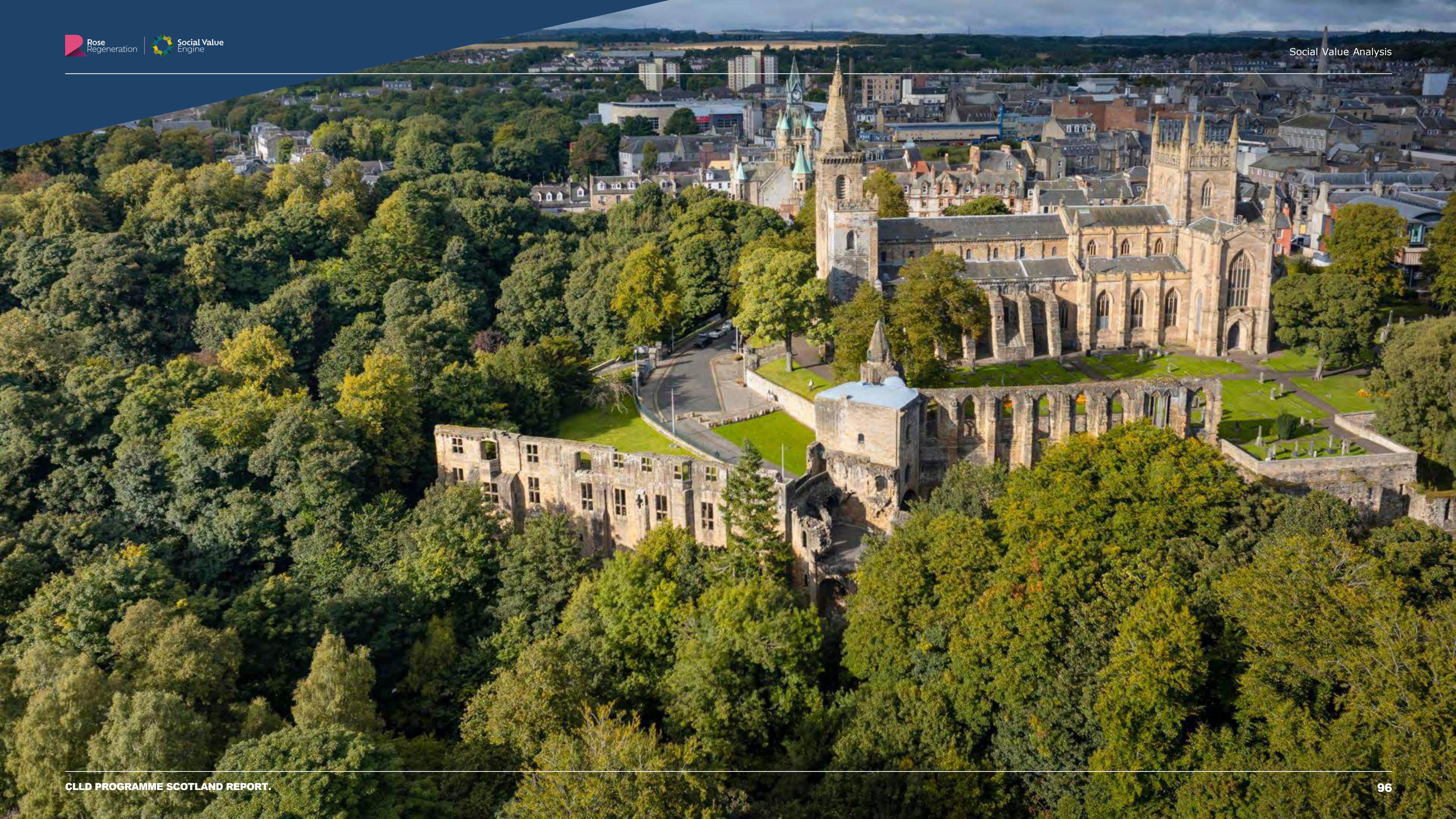
The alignment of the programme outcomes to the RPK programme is set out below:



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action
- Partnerships for the Goals

## Reflections

The 2025 Perth and Kinross initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like social isolation, food poverty, and environmental sustainability. The SROI of £2.15 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like Rannoch Community Hub and Muthill Hub, which fostered strong community cohesion. The overall scale of impact in cash terms, whilst the SROI is modest at (£2.15 is very significant at a present value of £10,042,473). This is a typical, whilst a number of other CLLD areas have achieved higher SROI the overall scale of the investment they have generated is significantly lower than in RPK where the funding has achieved very large scale transformational leverage.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Scottish Borders Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 39 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The SBL projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

The 39 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in SBL, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £2,541,362.39 from an investment of £778,420. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- SBL B001 Village Visitor Amenities (£13,684.50, SROI: 9.32): Installed accessible seating, enhancing cultural engagement (£7,875) and reputation (£4,609.50).
- SBL B002 Yetholm Community Shop Cold Storage (£0, SROI: Not listed): No recorded impact due to lack of outcome data.
- SBL B003 Project Financial Stability & Service Expansion (£16,117.56, SROI: 3.90): Expanded marketing services, supporting business earnings (£16,117.56).
- SBL B005 Facilities Upgrade (£0, SROI: Not listed): No recorded impact due to lack of outcome data.
- SBL B006 We Speak Tangent Podcast (£16,710.24, SROI: 3.24): Produced podcast, improving wellbeing (£16,710.24).
- SBL B008 Creating Inclusive Spaces for Fitness (£12,154.80, SROI: 5.32): Upgraded gym equipment, generating business (£12,004.80) and community development (£150).
- SBL B009 Providing support for mobility challenged visitors (£0, SROI: Not listed): No recorded impact due to lack of outcome data.
- SBL B010 Green Energy Installation at Mauldsmeugh (£56,960, SROI: 7.73): Installed solar energy, reducing carbon footprint (£56,960).
- SBL C001 Drivewise Borders (£32,985.36, SROI: 6.07): Delivered driving training, enhancing confidence (£28,494.72) and skills (£4,490.64).
- SBL C002 Community Cafes - Peeblesshire Foodbank (£94,528.25, SROI: 6.28): Hosted pop-up cafés, providing advice (£62,550) and volunteering (£31,882.50).
- SBL C003 Building Creative Futures: Empowering Berwickshire, One Stitch at a Time - ReTweed (£39,632.71, SROI: 1.23): Upgraded premises, supporting wellbeing (£19,371.75) and construction (£16,500.46).
- SBL C004 Heat Survey - Borders Roll-Out (£44,370, SROI: 4.22): Expanded heat surveys, fostering volunteering (£42,510) and community development (£1,860).
- SBL C005 Pizza is the Answer - Tweeddale Youth Action (£17,451, SROI: 0.58): Trained youth, improving numeracy (£7,378.56) and reputation (£4,609.50).
- SBL C006 Grow and Share (£162,372.15, SROI: 8.43): Upgraded garden infrastructure, supporting volunteering (£159,974.10) and facilitation (£1,573.05).
- SBL C008 Solar Power for Re-use Charity (£25,176.15, SROI: 1.14): Installed solar power, reducing carbon emissions (£24,570) and improving efficiency (£606.15).
- SBL C009 Oxton Community Shop Development (£185,040.72, SROI: 4.46): Relocated shop, reducing isolation (£61,617.60) and enhancing volunteering (£118,134.72).
- SBL C010 Borders in Recovery - Community Recovery Cafe Project (£314,798.12, SROI: 4.50): Expanded recovery cafés, rebuilding family ties (£285,637.50) and health outcomes (£29,160.62).
- SBL C011 Winter Warmer Programme (£74,504.58, SROI: 7.95): Distributed clothing, boosting child confidence (£52,344.96) and volunteering (£17,550.12).
- SBL C012 Happy Swimmers Initiative (£78,509.10, SROI: 5.18): Funded swimming lessons, enhancing confidence (£45,849.60) and volunteering (£22,122).

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

- SBL C013 Innov8plus Newcastleton Kickstart (£127,308, SROI: 5.04): Empowered youth, promoting democracy (£77,627.25) and collaboration (£41,310).
- SBL C014 Refurbishment of Preston Village Hall (£77,542.02, SROI: 3.34): Upgraded hall, improving energy efficiency (£47,270.04) and resilience (£13,200).
- SBL C016 The General Store Reuse Hub (£39,589.35, SROI: 2.59): Established reuse hub, supporting volunteering (£21,153.60) and partnerships (£13,826.25).
- SBL C017 Empowerment Project (£88,998.72, SROI: 5.81): Delivered mental health support, addressing health conditions (£38,384.64) and confidence (£29,798.40).
- SBL C020 Kitchen Supervisor & Cafe Manager - Cafe ReCharge (£73,839.03, SROI: 3.62): Funded café staff, fostering partnerships (£60,835.50) and employment (£6,327.88).
- SBL C021 Community Led Environmental Action for the Berwickshire Coast (£93,953.39, SROI: 7.18): Promoted conservation, enhancing skills (£49,692.75) and collaboration (£41,310).
- SBL C022 Selkirk Lifeskills Groups (£49,152.90, SROI: 8.13): Ran lifeskills groups, boosting confidence (£25,328.64) and reducing isolation (£13,443.84).
- SBL C023 Turning Green Project - Stable Life (£35,839.82, SROI: 3.30): Upgraded energy systems, saving emissions (£31,388.16) and enhancing reputation (£3,749.06).
- SBL UN05 Rowlands - Winter and Easter Events for Youth People (£42,417.75, SROI: Not listed): Hosted youth events, aiding employment (£32,145.75) and wellbeing (£5,959.68).
- SBL UND01 Selkirk Cook Club - SBHA (£89,265.60, SROI: 5.39): Provided fuel vouchers, offering advice (£72,057.60) and reducing poverty (£17,208).
- SBL UND01 Warm and Well - SBHA (£42,041.94, SROI: 3.68): Supported tenants, aiding employment (£25,716.60) and training (£11,319.84).
- SBL UND04 TYA Pizza Punks x Peeblesshire Foodbank Collaboration (£50,595.13, SROI: 2.44): Distributed food, supporting foodbank users (£45,093.75) and reputation (£4,179.28).
- SBL UND06 + YPA14 Connect BYP - Support of Ongoing Work (£42,829.68, SROI: 1.97): Enhanced youth support, reducing anxiety (£16,003.68) and improving digital access (£6,600).
- SBL UND07 Cheviot Youth - Additional Sessions and Resources (£33,022.08, SROI: 1.67): Expanded youth sessions, improving wellbeing (£13,476) and confidence (£8,939.52).
- SBL UND08 Beyond Earlston - Increased Offer of Transitions and Holiday Program (£44,772.59, SROI: 2.28): Supported transitions, enhancing skills (£32,016) and employment (£6,429.15).
- SBL UND09 Escape Youth Services - Support More Young People (£63,850.56, SROI: 2.73): Delivered youth work, supporting training (£46,357.44) and mental health (£14,133.12).
- SBL UND11 Burnfoot Community School - Friday Night Club (£19,746.12, SROI: 5.45): Ran youth club, providing extracurricular activities (£4,509.12) and volunteering (£10,627.50).
- SBL Youth Poverty and Social Exclusion Initiative (YPaSEI) (£234,775.50, SROI: 1.16): Supported youth, providing food access (£64,260) and collaboration (£128,263.50).
- SBL YPA12&13 Waverley Housing Association - Building Memories & Food Funding (£0, SROI: Not listed): No recorded impact due to lack of outcome data.
- SBL YPA15 Cheviot Youth - Training (£22,740.06, SROI: 2.81): Delivered training, enhancing meaningful work (£13,413.66) and job satisfaction (£7,241.88).
- SBL YPA16 Hawick High School - Easter Holidays (£8,784, SROI: 5.97): Provided holiday activities, supporting extracurricular engagement (£8,784).
- SBL YPA17 Youth Borders - Quit Vaping Event (£4,728, SROI: 2.28): Launched vaping toolkit, fostering wellbeing (£3,276) and facilitation (£1,320).
- SBL YPA18 TYA - New Horizons (£17,184.96, SROI: 4.33): Delivered holiday activities, boosting confidence (£14,901.12) and extracurricular engagement (£2,283.84).
- SBL YPA19 SBSEC - Newtown and Langlee Support (£27,073.26, SROI: 4.37): Supported families, enhancing training (£16,710.24) and facilities (£8,358.56).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 39 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £3.15 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include:

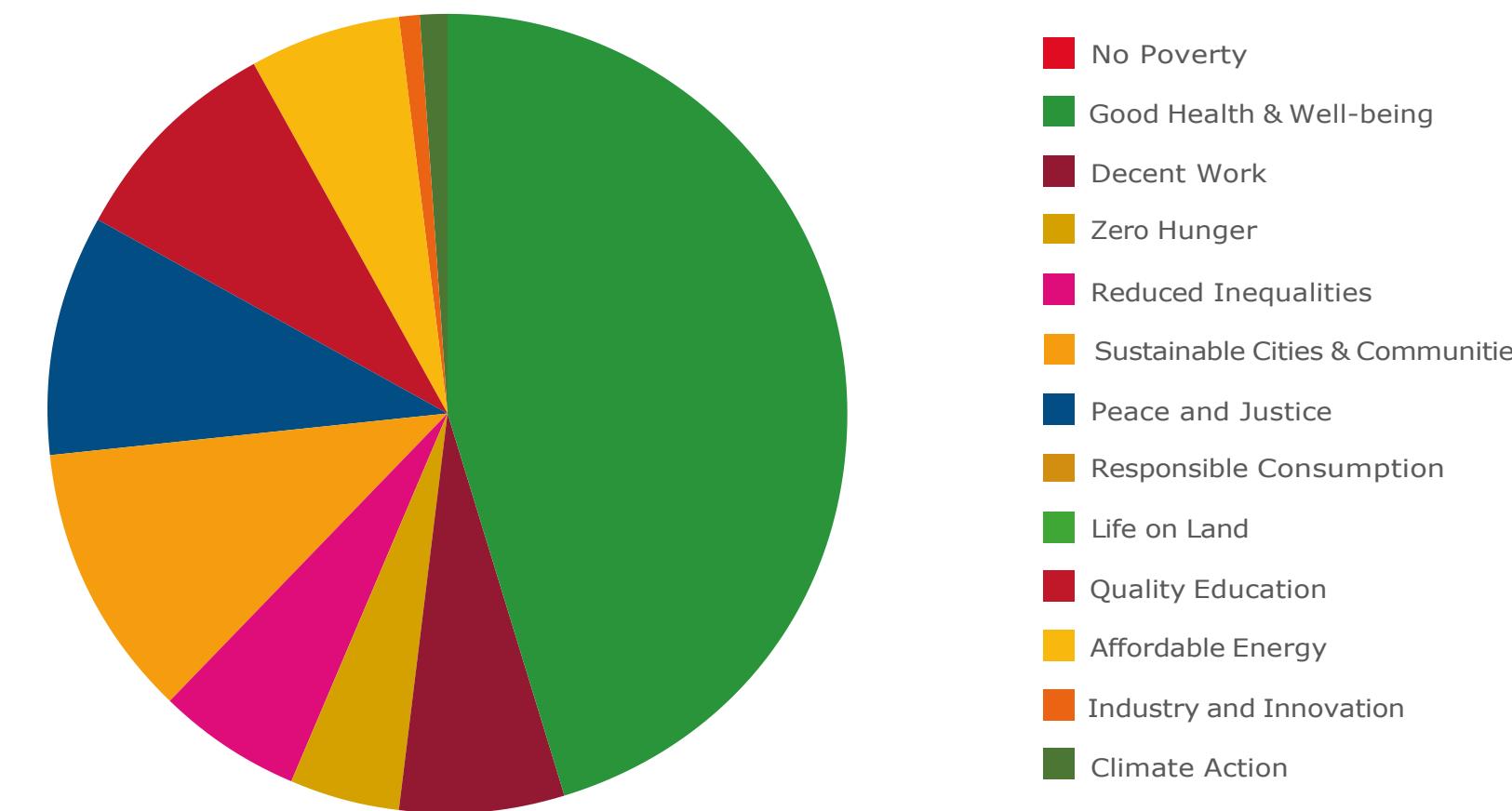
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like SBL C010 Borders in Recovery - Community Recovery Cafe Project (£314,798.12, 12% of total impact) and SBL UND04 TYA Pizza Punks x Peeblesshire Foodbank Collaboration (£50,595.13) addressed addiction and food poverty, delivering over £500,000 in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as SBL C006 Grow and Share (£162,372.15) and SBL C009 Oxton Community Shop Development (£185,040.72) fostered volunteering and social cohesion, contributing over £700,000 in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like SBL B010 Green Energy Installation at Mauldsheugh (£56,960) and SBL C014 Refurbishment of Preston Village Hall (£77,542.02) supported renewable energy and efficiency, with over £150,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like SBL C017 Empowerment Project (£88,998.72) and SBL C022 Selkirk Lifeskills Groups (£49,152.90) enhanced mental health and lifeskills, yielding significant wellbeing impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as SBL C002 Community Cafes - Peeblesshire Foodbank and SBL C012 Happy Swimmers Initiative, delivered over

£400,000 in savings, addressing rural isolation. Youth and recovery projects, like SBL UND09 Escape Youth Services and SBL Youth Poverty and Social Exclusion Initiative, supported skills and inclusion, while environmental efforts reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the programme to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 SBL initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The SROI of £3.15 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like SBL C010 Borders in Recovery and SBL C009 Oxton Community Shop Development. Future efforts could focus on scaling high-impact models like SBL C006 Grow and Share for community gardening and expanding mental health initiatives like SBL C017 Empowerment Project to address rural disadvantage.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Shetland Social Value Report 2025

### **The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context**

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### **Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy**

The funding and overarching strategy for the 25 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Shetland projects in this report, supported by local LAGs, exemplify this commitment to empowering communities to tackle priorities such as poverty alleviation, digital inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- Ability Shetland Ltd - Family Support (£17,397.24, SROI: 4.79): Hosted family days, enhancing rural access (£10,938.24) and child wellbeing (£3,820.80).
- Auld Skule (Recycling Unit) Aith - Tarring of Carpark (£30,463, SROI: 6.14): Improved carpark, supporting resilience (£17,600) and charity reputation (£6,146).
- Bigton Collective Ltd - Hymhus Community Hub (£239,275.89, SROI: 6.38): Enhanced garden access, increasing garden value (£170,359.20) and vegetable growing (£21,126.60).
- Bigton Collective Ltd - Hymhus Development Manager Phase 2 (£21,004.89, SROI: 3.47): Funded manager role, providing employment (£14,271.84) and meaningful work (£3,469.05).
- Cullivoe Public Hall - Weekly Intergenerational Climate Cafe (£62,651.20, SROI: 4.84): Ran climate café, supporting volunteering (£50,143.20) and resilience (£11,088).
- Cullivoe Public Hall - Community Resilience Hub (£15,265.41, SROI: 1.08): Upgraded kitchen, enhancing resilience (£11,616) and volunteering (£2,507.16).
- Fair Isle Development Company - Fair Isle Grid Resilience Project (£116,294.80, SROI: 7.73): Studied grid resilience, supporting renewables (£116,294.80).
- Fair Isle Development Company - Technical work towards affordable housing for key workers (£22,057.75, SROI: 0.99): Planned housing, boosting economic value (£13,618.80) and rural housing (£7,800).
- Hjaltland Housing Association - Mitigating the impact of fuel poverty on tenants (£24,246, SROI: 7.55): Provided energy advice, improving efficiency (£24,246).

The 25 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Shetland, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,844,481 from an investment of £531,824. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Junior Up Helly Aa - Keeping wir fire burning (£31,366.32, SROI: 2.58): Supported festival, enhancing cultural participation (£26,352) and volunteering (£5,014.32).
- Mid Yell Public Hall - New Windows & Door (£45,155.35, SROI: 4.41): Upgraded hall, increasing usage (£33,561) and building value (£9,080.19).
- Sandness Community Development Ltd - Sandness Inter-community bus link (£72,353.60, SROI: 6.30): Provided transport, improving access (£50,133.60) and reducing car use (£22,220).
- Sandness Community Development Ltd (£15,719.16, SROI: 3.73): Created website, enhancing online access (£8,929.80) and digital access (£2,640).
- Sandwick Community Allotments - Development of Sandwick Community Allotments (£142,559.16, SROI: 3.24): Developed allotments, supporting garden value (£113,572.80) and vegetable growing (£14,084.40).
- Sandwick Youth & Community Centre - Fit for the future, reconfiguring the SYCC (£17,826.14, SROI: 1.91): Planned gym, improving building value (£9,080.19) and community asset (£5,669.75).
- Scalloway Community Development Company - Phase 1 Scalloway Heritage Trail (£103,877.40, SROI: 10.86): Developed heritage trail, providing therapeutic benefits (£70,270.20) and visitor satisfaction (£28,604.40).
- Shetland Amenity Trust - Shetland Aets, sowing the seeds for a sustainable future (£32,769, SROI: 2.62): Preserved heritage seeds, supporting heritage (£23,423.40) and vegetable growing (£7,042.20).
- Shetland Anglers Association - Website Development and Online Membership (£37,589.40, SROI: 3.78): Built website, improving online access (£26,789.40) and community asset (£6,048).
- Shetland Community Bike Project (SCIO) - Shetland Community Bike Project (SCIO) (£28,439.72, SROI: 2.53): Supported employment, creating jobs (£23,086.80) and company value (£4,578.20).
- Shetland Community Bike Project (SCIO) - SCBP Project 2 (£30,022.25, SROI: 6.13): Upgraded bike shop, enhancing social cohesion (£23,108.56) and volunteering (£2,507.16).
- Shetland Livestock Marketing Group Ltd - Small Rural Support Claimants' Agricultural Advisory Support Programme (£102,823.01, SROI: 3.24): Supported crofters, improving rural access (£75,200.40) and advice (£18,348).
- The Shetland Clarsach Group - Rebuilding the Shetland Harp Community (£48,516.50, SROI: 5.43): Promoted harp music, supporting audience engagement (£39,600) and family leisure (£4,134.90).
- UnstFest - UnstFest new storage facility - Capital Stage (£528,526.32, SROI: 2.28): Built storage, enhancing rural access (£501,336) and resilience (£22,176).
- Unst Partnership Ltd - Unst Community Development Plan (£54,657.16, SROI: 3.64): Developed plan, fostering engagement (£52,000) and volunteering (£2,507.16).
- Wild Skies Shetland - Strengthening Wild Skies Shetland's online digital presence as part of Sustainability Plan for benefit of Unst (£3,626.13, SROI: 1.06): Enhanced digital presence, supporting economic gain (£1,808.73) and governance (£1,659).

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 39 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £3.35 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include:

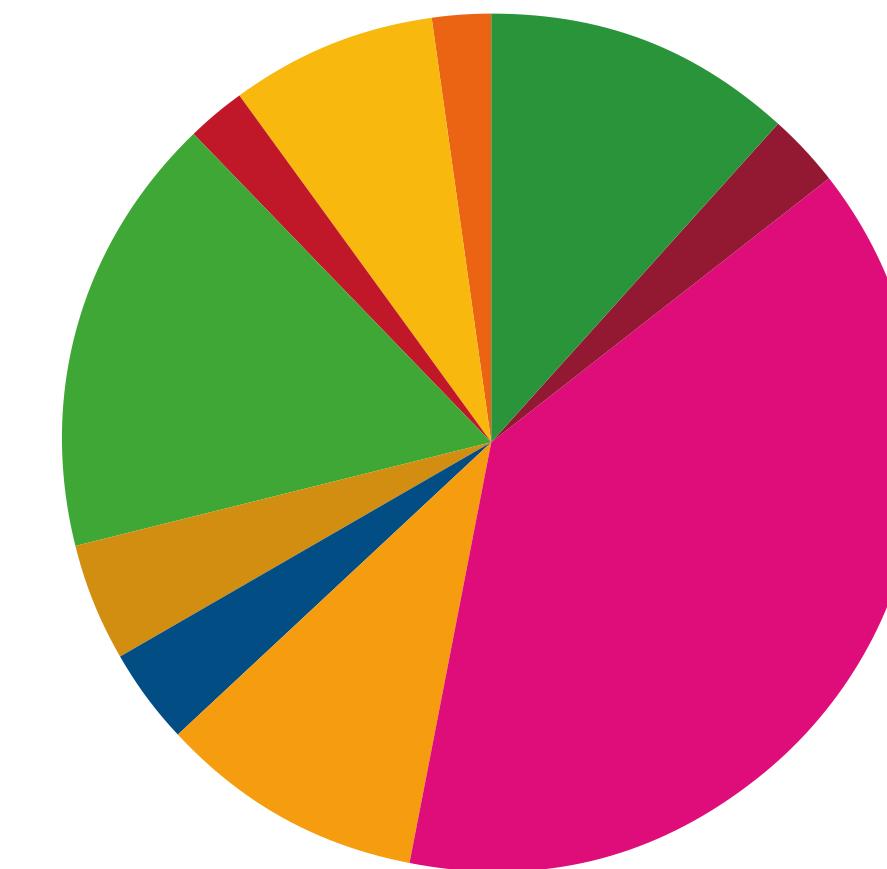
- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like UnstFest - UnstFest new storage facility (£528,526.32, 29% of total impact) and Shetland Livestock Marketing Group Ltd (£102,823.01) addressed rural access and economic support, delivering over £600,000 in social value.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as Cullivoe Public Hall - Weekly Intergenerational Climate Cafe (£62,651.20) and Unst Partnership Ltd (£54,657.16) fostered volunteering and participation, contributing over £300,000 in benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Projects like Bigton Collective Ltd - Hymhus Community Hub (£239,275.89) and Fair Isle Development Company - Fair Isle Grid Resilience Project (£116,294.80) supported gardening and renewables, with over £350,000 in environmental impacts.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like Junior Up Helly Aa (£31,366.32) and The Shetland Clarsach Group (£48,516.50) enhanced cultural engagement and wellbeing, yielding significant social impacts.

Community access initiatives, such as Sandness Community Development Ltd - Sandness Inter-community bus link and Sandwick Community Allotments, delivered over £400,000 in savings,

addressing rural isolation. Cultural and youth projects, like Scalloway Community Development Company - Phase 1 Scalloway Heritage Trail and Ability Shetland Ltd - Family Support, supported inclusion, while environmental efforts reduced carbon footprints. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the programme to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Shetland initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social isolation, and environmental degradation. The SROI of £3.35 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like UnstFest - UnstFest new storage facility and Bigton Collective Ltd - Hymhus Community Hub. Future efforts could focus on scaling high-impact models like Sandwick Community Allotments for sustainable food production and expanding digital initiatives like Shetland Anglers Association.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Tyne and Esk Social Value Report 2025

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The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The Tyne and Esk projects in this report, supported by the Tyne and Esk LAG, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle local priorities such as poverty alleviation, food security, and sustainability.

# INDIVIDUAL PROJECT IMPACTS.

- TECLLD50 Rosewell Development Trust (£59,965.32, SROI: 6.23): Enhanced social inclusion through trips and food support, delivering £26,496.00 in social group membership value, £11,100.00 in food bank support, and £11,445.00 in reducing loneliness for elderly residents.
- TECLLD51 Playmidlothian (£85,882.55, SROI: 8.44): Improved child wellbeing through outdoor play, yielding £84,336.20 in confidence gains and £1,546.35 in early years education benefits.
- TECLLD52 Midlothian Sure Start Baby Area (£12,137.54, SROI: 0.89): Supported families with young children, providing £6,537.74 in health benefits, £4,352.40 in family therapy savings, and £1,247.40 in parental confidence.
- TECLLD53 The Fraser Centre Equipment (£95,075.22, SROI: 5.44): Boosted community events with new equipment, generating £92,856.72 in social activity spending and £2,218.50 in venue cost savings.
- TECLLD55 The Space Scotland (£207,080.00, SROI: 14.69): Enhanced community engagement, delivering £152,000.00 in participatory engagement value and £55,080.00 in collaboration with funders.
- TECLLD60 Venturing Out (£23,710.30, SROI: 4.73): Supported children with Additional Support Needs (ASN) through paddleboarding, yielding £12,867.12 in equality training value, £10,099.18 in leisure spending, and £744.00 in wellbeing benefits.

The 18 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in Tyne and Esk, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £1,970,000 from an investment of £308,830. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- TECLLD64/64.1 Climate Hub (£200,664.40, SROI: 7.22): Improved energy efficiency through thermal surveys, saving £167,947.56 in rural service access costs, £17,550.12 in volunteer support, and £15,166.72 in volunteer wellbeing.
- TECLLD68 Carfrae Farm (£175,839.85, SROI: 14.47): Boosted the local economy through farm shop enhancements, generating £172,331.64 in micro-business turnover and £3,508.21 in health-related economic circulation.
- TECLLD69 Fringe By The Sea (£63,597.82, SROI: 4.70): Reduced CO2 emissions by transitioning to HVO and battery power, saving £38,681.50, and boosted tourism with £24,916.32 in visitor spending.
- TECLLD70 West Barns Village Hall (£44,173.50, SROI: 5.87): Improved energy efficiency with double-glazed windows, delivering £43,500.00 in venue usage savings and £673.50 in energy efficiency gains.
- TECLLD71 Newtongrange Development Trust (£32,574.28, SROI: 3.25): Supported community recycling through an online charity shop, yielding £22,281.00 in social group membership value, £6,153.28 in employment, and £4,140.00 in community signposting.
- TECLLD74 Penicuik Cricket Club (£69,784.04, SROI: 3.74): Enhanced energy efficiency with window replacements, saving £69,370.50 in energy performance improvements and £413.54 in event hosting costs.
- TECLLD75 Harlawhill Day Centre (£23,621.47, SROI: 0.96): Improved dementia-friendly toilet facilities, delivering £11,835.47 in health benefits, £10,400.00 in participatory engagement, and £1,386.00 in signposting services.
- TECLLD76 Day Centres East Lothian (£295,139.99, SROI: 7.92): Supported elderly members with enhanced provisions, providing £155,135.00 in transport savings, £107,640.00 in participatory engagement, and £32,364.99 in leisure spending.
- TECLLD77 Funder Finder (£35,427.00, SROI: 4.34): Increased funding access for communities, yielding £24,252.00 in grant awards, £11,100.00 in community development value, and £75.00 in broadband access savings.
- TECLLD78 Cost of Living East Lothian (£242,424.00, SROI: 10.98): Supported 140 households with food and essentials, saving £226,884.00 in food costs and £15,540.00 in food bank support.
- TECLLD79 Cost Of Living Midlothian (£246,692.05, SROI: 4.39): Assisted 653 households with food and services, delivering £180,249.30 in signposting value and £66,442.75 in food bank support.
- TECLLD80 Wiki MVA (£115,195.49, SROI: 7.42): Improved access to legal information for voluntary organizations, yielding £114,920.00 in participatory engagement value, £270.00 in broadband savings, and £5.49 in legal fee savings.

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

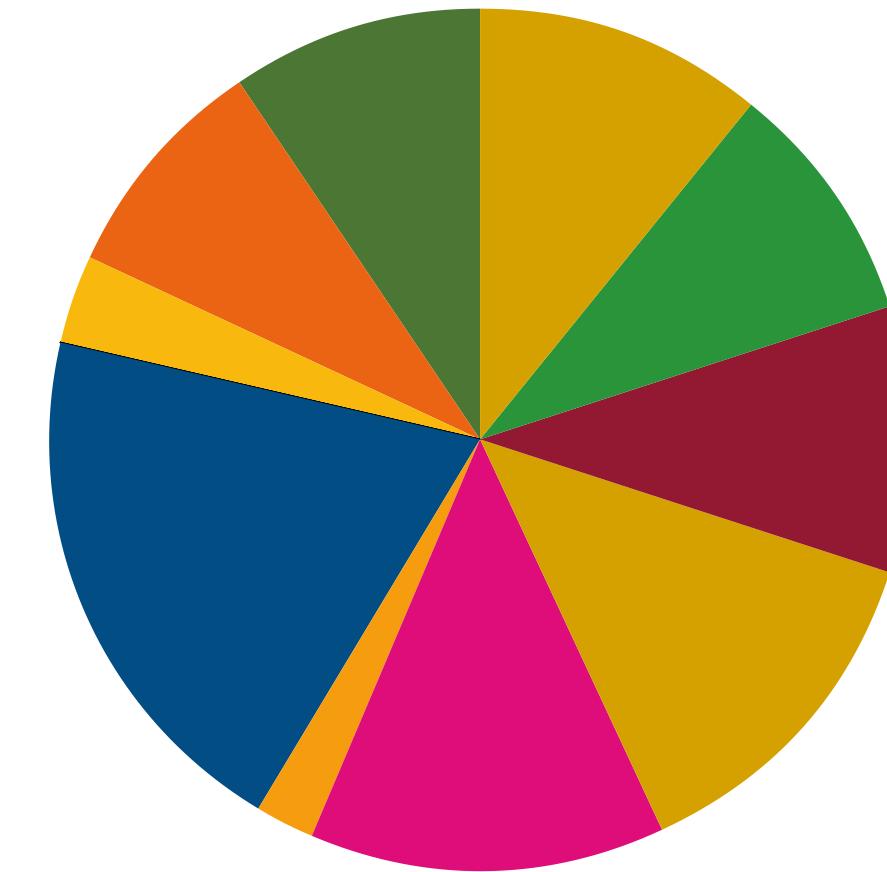
The 18 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £6.17 per £1 invested. Key impact areas include:

- Poverty Alleviation: Projects like TECLLD79 (£246,692.05, 12% of total impact) and TECLLD78 (£242,424.00) delivered over £500,000 in savings, addressing the cost-of-living crisis by supporting 793 households with food and essentials.
- Community Engagement: Initiatives such as TECLLD55 (£207,080.00) and TECLLD80 (£115,195.49) fostered local participation and access to resources, contributing £387,702.49 to social cohesion.
- Energy Efficiency: Projects like TECLLD64/64.1 (£200,664.40) and TECLLD74 (£69,784.04) reduced carbon footprints and energy costs, totaling £314,621.94 in impact.
- Social Inclusion: Efforts like TECLLD50 (£59,965.32) and TECLLD51 (£85,882.55) enhanced wellbeing for vulnerable groups, contributing £386,455.11 to inclusive community development.

An interesting highlight is the Cost of Living Midlothian project (TECLLD79), which supported 653 households with £246,692 in impact, underscoring the vital role of food banks in mitigating economic hardship. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with SDGs such as No Poverty (SDG 1), Zero Hunger (SDG 2), and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11).

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the programme to the Sustainable Development Goals is set out below



- No Poverty
- Good Health & Well-being
- Decent Work
- Zero Hunger
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Peace and Justice
- Responsible Consumption
- Life on Land
- Quality Education
- Affordable Energy
- Industry and Innovation
- Climate Action

## Reflections

The 2025 Tyne and Esk initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like poverty, social exclusion, and environmental degradation. The high SROI of £6.17 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like TECLLD79 (Cost of Living Midlothian), which supported 653 households, and TECLLD78 (Cost of Living East Lothian), which aided 140 households. These projects highlight the critical role of food security in combating the cost-of-living crisis. Community engagement efforts, such as TECLLD55, strengthened local participation, while energy efficiency projects like TECLLD64/64.1 contributed to sustainability goals. Future efforts could focus on scaling food security and community engagement solutions to combat rural poverty, replicating models like TECLLD64/64.1 for sustained environmental impact, and enhancing data collection for projects with lower measurable outcomes.



# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## West Lothian Social Value Report 2025

### The Social Value Engine: Tool and Context

The Social Value Engine (SVE), is an accredited digital platform designed to measure and enhance the social impact of projects. It uses over 500 peer-reviewed financial proxies to assign monetary values to non-financial outcomes, such as improved wellbeing or reduced carbon emissions, enabling a robust Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculation. The SVE aligns outcomes with local priorities and global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring transparency and academic rigour. Its methodology prevents over-claiming through mechanisms that balance data and avoid double-counting, making it a trusted tool for local authorities and VCSE organizations. In the broader context, the SVE responds to the Social Value Acts across the UK, all of which encourage public sector bodies to consider social benefits in procurement. By providing detailed calculations and customizable dashboards, it empowers organizations to move beyond compliance, turning social value into a strategic asset for community development and competitive tendering. This report's analysis was conducted using the SVE, ensuring credible and verifiable results.

### Scottish CLLD Programme: Funding and Strategy

The funding and overarching strategy for the 12 projects in this report are provided through the Scottish Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme, a bottom-up approach to rural development managed by the Scottish Rural Network. The CLLD programme empowers Local Action Groups (LAGs) across rural and island Scotland to allocate grants to projects that align with Local Development Strategies, focusing on social inclusion, poverty reduction, and economic development. In 2024/25, the Scottish Government committed £12.2 million to support CLLD, with £6.9 million as statutory funding distributed in tranches: £6.65 million in Tranche One (May/June 2024, including £2.9 million capital and £3.75 million resource) and additional funding announced in November 2024. This follows £11.6 million allocated in 2022/23, with £8.6 million to LAGs via the Rural Community Led Fund (RCLF) and £3 million through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action (RICIA) fund, delivered by Inspiring Scotland. The CLLD builds on the legacy of the EU LEADER programme, incorporating lessons from evaluations by the Scottish Rural College and James Hutton Institute to foster innovation and community-led solutions. Events like the 2023 Aviemore CLLD conference and the 2024 Glasgow workshop have shaped its strategic direction, emphasizing collaboration and resilience in addressing challenges like the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. The West Lothian projects in this report, supported by the West Lothian LAG, exemplify this commitment to empowering local communities to tackle local priorities such as poverty alleviation, child wellbeing, and sustainability.

# INVESTMENT & IMPACT OVERVIEW.

The 12 projects under the Scottish CLLD initiative in West Lothian, analysed using the Social Value Engine, generated a total social impact of £328,930 from an investment of £129,880. Below is a brief summary of each project's impact. The full value of the impact is set out immediately after the project title followed by the proportion of impact delivered by the most significant activities with the project:

- Beechbrae SCIO - Winter Biodiversity (£12,355.20, SROI: 1.52): Enhanced mental health and biodiversity through winter woodland activities, delivering £10,684.80 in mental health improvements and £753.60 in green space access benefits.
- Firefly Arts - Professional Theatre Training (£14,708.30, SROI: 4.72): Boosted youth confidence and skills through theatre training, yielding £12,375.50 in social group membership value and £2,332.80 in participatory engagement.
- Harburn Village Hall SCIO - Upgrade (£14,094.00, SROI: 1.40): Improved energy efficiency with floor insulation, saving £11,394.00 in rural service access costs and £2,700.00 in community engagement.
- Loganlea Miners Welfare - Hub Update (£17,858.88, SROI: 1.71): Prevented community hub closure with upgrades, providing £13,843.71 in rural service access savings, £2,565.27 in collaboration benefits, and £1,348.65 in food bank support.
- School Bank West Lothian - Winter Warmers (£54,564.56, SROI: 8.79): Supported 136 children with warm jackets, delivering £31,432.32 in physical health benefits, £16,849.04 in community belonging, and £6,054.72 in mental health improvements.
- The Bridge - Healthy Eating (£18,763.67, SROI: 2.59): Improved nutrition and financial stability, yielding £14,181.55 in financial comfort, £4,453.22 in signposting services, and £70.69 in food waste reduction.
- The Larder - Blackburn Health First Hub (£8,331.26, SROI: 1.28): Enhanced employability through café training, providing £4,143.96 in financial comfort, £2,869.02 in life goal achievement, and £1,301.27 in signposting services.
- The Larder - Eat Well For Oral Health (£983.37, SROI: 1.40): Improved children's oral health through healthy eating sessions, delivering £923.50 in collaboration benefits and £59.87 in community wellbeing.
- WCCEA - Upgrade to Community Hub (£146,924.04, SROI: 2.80): Upgraded community facilities, yielding £63,221.07 in community belonging, £39,313.51 in health benefits, and £30,456.16 in rural service access savings.
- WCCEA - Youth and Family Programme (£6,694.33, SROI: 1.29): Expanded youth activities, providing £3,016.60 in social activity spending, £1,546.94 in social group membership, and £1,401.79 in employment benefits.
- WCHCDT - Becoming a Destination (£17,787.72, SROI: 1.47): Enhanced access to nature, delivering £13,071.94 in social activity spending, £2,966.30 in gardening benefits, and £991.93 in green space access.
- West Calder High School Cares - Preventative Intervention Programme (£51,012.94, SROI: Not listed): Supported 25 families and disengaged youth, yielding £34,317.16 in preventing school exclusion, £14,146.83 in school support costs, and £2,071.98 in financial comfort.
- Winchburgh CDT - Paddle boarding (£15,868.11, SROI: 1.30): Provided paddleboarding for low-income children, delivering £7,488.29 in health benefits, £6,703.56 in social activity spending, and £1,530.46 in volunteer value.

# KEY LEARNING & REFLECTIONS.

## Group Analysis

The 12 projects, analysed via the Social Value Engine, achieved an SROI of £2.45 per £1 invested, with a net present value of £328,930. Key impact areas include:

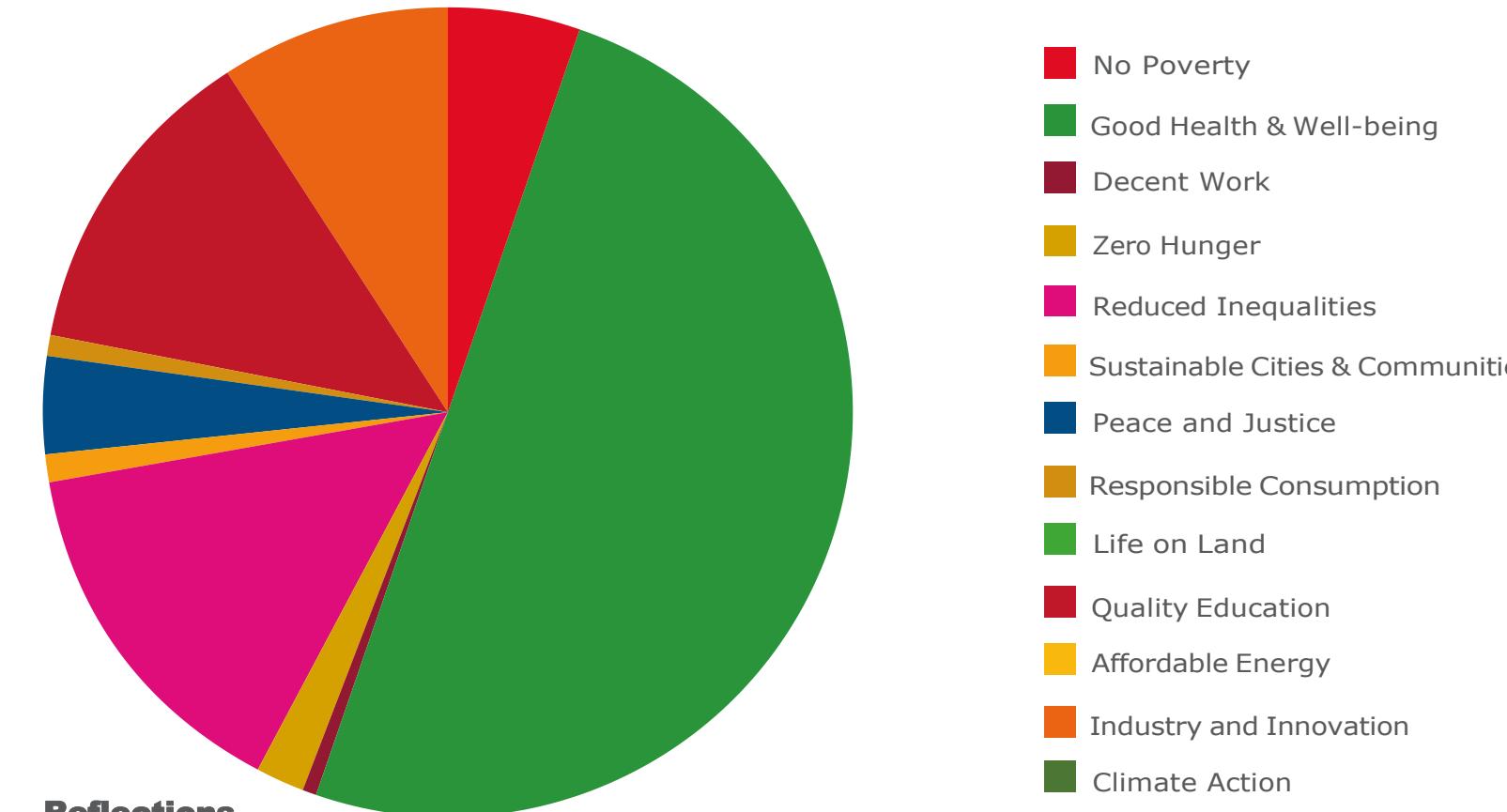
- Child Poverty and Wellbeing: Projects like School Bank West Lothian (£54,564.56) and West Calder High School Cares (£51,012.94) delivered £104,577.50 in impact, supporting children and families through warm clothing, food vouchers, and school engagement.
- Community Facilities and Engagement: Initiatives such as WCCEA - Upgrade to Community Hub (£146,924.04) and Loganlea Miners Welfare (£17,858.88) contributed £164,782.92, enhancing access to community spaces and fostering social cohesion.
- Health and Nutrition: Projects like The Bridge - Healthy Eating (£18,763.67) and The Larder - Blackburn Health First Hub (£8,331.26) provided £27,094.93 in nutrition and financial stability benefits.
- Environmental Sustainability: Beechbrae SCIO (£12,355.20) and WCHCDT (£17,787.72) delivered £30,142.92, promoting biodiversity and access to green spaces.

An interesting highlight is the WCCEA - Upgrade to Community Hub project, which generated £146,924.04 in impact, nearly 39% of the total, by improving gym, football, and hall facilities, significantly boosting community engagement and physical health in a rural area. The SVE's robust methodology ensured accurate attribution of outcomes, aligning with

SDGs such as No Poverty (SDG 1), Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3), and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11).

## Sustainable Development Goals

The alignment of the outcomes from the programme to the SDGs is set out below:



## Reflections

The 2025 West Lothian initiatives, underpinned by the Social Value Engine's rigorous analysis, demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing systemic challenges like child poverty, social exclusion, and environmental sustainability. The SROI of £2.45 reflects efficient resource use, particularly in flagship projects like WCCEA - Upgrade to Community Hub, which accounted for 39% of the total impact by enhancing community facilities. Projects addressing child poverty, such as School Bank West Lothian and West Calder High School Cares, provided critical support to vulnerable families and youth, reducing financial hardship and school exclusion risks. Environmental efforts like Beechbrae SCIO and WCHCDT promoted mental health and biodiversity, aligning with climate goals. Future efforts could focus on scaling community facility upgrades and child poverty interventions, replicating models like WCCEA for sustained social and health benefits, and improving outcome tracking for smaller initiatives.



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