

## PRESS RELEASE DRAFT TO BE ISSUED WEEK BEFORE FUND OPENS

LAG 2026/27



### Funding Opportunities Scheduled to Open Soon

**Community Led Local Development (CLLD) funding for the 2026/27 period in the Scottish Borders will open for Expressions of Interest on 8th April 2026.**

Supported by the Scottish Government, the CLLD programme provides financial assistance for community-based initiatives that deliver benefits to local groups, communities, and businesses.

Grants of up to **£25,000** will be available through the two CLLD funds, which are open to **small businesses, private sector organisations, enterprise bodies, third sector organisations, and community and voluntary groups.**

The **Growing the Economy Fund** is open to businesses with a clear intention to generate profit—this is the main eligibility requirement for applicants.

To be considered for the **Community Development Fund**, projects must demonstrate a clear contribution to at least one of the following priority themes:

- **Net Zero**
- **Poverty Alleviation**
- **Improved Public Services and Tackling Exclusion**

Organisations previously funded under the programme may apply for support for new projects, although priority will be given to applicants who have not received funding before.

The funding will be delivered through a **two-stage application process**, beginning with the submission of an Expression of Interest (EoI), followed by a full application. Only **two** funding rounds will be available, closing on **20<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026**. All grant funding must be spent by **28 February 2027**.

The Expression of Interest window will be open from **8<sup>th</sup> April 2026**.

To arrange a meeting to discuss your project proposals and assess eligibility, please contact the team at: [cldgrants@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:cldgrants@scotborders.gov.uk).

Further guidance and the Expression of Interest form are available on the Council's website at:

[Funding Support – Expression of Interest Form | Grant Funding for Community Projects | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)