



Part-funded by the European Union's European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

NESFLAG Programme Update – September 2017

North East Scotland Fisheries Local Action Group (NESFLAG) is a partnership of over 20 organisations from the public, private, community and fisheries sector. NESFLAG delivers the community-led local development elements of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund 2014-2020.

The NESFLAG budget for the programme period is £1.437m which covers the Aberdeenshire and Angus coasts, encompassing most fishing communities and coastal settlements. Aberdeenshire Council administers the programme through a dedicated co-ordinator and part time support staff.

Since the EU Referendum, the deadline for grant commitment has been moved forward to December 2018. All projects must have completed and drawn down all grant by December 2020.

NESFLAG welcomes applications from community groups, third sector organisations, public bodies, private companies and other organisations. Projects can cover a wide range of activities but should address the following priorities which have been agreed by the FLAG:

- a) *adding value and promoting innovation at all stages of the fisheries and seafood supply chain*
- b) *creating jobs, attracting young people, encouraging lifelong learning and facilitating training in fisheries areas*
- c) *supporting diversification inside or outside commercial fisheries*
- d) *enhancing and capitalising on the environmental assets of the fisheries areas*
- e) *promoting social well-being, cultural heritage and community development in fisheries areas*

NESFLAG launched in March 2016 and the first application round was held during July - October 2016. Although initially the number of applications was lower than expected, interest has gradually increased and seven applications were made for Round 5 in August 2017. It is anticipated that a number applications for large capital projects will be made during 2018 which will utilise the remaining budget.

The current approved projects are:

Buchanhaven Boat Shed

NESFLAG Grant Award: £28,568.89

The project involves the construction of a new timber-built boat shed near Buchanhaven Harbour. The building will serve as a workshop for boat maintenance and repair for harbour users and others, as well as classroom space for the wider community. The boatshed was built during spring/summer 2017 and will be opened in September 2017.

Peterhead Port Authority Port Henry Marina Extension

NESFLAG Grant Award: £45,189.69

The project involved the purchase and installation of 4 new heavy duty pontoons providing berthing space for 15 additional vessels in the existing Port Henry Marina at Peterhead Harbour. The new berths were installed and in use by spring 2017.



N.E. Scotland Fisheries
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New Corrosion Protection Equipment for the Fishing Industry NESFLAG Grant Award: £36,346.76

This application was made by a Ship Painting company based in Fraserburgh. The project involves purchase and installation of new electrical compression equipment and an innovative hot metal zinc spraying system which will offer a new corrosion protection service to the fishing fleet.

New Rosehearty Clubhouse

NESFLAG Grant Award: £TBC

Rosehearty Community Boat Club are converting a former caravan park service block into a club house, changing rooms, workshop and community space. The building will provide an important base for the club's activities throughout the year and will enhance the courses held in the bay during the summer months.

In addition to the approved projects around 40 Expression of Interests have been received from interested parties. Potential projects include:

- A cruise ship passenger terminal
- An innovative software system to control bycatch in the white fish fleet
- A fishing heritage walking trail
- Employment of a traditional boatbuilding instructor

Anyone with a potential project idea should first discuss it with Jamie Wilkinson (NESFLAG Co-ordinator) at nesflag@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or 01467 537377.

Jamie Wilkinson

NESFLAG Co-ordinator

31st August 2017