



N.E. Scotland Fisheries
LocalActionGroup



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

NESFLAG PROGRAMME UPDATE – MAY 2019

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. The programme is split between three Local Development Strategies (North Aberdeenshire, South Aberdeenshire and Angus) and is linked to the LEADER rural development programmes.

Since its launch NESFLAG has worked with a wide range of applicants: community groups, third sector organisations, public bodies, private companies, business collectives, fishermen's associations and others. Projects can cover a wide range of activities but must address at least one of the following priorities set out by the FLAG's strategy:

- 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*

Following the EU Referendum there was uncertainty about EMFF timescales, and the programme was initially limited to making final grant awards in March 2019. However, Marine Scotland advised late last year that the UK Government has guaranteed any budget committed beyond the date of Brexit. Grant offers can therefore now be made up until September 2020. We are currently working to a deadline of December 2020 for projects to be completed and draw down all funding, although there may be some flexibility to extend this date.

NESFLAG launched in March 2016 and the first application round was held in July 2016. Although initially the number of applications was lower than expected, interest gradually increased and the programme gathered momentum during 2017 and 2018. As of May 2019, 28 projects have been approved with a total grant commitment of £1,108,293.40. This equates to 77.13% of the programme budget.

Following the most recent approval of applications, the budgets for North Aberdeenshire and Angus are now fully committed (subject to two projects currently in the approval process) and NESFLAG is currently closed for new applications in those areas. There remains around £200,000 in the South Aberdeenshire budget for new projects, and application deadlines have been set for July and November 2019.

Subject to budget constraints, the NESFLAG Co-ordinator continues to work with potential applicants. There has been an effort to focus publicity in South Aberdeenshire to encourage further applications,



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particularly in Stonehaven, Gourdon and Johnshaven. Anyone with a potential project idea in these areas should approach Jamie Wilkinson (NESFLAG Co-ordinator) at nesflag@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or 01467 537377.

Approved Projects

| Applicant | Project | Grant | Summary |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------|---|
| Buchanhaven Harbour | Buchanhaven Boat Shed | £28,568.90 | Construction of a boatshed workshop and community space |
| Peterhead Port Authority | Port Henry Marina | £45,189.69 | Extension of the pontoons in the Port Henry Basin to provide 15 new berths |
| PBP Services | Corrosion Protection Equipment | £36,346.76 | Purchase of machinery for zinc spraying boat hulls and other equipment |
| Sandhaven & Pitullie Harbour | Sandhaven & Pitullie Harbour Redevelopment | £23,650.00 | New pontoons at Sandhaven Harbour |
| Scottish Seafood Association | Seafood Training Centre | £60,808.25 | Establishment of a new training centre for new entrants into the seafood processing sector |
| The Captain's Table Ltd | The Captain's Table | £10,149.38 | Fitting out costs for a new seafood restaurant in Fraserburgh |
| Davidsons Painters | Coatings Removal Multi-worker | £67,582.70 | Purchase of an innovative high speed canon system for removal of old paint from boat hulls. |
| Rosehearty Community Boat Club | New Rosehearty Clubhouse | £63,252.07 | Conversion of a former council-owned caravan park toilet block into a clubhouse and workshop for the community sailing club. |
| Peartree Fraserburgh Limited | Peartree Coffee House & Bistro | £29,675.97 | Establishment of a new restaurant in Fraserburgh which will have a focus on fresh local seafood. |
| Stonehaven Paddleboarding | Stonehaven Paddleboarding | 7,695.07 | A new business based at Stonehaven Harbour which offers stand-up paddleboarding lessons and tours |
| Portsoy Community Enterprise | Portsoy Traditional Boatbuilder | £43,168.00 | Employment of a traditional boat-builder who will work with volunteers, school children and the wider community to develop heritage boat projects |
| Fraserburgh Harbour Commissioners | New Materials Handler for Inshore Fleet | £41,210.50 | Purchase of a telehandler which will provide increased flexibility and benefit inshore vessels at Fraserburgh Harbour |
| East Grampian Coastal Partnership | EGCP Beach Litter Campaign | £53,256.73 | Employment of a beach litter officer who will work with local communities and school children to organise beach cleans |



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| | | | and promote the issue of beach and marine litter |
| Angus Alive | Spotlight on Arbroath's Fishing Heritage | £39,829.07 | Conversion of disused gatehouses and creation of permanent fishing heritage exhibits at the Signal Tower Museum in Arbroath. |
| Angus Council | Arbroath Harbour Pontoons | £54,165.43 | Installation of a new pontoon (primarily serving inshore fishing vessels) in the outer basin of Arbroath Harbour |
| Stonehaven Sea Safari Ltd | Stonehaven Sea Safari | £52,443.09 | Establishment of a new tourism business at Stonehaven Harbour which will operate wildlife boat tours from a RIB. |
| Aberdeenshire Council | Banff Marina Improvements | £85,011.38 | Construction of a new slipway at Banff Harbour for much improved access in and out of the water. |
| Whitehills Inshore Fishermen's Association | Fish Market Ice and Chill | £41,455.09 | New fish landing facilities led by the fishermen at Whitehills Harbour including a chill room, ice machine and electric landing davit. |
| North East Creel and Line Association | Reflective Tracer Buoys | £13,525.20 | Purchase of larger and higher-standard buoys for the inshore fishermen in Fraserburgh which will reduce gear conflict with larger vessels |
| Stonehaven Tolbooth Association | Stonehaven Tolbooth Museum - Development Phase | £44,813.00 | Employment of a consultant to drive forward plans for extension and redevelopment of the Tolbooth Museum at Stonehaven Harbour |
| Fraserburgh Harbour Commissioners | Waste Management & Environmental Impact Reduction | £29,189.16 | A project with a number of elements which all improve the environmental impact of Fraserburgh Harbour, including recycling, cleaning of oil spills and marine litter |
| Fraserburgh Harbour Commissioners | Modular Access Towers for Vessels and Shiplifts | £55,500.00 | Construction of bespoke towers which will vastly improve access to vessels undergoing inspection and maintenance on the shiplift at Fraserburgh Harbour |
| Aberdeenshire Council | Aquarium Touch Pool and Interpretation Upgrade | £32,714.60 | Refurbishment of the 'touch pool' room at Macduff Aquarium, including new tanks, cameras and interpretation. |
| Rediscover Peterhead | Peterhead Seafood Festival 2019 | £31,173.50 | Peterhead Seafood Festival 2019 will celebrate locally caught seafood, increase town centre footfall and offer |



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| | | | an opportunity for local processors and retailers to showcase their produce |
| Rosehearty Harbour and Inshore Fishermen Association | Fish Landing & Catch Quality facilities improvements | £69,367.75 | Creation of an ice machine and chill room facility at Rosehearty Harbour, and installation of new access ladders and landing davit. |
| Angus Council | Cold Room at Arbroath Harbour | £10,314.16 | Conversion of a section of the former fish market at Arbroath Harbour into a chill room for use by inshore fishermen. |
| Findlay's Fish Bar and Diner | The first accredited gluten free fish diner in North East Scotland | £17,299.95 | Installation of a new frying range at a fish diner which will allow gluten free fish to be prepared, cooked and served. |
| Pennan Harbour Trust | Enabling Works to Enhance Access for Vessels at Pennan Harbour | £20,938.00 | Refurbishment of access steps at Pennan Harbour to encourage the use of tourist and leisure vessels. |

Jamie Wilkinson

NESFLAG Co-ordinator

7 May 2019