

FUNDING
BUSINESS

ANNUAL REPORT

SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENT FUND

Allerdale
borough council

www.allerdale.gov.uk

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE SIIF

The Board of Sellafield agreed to allocate up to £1m a year of nuclear sector funding for use by Allerdale Borough Council and Copeland Borough Council under the designation of a Social Impact Investment Fund (SIIF).

This money was made available from January 2017, with £500,000 going to each authority and will continue on an annual basis. Funding was previously sourced from Sellafield and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority from 2014 onwards through BEC (Britain's Energy Coast).

The allocation of funds led by Leader of the Council Alan Smith and the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Mark Fryer with delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Andrew Seekings.

This has been an exciting and interesting year and it is important to showcase some of the success stories of the fund.

We have helped a wide variety of projects across Allerdale – investing in local businesses and jobs and ensuring we shall continue to reap the benefits for years to come.



ALAN SMITH



MARK FRYER



ANDREW SEEKINGS





TASTE OF THE LAKES

**GRANT
AWARDED
£40,000.
TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£145,000**

A family business that has grown from its strong roots farming in West Cumbria. Driven by a true passion for real food, it produces and gathers together a growing range of fine food products that are the Taste of the Lakes. The company is an artisan smokers of the best of Cumbrian produce, with many years of experience as sausage makers and bacon curers.

The company has a full and growing order book, having recently added two new national wholesalers, with future expansion planned to serve the addition production at the Maryport factory.

Expansion plans included buying new equipment and reconfiguring the factory to accommodate the increase in production. The shop sells a wide variety of products to the public.

Outputs: 10 full-time jobs plus three apprentices to service the increased volumes



PROTOPRO LTD

An innovative engineering design and development business with a track record of successful product designs, a strong portfolio of intellectual property, and clients nationwide. Set up in 2012 in a double garage, it started designing its own products. It soon became clear that some of its prototype parts were best made with its own 3D printer.

Since moving to its new premises with grant funding assistance through the SIIF, Protopro has invested in more machinery - it now has three 3D printers, with plans for further expansion.

**GRANT
AWARDED
£49,900
TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£78,000**

This project was awarded more money than usual as it is the only 3D prototyping company in North West Cumbria that specialises in Innovation, Design Engineering and 3D Printing.

Outputs: two new jobs created and two existing safeguarded by March 2018



SOLWAY CYCLE HIRE

**GRANT
AWARDED
£1,500
TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£5,500**

The cycleway from Maryport to Allonby has led to an increase in interest and participation in cycling in the area which will further increase once the cycleway is extended through to Silloth.

At present there isn't a bicycle hire facility, for those that don't have their own bicycles, in the Maryport/Allonby/Silloth areas the nearest being in Cockermouth, Whitehaven and Whinlatter.

Yet, in the Solway plain area there are numerous caravan sites, self-catering cottages, guest houses and local residents swelling the number of potential customers for such a business.

People are generally becoming more health conscious and cycling is being promoted as one of the means of improving and maintaining fitness and health.

Outputs 2 PT jobs created - 1FTE



SKYE INSULATION LTD

Thermal Insulation helps reduce energy loss in houses, commercial and industrial buildings and facilities, but it must be installed according to best practice in order to realise the maximum energy savings.

In this way, bringing this company to West Cumbria will help numerous people and businesses. Not only this but it will help reduce CO2 emissions, energy costs and fuel poverty.

Outputs 1FTE job created

**GRANT
AWARDED
£3,000
TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£3,135**



SOLWAY CONNECTIONS

Secret heritage minibus tours of the Solway including intriguing heritage venues and natural habitats situated on the Cumbrian side of the beautiful Solway Firth.

Garden tours led by professional horticulturally-trained and accredited gardener

Bespoke guided heritage tours – sacred sites, wildlife habitats, coastlines and seaports, scenic locations for photography, Roman remains and ancient wayfaring.

Outputs 1FTE job created

**GRANT
AWARDED
£2,000
TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£2,700**



HARBOURSIDE PRODUCTS LTD

A fish-processing business that rose from the ashes of Brookside Products in Maryport is prospering.

The factory hand fillets fish - mainly salmon - in an area that already has a reputation for quality fish processing, and will also sublet storage space to other manufacturers.

**GRANT
AWARDED
£75,000
TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£550,000**

They offer a service now, rather than buying in and processing our own fish. They do the work for others - and are able to smoke, slice and pack salmon for customers in the UK and Europe including France, Italy, and we are just starting to get into Switzerland

Outputs 20 jobs created



BOWNESS HOUSE FARM

**GRANT
AWARDED
£85,000
TOTAL
PROJECT
COST £515,112**

FERRIER APARTMENTS FORMER NATWEST BANK

**GRANT
AWARDED
£56,200 TOTAL
PROJECT COST
£160,000**

Two ongoing development projects, that will bring listed redundant buildings back into re-use as tourism accommodation and attractions.

Bowness House Farm: Plans for a visitor complex on the edge of Hadrian's Wall - including a heritage centre, bistro with outdoor space and pizza oven and microbrewery, a shop, art studio, as well as a variety of accommodation options.

Ferrier Apartments: Convert Grade II listed building into up-market bar bistro, and luxury apart-hotel accommodation. The apartments are named after internationally-recognised singer Kathleen Ferrier, who lived in the upper floors with her husband after moving to Silloth to take up a job as the bank manager below in the 1930s, and whose legacy still remains strong in the area.



STEM CUMBRIA LTD

Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths

STEM CUMBRIA LTD

GRANT AWARDED £7,500

Engage Allerdale schools and businesses in the FIRST LEGO League to develop STEM skills for the future. The FIRST LEGO League is an International programme was held in West Cumbria. Winners from this Tournament went on to the National Tournament. Teams of up to ten pupils aged between nine and 16 can take part. Each team has to develop three activities based on the theme for that year, these are a Presentation, a Core Values workshop and a Robotics Challenge. At the Tournament they are judged on each section and prizes awarded accordingly with the overall best team going forwards to the National finals.

Each team will be mentored/coached by a volunteer STEM Ambassador from a local STEM based company. The mentor/coach will work with the team throughout the programme and also support the team at the regional Tournament.



WEST CUMBRIA CREDIT UNION

GRANT AWARDED £20,000

Better Budgeting Campaign – each member who applies for a loan will receive a copy of their own ‘Better Budgeting’ summary. This will be an important first step for members to better understand their family budgets and begin to take control of it. The grant will fund the materials required and the staff training to run the mentoring sessions.

Developing and enhancing marketing materials (website, loan forms, marketing materials and office environments). The grant will be spent on developing and enhancing the Credit Union’s marketing materials to ensure it remains attractive and competes well with high-interest competitors.

Strengthening our Capital Base.
More generally the grant will be used to strengthen the Credit Union’s capital base. This will allow it to maintain operations as a lending organisation and satisfy our regulatory requirements.

Cumbria YOUTH ALLIANCE



CUMBRIA YOUTH ALLIANCE DREAMSCHEME

**GRANT
AWARDED
£10,000**

Following the success of the first year of the Dreamscheme funding will support further improvement of the programme to lead to long term sustainability. The changes to the enhanced programme will focus on partners in Maryport and Workington as well as those in other areas where there are limited opportunities, social exclusion and rural isolation. In addition encouragement will be given to increased numbers of those young people with disabilities who are unlikely to be able to enter mainstream employment through the academic route and will often be reliant on voluntary work and social engagement in order to become self-reliant.

Netherhall School

NETHERHALL SCHOOL IT SUITE

**GRANT
AWARDED
£10,000**

Develop a community learning facility, which will serve the school's community and wider Allerdale community. The facility will comprise of ICT and 'break out' facilities, which will support a varied approach to learning, including the opportunity to research, compose, discuss, problem solve and work as part of a team. In addition to this, it will support the development of management skills, for example, project management, decision-making, negotiation, delegation and the attainment of invaluable work-based experience and qualifications.

YEAR IN
REVIEW

ACTIVITY TO DATE



Since its inception in 2014, the fund has assisted 23 businesses across Allerdale, awarding a total of £1,191,182, which was match funded to a total of £2,694,711. These grants have enabled investment in new premises and equipment and will have created or safeguarded 283 jobs when all have been completed.

In addition, 2 organisations that provide advice and guidance to businesses have been awarded funding totalling £195,000 as part of wider funded programmes – as such, match has not been included.

To date the funding has enabled 8 redundant buildings to be brought back into re-use.

The fund has assisted 12 voluntary and community organisations across Allerdale, awarding a total of £292,375. These grants have been used to fund a variety of activity including events, business skills activity for school children, providing community facilities, and have contributed £346,811.

5 applications were rejected for ineligibility or lack of match funding.

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Outputs	Activity
Coastal Charters	£99,000 + £25,000 loans			Prototype boat development to service offshore wind farms
Cumbria Recycling Ltd	£20,000 & £8,000	£441,400	Jobs created – 2. Safeguarded - 18	Relocation to larger premises and refurbish the building
Fusion Go Ltd	£155,000		Jobs created – 2 New business	Not-for-profit company to stimulate entrepreneurship in Cumbria
Harbourside Products	£60,000 + £15,000 + £75,000	£475,000	Jobs created – 50 Re-use redundant building New business	Set up a contract processing and storage facility in the former Marine Harvest plant, expansion
E&C Armstrong	£3,600			Storage of stock for 6 months
Henry's Bar and Grill	£25,000	£194,000	Jobs created – 35 Redundant/ derelict building New business	Bring the former Curwen Arms public house back into use as a bar and grill
Lorton Village Shop	£25,000	£95,000	Jobs created – 2 Re-use redundant building New business	Alter former shop to include accessible facilities and refit to bring back into re-use

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Outputs	Activity
The Downtown Deli	£4,700	£28,300	Jobs Created - 5	Take away food facility and cafe area where a variety of food options would be available
Wild and Fruitful	£19,000	£24, 200	Jobs created – 4	Setting up new business premises to expand production capacity to meet market demand
Cumbria Film	£100,000	£85,000	Still under renovation Re-use redundant building New business	Renovating premises suitable for the production of films in Cumbria
Cumbria Metals	£40,000	£52,400	Jobs created – 3. Safeguarded - 5	Purchase equipment to enable the company to process steel more efficiently and increase throughput of material, tender for onsite work

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Outputs	Activity
The Enchanted Florist	£10,000	£42,000	Jobs created – 1, more as business develops New business	Quality floral service, as well as a venue to offer evening floristry practice classes
Olivia James Bridal	£13,500	£166,500	Still under renovation Re-use redundant building	Renovate a property to house the business and move from Egremont into larger premises
Simply Good Food TV	£15,000	£10,000	Jobs created – 1, more as business develops	Develop and expand the brand app
NT Precision	£25,000	£130,480	Jobs created – 11. Safeguarded - 3	Enhance manufacturing facilities to include fabrication to augment core business that was previously outsourced.
MPM	£30,000	£60,000	Activity not commenced	Establishing new larger premises for general metalwork fabrication of pier, bridge and windfarm components..

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Outputs	Activity
Brayton Park Lodges - Farm Shop	£49,932	£40,000	Jobs created – 5	Next stage of Brayton Park Eco-friendly Luxury Lodge retreat - open a farm shop, as the nearest facilities are some miles away.
Maggsy's Bar bistro & accommodation	£84,300 + £56,200	£155,700	Still under renovation Re-use redundant building New business	Wine bar providing a range of wines, specialist beers and themed finger foods. The upper floors will be luxurious, boutique hotel style accommodation.
Taste of the Lakes	£40,000	£105,000	Jobs created – 10. Safeguarded - 40	Expansion of factory to service increase in orders
Protopro	£49,900	£28,940	Jobs created – 1 to date, with 1 scheduled Safeguarded - 2	Purchase equipment and assist in its business expansion move to two CCC owned commercial units

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Outputs	Activity
Bowness House Farm	£85,000	£430,112	Still under renovation Re-use redundant/derelict building	Convert a derelict farmstead to provide visitor accommodation and attractions
Business Growth Hub (Cumbria Chamber of Commerce)	£40,000	Match for ERDF	Individuals/new start businesses assisted – 70 ERDF businesses assisted – 40 jobs created/ safeguarded - 60	Deliver Allerdale Business Support to potential start-ups and young businesses in first three years of trading
Skye Insulation Ltd	£3,000	£135	Just commenced New business	Specialist Thermal insulation installers to help reduce energy loss in houses, commercial and industrial buildings and facilities
Solway Connections	£2,000	£700	Just commenced New business	Solway heritage tours to out of county tourists and people interested in local heritage

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Outputs	Activity
Solway Cycle Hire	£1,500	£5,500	Just commenced New business	Cycle hire business based in Allonby, will take advantage of the proposed extension of the cycle track to Silloth
Keswick brewery	£10,000	£11,600	Jobs created/ safeguarded	Improvements in brewing equipment to improve quality and output. This in turn will help the brewery to safeguard jobs and expand its business, which will increase jobs

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Activity
Free for All – Community Recycling	£7,200	In kind	Safeguard a business turnover to ensure surplus profit is available for re-investment in volunteer training and resources that help to embolden the business proposition
Kirkgate Arts	£100,000	TBD from bids	Development of the Kirkgate Arts, Cockermouth, as a sustainable community enterprise for future generations of people living in Allerdale
Cumbria Youth Alliance	£28,450	£0	Youth Leadership and Dreamscheme Enterprise Project in Allerdale
Workington AFC	£20,000		Repair of electrical equipment (main cabling and control equipment for the main building and floodlighting) at Borough Park, which is in a defective and dangerous condition
Rugby League Four Nations	£50,000		The Four Nations is the 2nd most important rugby league tournament in the World. This enabled Allerdale to host New Zealand vs Scotland match.
Events in town in support of Four Nations	£5,000	£1000	Enabling spectators to spend the day meeting players and enjoy a range of related activities to provide increased footfall and an economic benefit to local businesses. As part of the celebrations a local market will be held on the day.
Tour of Britain	£10,000		Contribution towards Cumbria hosting Stage 2 into Allerdale

SIIF PROJECTS

Business name	Grant award	Match	Activity
Netherhall IT suite	£10,000	£5,000	Develop a community learning facility, which will serve the schools community and wider Allerdale community.
LEGO League	£7,500	£250,000	Engage schools and businesses in the FIRST LEGO League to develop future STEM skills.
Workington Academy	£10,000	£22,586	Develop Workington Academy Community Sports Area
West Cumbria Credit Union	£20,000	£50,000	Undertake a growth plan to attract more savers and borrowers to the CU away from high interest lenders and ensure the financial stability as well as maximising its impact in the community.
Cumbria Youth Alliance	£14,225	£14,225	Phase 2 Youth Leadership and Dreamscheme Enterprise Project in Allerdale – improved and enhanced