

# Visit Scotland Update

## Funding

### **Green Certification Schemes for Tourism Businesses**

The Sustainability Certification Fund for Tourism Recovery has been allocated to Green Tourism, Green Key and EarthCheck who will now be able to offer a £500 discount on their membership fees to those within the tourism industry looking to gain green certification. Please note – spaces for businesses are limited on each scheme.

You can take a look at the three programmes offering a discounted membership [here to see which one is best for your business.](#)

More information also available - [Road to \(green\) recovery | VisitScotland.org](#)

### **New Community Cycling Fund**

Developed with the aim of creating a national celebration of cycling across Scotland in the build up to the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. It is made up of two separate funding opportunities –

- The Development strand – open to all 32 Scottish Local Authorities.
- The Events strand – is an open fund for Local Authorities and other organisations to apply into (please note: **non-Local Authority** organisers can **only** apply with the endorsement of their Local Authority).
- Further information and guidance - [Scottish Cycling Events & Activities Funding | VisitScotland.org](#) / [New Community Cycling Fund launches | VisitScotland.org](#)

### **Electric Vehicle Charge Point – Tourism Recovery Fund**

part of the Destination Net Zero programme, will help support businesses to recover from the impacts of COVID-19 in a sustainable manner and contribute to Scotland's climate target of achieving net zero emissions by 2045.

- This Fund will enable businesses to position sustainability at the heart of their recovery and ensure their offering will make it easier for visitors to make environmentally conscious travel decisions.
- The £325,000 Electric Vehicle Charge Point Fund provides a one-off payment to tourism businesses towards the installation of an electric vehicle charge point. It will support around 100 charge points. The funding available is 75% of the total cost of the charge point and installation (including applicable VAT), up to a maximum of £15,000. The business must pay for the remaining cost.
- Businesses can apply for funding to assist in the installation of an electric vehicle charge point on their premises.
- The Fund is open to all tourism businesses classed as micro or SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) that have been trading for at least 12 months.
- [Read the full criteria and guidance and apply for funding on the Energy Savings Trust website.](#)
- If you are interested in this please don't delay as the fund is limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Applications are open from 11 May until 8 September (or earlier if budget is utilised before this date).

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## Awards

### **Highland & Islands Tourism Awards**

One to share with your members - it has been such a tough time for tourism and hospitality and now more than ever, it is important for you to shout about your business. Don't miss your opportunity to be an award winning business - enter now at [Highlands & Islands Tourism Awards \(highland-tourism-awards.co.uk\)](https://highland-tourism-awards.co.uk)  
Nominations close 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 & entries close 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

## Events & Training

### **Jubilee events**

We now have a dedicated search on VisitScotland.com for jubilee long weekend events - [www.visitscotland.com/jubilee](https://www.visitscotland.com/jubilee). I know you have a street party being organised and thought it would be great to submit the details here for further promotion: [Submit an event | VisitScotland](#) 😊

Our online calendar is also still full of some fantastic upcoming webinars that include TripAdvisor marketing, using social media for your business, writing effective marketing content and coffee meet ups with Scottish woman in business! Please check out [Scottish Tourism Events & Training | VisitScotland.org](https://www.visitscotland.com/scottish-tourism-events-training)