

Foundational Economy Challenge Fund

16 September 2025

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GLASGOW
CITY REGION



What is the Foundational Economy (FE)?

- Businesses and services **people depend on for their daily needs**
- Makes up **60% of employee jobs** in Glasgow City Region
- **>500,000 people** in the Region work in the FE

Social care

Food

Energy

Housing

Retail

Transport

Leisure

Hospitality

Childcare



What is the Glasgow FE Challenge Fund?



Supporting Glasgow's economy – including the foundational economy



Foundational Economy Challenge Fund



New ideas to drive improvement in ELC in Glasgow

Quality, accessibility, sustainability, resilience



Inclusive and productive economy



The Fund will support:

Business innovation:

- Ideas for business improvement
- Challenge areas

It is not for:

- Invention of something brand new
- Business as usual service delivery
- Buying resources
- Increasing staffing



**Better Quality
Business Offer**



**More Accessibility for
Clients / Users**



**More Sustainable
Business Offer**



**More Resilient
Business**



How will it work?

- Resources, expertise, and support to make good ideas happen
- Phase one funding of **up to £10k** per project
- Phase two funding of **up to £30k** for successful phase one projects
- Linking likeminded innovators in a growing community across Glasgow



Now

- Planning and preparation
- Critical Friends Group

In the New Year

- Bidding

Spring 2026

- Awarding funds
- Projects begin



Get involved!

- Look out for more information...
- Think about how to innovate within your business
- Talk about your ideas
- Apply to the Fund in the New Year





Contact

Initial point of contact:

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