

**Motorhome Waste Disposal Facilities Fund**

As all caravan and camping site owners will be aware, recent years have seen a significant increase in the number of motorhomes coming to Moray. While many of these stay overnight on recognised sites, some will also “informally camp” for some of the time either deliberately because this is the experience they want or, at peak times, because sites in popular areas may be full. Addressing some of the challenges this has created is one of the priorities of Moray Council and Visit Moray Speyside.

One of the common complaints the Council receives from communities relates to informal camping by motorhomes and in particular the fact that some visitors dispose of their waste inappropriately or illegally. The Council recognises that there are differing views on whether or not informal motorhome camping is a good thing but also takes the pragmatic view that informal camping does and will continue to take place. Ultimately it is the Council view that we should welcome all visitors to Moray but while doing so should also encourage them to act responsibly and to support local businesses wherever possible – and indeed those visitors do still contribute to the local economy through their spend in cafes, restaurants, pubs, shops, petrol stations, attractions etc.

While motorhomes staying overnight on a campsite will have access to waste disposal facilities, this is not the case for those camping informally creating a need for those visitors to access waste facilities if they are to act responsibly. Some access these through spending some nights on commercial sites, while the Council and some communities have started to provide standalone facilities. To complement this emerging network in the short term and in particular to try and avoid issues this summer when Covid related restrictions are likely to lead to increased motorhome visits, the Council wishes to work with commercial site operators to try and offer and promote a wider network of waste disposal locations to motorhome visitors.

To do so, the Council has set aside a small sum to provide a one-off £500 grant to commercial caravan and campsites willing to offer a waste disposal service to those not staying overnight. We recognise a number of sites already offer this service which is very much welcomed. To avoid disadvantaging those sites already supporting communities and visitors in this way, those already offering this service are still considered eligible for the grant. Applications will be assessed on how well they match the criteria on the application form and the need for the service in the location.

Bearing in mind the Covid related impacts on many operators the intention of this fund is to offer a small level of financial support that might help operators offset costs related to either setting up or offering this service.

This could include but is not limited to elements such as:

* Enhancements or adaptations to the existing facility to allow wider use.
* Additional signage or changes to how vehicles flow onto or through the site to make non-resident access easier.
* Updating finance systems to allow charging for this service to take place\*.
* Reducing the financial risk to the business in case any charge levels initial set do not fully cover operational costs.

\* While it is a business decision as to whether charges are made and how much these might be the Council recognises that it is reasonable to charge for this service with charges reflecting the actual costs to the business e.g. water charges, waste disposal etc. Receipt of a grant does not prevent a charge being made for this service but to ensure grants are only available to those offering the service at a fair price, **charges should be below £10 to be eligible for the grant.**

**APPENDIX ONE**

**Application form**

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| **APPLICANT/BUSINESS DETAILS** |
| **Applicant’s Name:** |  |
| **Business Name:** |  |
| **Email Address:** |  |
| **Phone Number:** |  |
| **Business address:****(This should be the address where the waste facility is located)** |  |
| **Website address:** |  |
| **FACILITY DETAILS** |
| **Lat / Long for Sat Navs (if known):** |  |
| **Grid reference (if known):** |  |
| **What 3 Words Ref:****https://what3words.com/** |  |
| **Does the service point include fresh water, grey water & black waste - or just some of those facilities, if limited which ones?** |  |
| **What are the opening hours of the service point & what days?** |  |
| **What months is the service point****accessible?** |  |
| **What is the cost to use the service point?** |  |
| **Are there any restrictions on the service point i.e. Septic tank friendly chemicals only?** |  |
| **Is there a rubbish bin on site or recycling facility that service point users are also allowed to use?** |  |
| **Are there any facilities onsite for shopping, eating, snacking etc?** |  |

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| **DECLARATION** |
| I wish to apply for a grant of £500 from Moray Council Motorhome Waste Disposal Facilities Fund. I confirm that I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the above business.I am applying in full knowledge that the purpose of this grant is to provide support to those businesses offering their facilities to motorhome visitors not staying overnight while also allowing a wide range of such facilities to be promoted across the Moray area.In return for receiving this grant I confirm that: * My caravan / campsite will be open throughout the 2021 season (for the months provided above in the application form table) and that this service to non-residents will be provided during that period.
* I understand that this is a one-off grant to encourage additional provision for 2021. It is however hoped that many sites will see the opportunity to continue provision in future once setup costs are covered and appropriate charge levels identified.
* I understand that the fact I am offering this service will be promoted by the Moray Council and Visit Moray Speyside either directly or through partners such as CAMPA (the Campervan and Motorhome Professional Association).
* I understand that the Council’s ambition is to encourage a wide geographical spread of sites across Moray. Should applications exceed the level of funds available, the Council may not be able to accept all applications but instead will prioritise those providing this spread of facilities. Any prioritisation within a local area will normally be undertaken on a first come first served basis unless other factors around availability dictate otherwise.
* Note a form to record proof of usage will be sent to successful applicants and completed forms must be available to view on request by Moray Council.
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| **Signature:** **(an electronic signature is acceptable if e-mailed)** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

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| **BUSINESS BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS**  |
| **Account Name:** |  |
| **Account Number:** |  |
| **Sort Code:** |  |
| **Bank Name and Branch Address:** |  |
| This is the account your grant will be paid into and should be in the name of the Business**.** |

**In order to provide information in advance of most of our summer visitor’s arrival applications should be submitted asap and no later than Friday 30 July 2021, after which applications will not be accepted.**

**Queries can be made by e-mail to :-** moraycamperwaste@moray.gov.uk

**Please e-mail completed application forms to**: - moraycamperwaste@moray.gov.uk