

REAL HELP FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES



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Since opening in 2012, Thurso Cinema has been a runaway success, creating 22 jobs and serving over 100,000 customers, thanks in part to support offered by North Highland Regeneration Fund.

The cinema offers two state-of-the-art Sony 4K digital and 3D screens, capable of showcasing the latest films in ultra-high definition, as well as streaming live cultural events from venues including the National Theatre, the Royal Ballet and the British

In combination with their live events offering, this development has enabled the cinema to offer itself as more than just a place to watch films - becoming, instead, a cultural hub for Caithness. It has helped the cinema take on a number of additional staff, increasing employment in the area and supporting the local economy.

"I was striking out on my own, without the support of conventional lenders," said Mr Arthur. "The fact that NHRF believed in my vision for the cinema and provided significant moral and financial support to achieve the company goals means a great deal to myself and to all of the staff at the cinema.

“The Fund provides an invaluable resource”

Museum. It also has an adjacent bar & kitchen, providing cinema-goers with a range of locally produced food and drinks.

Rob Arthur, the businessman behind the success of the cinema, first encountered it while working for Apollo Cinemas. Unable to convince them of its potential, and finding banks unwilling to invest in the venture, he approached the North Highland Regeneration Fund for assistance.

"The support from NHRF was key to realising my ambitions for the Cinema," said Mr Arthur.

"Without the assistance provided by the Fund, we wouldn't have been able to expand as quickly as we have."

NHRF offered financial assistance to Thurso Cinema to assist with the development of the concessions area as well as the bar & kitchen, all of which have exceeded performance expectations.

"The Fund provides an invaluable resource for anyone looking to do business in Caithness and North Sutherland. The help and support they can offer throughout the process - from application to realisation - is fantastic."



NORTH HIGHLAND REGENERATION FUND
Naver Business Centre, Naver House, Naver Road, Thurso, Caithness, KW14 7QA
T: 01847 500103 E: enquiries@nhrf.co.uk W: nhrf.co.uk



Assistance is available through North Highland Regeneration Fund which is managed by Caithness Chamber of Commerce and funded by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority.